

# The Farrier’s Corner:

by Ray and Michelle Smith

## Hoof Moisture

Some of the most common concerns dealt with by farriers are related to hoof moisture or lack thereof. In short, moisture balance directly affects both hoof quality and physiology. Moisture is constantly being lost from hooves through evaporation and must routinely be replaced. So, how is hoof moisture balance maintained?

There are two forms of moisture – systemic moisture and environmental moisture. Equines possess an extensive lymph and blood supply to the sensitive internal structures of the hoof. Systemic water from this supply system is transferred from the internal structures to the adjacent horn cells of the hoof wall. They in turn pass the fluid on to other horn cells. Via this process, moisture is constantly circulated throughout the sensitive and insensitive horn material of the hoof. As each hoof is its own little pumping system, and motion

improves the function, adequate exercise has a positive effect on this process.

Environmental moisture (rain, streams, moist pasture grass etc) is the second component of the system. This water is also conducted through the hoof. It will travel via capillarity up and down the centers of the horn tubules that compose the hoof wall and also absorb into the sole and frog.

A balance between the two forms of moisture is believed to be maintained through osmosis. If one source is deficient, the animal will rely more heavily on the other.

Hoof walls are composed of various types of horn material. There are three main types of horn material in the hoof – tubular horn, intertubular horn and intratubular horn. Tubular horn is basically responsible for the elasticity or rigidity of the hoof wall. Intertubular horn is a cement-like substance which holds the hoof tubules together and contains pigments which give hooves their color. It has very limited water conduction

ability. Moisture regulation is assisted by the intratubular horn. It is pithy, fills the centers of horn tubules and is primarily responsible for moisture conduction. If everything is functioning properly, and moisture levels are optimal, a healthy hoof wall should have a moisture content of about 23 percent. The moisture content of the sole and frog are roughly 33 percent and 50 percent respectively.

Many factors can affect the moisture balance system. As a dry summer wears on, and environmental moisture is scarce, we often see our horses’ hooves cracking and chipping while their frogs shrivel and shrink. Age can also affect hoof moisture. As horses age, their hoof wall moisture increases slightly (about 3 percent), sole moisture remains more or less constant and frog moisture may decrease by over 10 percent.

There are some external factors which can encourage healthy hoof moisture levels. First, access to ground water such as a

stream or overflowed stock tank in which a horse can periodically stand throughout the day. Hand in hand with this is ready access to fresh clean drinking water to avoid dehydration. If streams or overflowed stock tanks are not an option, try washing or hosing the hooves off after daily hoof picking. (You are picking your horses’ hooves daily aren’t you??) Finally, there are commercially available hoof dressings that purport to help maintain moisture balance. Read the label, many of these require the hooves to be pre-moistened. Results may vary.

During the dry months of the year, trimming hardened hooves can be akin to cutting concrete with a butter knife. Help your horse and your farrier by pre-soaking you animals’ hooves for a few days before their scheduled appointment. The trimming will go faster and be easier on your farrier, their tools and your animals.

Until next time, happy trails and enjoy the ride!

# Cupid, ticking or purring?:

by Flo C. Blake

Years ago friends Ron and Mary Lars celebrated their wedding anniversary on Valentine’s Day at an overpriced New York restaurant. Afterward, in the parking lot, a tortoiseshell kitten stalked them, insisted on being pet and adopted. In honor of the occasion, they named her “Cupid.”

College classmate Al Koehly frequently visited Ron and Mary’s sons and cat. Following graduation, Koehly bid a sad goodbye to this beloved family and left to join the U.S. Air Force.

Five years later, unforeseen circumstances required Ron and Mary, to sell their New York home and relocate to Florida. In a tight renters’ market, they felt jubilant to find an apartment near Ron’s new work site. They’d started

moving in with Cupid in tow, when the landlord approached, and pointed out a “no pets” clause in their lease. Already in violation, they needed to find a good home for Cupid immediately, or face being homeless.

“Let’s phone Al Koehly, Junior’s former classmate,” Mary said. He loved Cupid.

Having completed his military stint, Koehly now worked as an aircraft dispatcher in Texas. Mary called him, and explained the problem. Happy to adopt the kitty, he immediately booked a round trip flight to Fort Lauderdale. For transporting the pet, Mary hastily bought a pet carrier. It resembled a small black suitcase with zippered top, and two mesh sections on the side panels for air.

Mary met Koehly at the

airport terminal, handed him cat and carrier, and watched him dash off through security checkpoints to board his Dallas-bound return flight. (These events took place before today’s rigorous TSA security scrutiny procedures.)

Koehly took his newly-acquired precious cargo aboard, and stowed the black bag under the seat for takeoff. When the seat belt sign went off, he retrieved the bag and set it on a vacant seat next to him. Not hearing any sounds from Cupid, he moved the bag’s zipper just far enough to insert one hand, and pat an upraised furry little chin. He gently stroked, and softly spoke assuring words to her.

A flight attendant took notice, then alerted supervisor Ginger Strom. “The guy in 14C is acting strange. He has his hand in a black

bag on the seat, and is feeling around for something. Wearing a silly grin, he’s mumbling either to himself or to the bag.”

“Yikes! We might either have a nut case or a smuggled explosive aboard!” Strom said.

Along with four other flight attendants, she cautiously approached seat 14C. They too saw a man groping about with hand inside a dark, sinister-looking bag, while he grinned and spoke to it.

“Sir, what’s in the bag?” Strom asked.

Koehly looked up. “Cupid,” he replied.

“Sir, may we see Cupid, please?”

“Why, certainly.” He then undid the zipper completely, and lifted his newly-adopted kitty out. “Cupid, I’d like you to meet my

co-workers.”

Cupid’s cuteness and purring immediately won the hearts of the cabin crew, who vied for turns to pet her.

“Did you say, ‘co-workers?’” Strom asked.

“Yes, I’m Al, from Dallas Dispatch,” he said. Then, as an afterthought he said, “Why? What did you think was in the bag?”

“We thought it was a bomb,” replied the now-chuckling supervisor. “But what a cute name for a cat: Cupid.”

“And it works too,” he said. “See, I’ve been here just 10 minutes, and already I’m surrounded by five beautiful, smiling young women.”

240 N REDWOOD HWY #226  
CAVE JUNCTION, OR 97523  
541-592-4367



PAPA llc

Providing All Patients Access

REAL PAPER REAL INK



SEASON  
LATE  
SEPTEMBER  
Paying only  
The Best  
Attractions

REAL NEWS

Illinois Valley News

Subscribe Today!  
541-592-2541

Public Notice

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION  
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE  
OF OREGON  
FOR THE COUNTY OF JOSEPHINE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACTING  
THROUGH THE RURAL HOUSING  
SERVICE OR SUCCESSOR AGENCY,  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
AGRICULTURE, PLAINTIFF, vs.THE  
UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES OF  
LLOYD K. HIPPI; UNKNOWN HEIRS  
AND DEVISEES OF MILDRED C. HIPPI; et al.,  
DEFENDANTS.  
Case No.: 18CV17156  
To: THE UNKNOWN HEIRS AND DEVISEES  
OF LLOYD K. HIPPI; UNKNOWN HEIRS  
AND DEVISEES OF MILDRED C. HIPPI; ALL  
OTHER PERSONS OR PARTIES UNKNOWN  
CLAIMING ANY RIGHT, TITLE, LIEN OR  
INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY DESCRIBED  
IN THE COMPLAINT HEREIN:  
You are hereby required to appear and defend  
the Complaint filed against you in the above  
entitled cause within thirty (30) days from the  
date of first publication of this summons, and  
in case of your failure to do so, Plaintiff will  
apply to the court for the relief demanded in the  
Complaint.  
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:

READ THESE PAPERS CAREFULLY!  
You must “appear” in this case or the other  
side will win automatically. To “appear” you  
must file with the court a legal paper called  
a “motion” or “answer.” The “motion” or  
“answer” (or “reply”) must be given to the  
court clerk or administrator within 30 days of  
the date of first publication specified herein  
along with the required filing fee. It must be  
in proper form and have proof of service on  
the plaintiff’s attorney or, if the plaintiff does  
not have an attorney, proof of service on the  
plaintiff. If you have questions, you should see  
an attorney immediately. If you need help in  
finding an attorney, you may call the Oregon  
State Bar’s Lawyer Referral Service at (503)  
684-3763 or toll-free in Oregon at (800) 452-  
7636.  
The relief sought in the Complaint is the  
foreclosure of the property located at 3390  
Caves Highway, Cave Junction, OR 97523.  
Date of First Publication: June 6, 2018.  
Albertazzi Law Firm  
s/ Anthony V. Albertazzi, OSB# 960036  
296 SW Columbia St. Ste. B  
Bend, OR 97702  
Phone: (541) 317-0231  
Of Attorneys for Plaintiff



ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY RADIO • 105.7 FM

KXCJ-LP has live and local music shows seven days a week,  
covering everything from Classic Country (all vinyl!)  
to Punk, from Bluegrass to Indian drumming and singing,  
Folk to Electronica, Latin Jazz to Rock and Pop!

Besides an eclectic mix of music all around the clock,  
we broadcast syndicated news and  
info shows that throw a spotlight on current events,  
philosophy, science, the environment, and much more.

We are an all-volunteer radio station, and you can join this  
exciting community-building adventure, too!  
Call 592-4112 and chat with us about bringing your skills  
and interests to the KXCJ team.  
...and please check out our full schedule at KXCJ.org,  
and set your radio to 105.7 FM!

