

Seedy Toe

Seedy toe -- If I were "just a farrier" those two little words would bring dreams of fancy Bass boats, condos in Florida, and a new truck. Seedy toe is a great money maker! All I would have to do is show some poor, unsuspecting Horse owner a small crack in the toe with some black gunk in the crack and call it "SEEDY TOE". Then I could start scaring the heck out of this owner with words like white line disease or hoof wall separation or dropped sole or maybe even severe thrush. Then I could go into great detail about which shoes and pads, and certain medicines might clear up the problem -- all the making of serious bucks!

Then, of course, we would have to discuss that "poor Ole Hell Bent For Leather's" conformation is such that getting this Seedy Toe under control just may not be possible, without having to resort to wiring the hoof capsule (a process in which small holes are drilled and metal wire is used to "lace" up a crack).

While writing this if I wasn't getting so mad at the waste of time, money, and health of the Horse, I would be dreaming about that Florida condo. There are HUNDREDS of things a person can buy to help their Horse suffering from Seedy Toe, and yes, I know, never say never, but....this time I'm going to! If your Horse really has Seedy Toe the only thing you need to buy your horse is this: A farrier that understands how to correctly BALANCE each individual Horse!

Try this little experiment: Lace your fingers together with as much finger "sticking through" as you can. Now, holding your elbows out like a chicken, "flap" your elbows. Feel that stress in your fingers? Okay. Now, while flapping like a chicken, slowly slide your fingers out to the point that the base of your fingernails align. See how the stress went away? Feel the friction vanish? So will your Horse when you get a farrier that understands Balance is not just a medial/lateral issue but a WHOLE HORSE issue, meaning that every Horse regardless of the breed has a front and a hind, as well as a left and a right.

Some farriers will talk to you about a particular foot and how he has "balanced" that foot. Okay, great! That's at least a beginning. But what about the other THREE feet? They can be individually Balanced, but how do they work WITH the entire Horse? How do they interact with the ONE? If just one foot is "out" the other THREE have no choice but to adjust to the one. This HUMAN/farrier added stress is where the cracks commonly called Seedy Toe come from in the toe, period end of story.



David Qualls
Shoe - Less Farrier Services
678-314-0381
www.davidqualls.net

BALANCE is the key. It's the goal. It's the THING that makes or breaks a Horse. And if your farrier and vet do not understand this simple FACT.....you might as well pull your checkbook out and call your mortgage broker because YOU are just about ready to buy your farrier a new condo in Florida!

If you are not interested in buying a condo for your farrier and you would rather help your Horse enjoy a Balanced life, find a farrier that understands WHOLE HORSE BALANCE. We are available and we can be found. All you need to do is understand your ENTIRE Horse is affected by your farrier and if he doesn't..... find one that does. We are "around," and I would like to invite you to give my methods a try. As the saying goes "the proof is in the pudding," and I will shamelessly say, "Thanks to Keith Seeley, I have a very good pudding recipe!"



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