

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Kohnke's Own

HOOF-SEAL®

Hoof-Seal® provides a physical, breathable film which has a role in maintaining normal moisture content during dry or wet conditions. The inclusion of biodegradable, breathable polyurethane provides a wear and weather resistant coating which dries to leave a non-greasy, satin finish. The flexible shock absorbing and protective function of the hoof is directly related to the moisture content within the hoof wall, sole and frog.

Q. How is Hoof-Seal® different from other hoof conditioning products?

A. Hoof-Seal® is a world-first formulation, containing natural protective wood oils and porous, breathable, biodegradable Polyurethane which provides a thin, wear resistant film when applied to the hoof walls and soles. This helps to maintain the normal moisture content within the hooves to help prevent the hooves from drying out and developing cracks in hot weather and excessive softening in wet weather. Hoof-Seal® provides a hard wearing surface film to the hoof, which limits moisture variations to assist in maintaining a supportive and flexible hoof wall, resilient sole and pliable frog.

Q. Is it necessary to have polyurethane on my horse's hooves?

A. The type of polyurethane in Hoof-Seal® is biodegradable in 10 days and forms a porous membrane-like film on the hoof wall and sole. Studies during the development of Hoof-Seal®, which was originally based on research in the USA in the early 1990's, found that the combination of natural wood tar and wood oil was superior to all other animal fat preparations used in hoof creams. The addition of a small amount of polyurethane helps the film of wood oil adhere to the surface of the hoof and resist wear and tear for up to 7 days on horse's hooves in the paddock or in training.

Q. Can I use Hoof-Seal® on my pregnant mares and foals?

A. Yes. Hoof-Seal® is an innovative preparation which has high durability when applied to the hooves of mares, weanlings and yearlings under extremely wet or dry conditions. It is used to maintain normal moisture levels in the hind hooves of heavily pregnant mares at pasture, which can otherwise lead to reduced weight bearing and lameness under wet conditions as the hooves soften.

Q. Why do I only need to use Hoof-Seal® once a week in dry conditions, when other products are recommended to be used daily?

A. With Hoof-Seal®, a small amount goes a long way! Under hot dry conditions, a horse's hoof can lose up to 15% of its weight each day as moisture loss through the sole. The protective film of Hoof-Seal® helps to minimise this by providing an external barrier film to the sole. Hoof-Seal® provides a thin protective film or thin membrane over the hoof which will not wear off or melt during exercise when applied to the sole, frog and wall of the hoof, even when hoof temperatures reach 43°C during galloping exercise

under hot conditions. Common hoof greases and animal fat based creams melt and wear off quickly once the hoof temperature reaches 37°C, whereas Hoof-Seal® adheres to the hooves, but still allows moisture and air passage through the hoof and sole surface.

Q. Does Hoof-Seal® prevent moisture from entering the hoof?

A. The film in Hoof Seal® has a role in limiting moisture uptake and preventing excess moisture being soaked up through the tubules in the sole and the keratin of the frog during wet conditions. Therefore Hoof Seal® allows limited moisture uptake maintain normal hydration levels in the hooves, but repels excess moisture.

Q. Do I need an oil/moisture product to rehydrate my horses' hooves if I am applying Hoof-Seal®?

A. No. If the hooves are very dry under hot, dry conditions, then hosing the hooves and standing the horse on damp soil or in a wash bay for 5-10 minutes will allow limited moisture uptake to hydrate the hooves. Then apply a thin coating of Hoof-Seal® to promote a breathable film which will minimise drying out. This may need to be carried out twice per week (every 3-4 days) to help ensure normal hoof moisture content.

Q. Am I able to use show hoof products i.e. Black-It® with Hoof-Seal®?

A. Yes. Hoof-Seal® can be used with show products such as Black-It® to create a uniformed black colour sheen to the hoof walls, even in horses with white stripes or variations in hoof wall colour. Hoof-Seal® is easy to remove after the show or competition and prevents drying out of the hoof wall. Hoof-Seal® does not collect sand or bedding, and buffs to a low sheen shine if necessary as it dries in 5-10 minutes.

Q. Do I have to wait for dry conditions in order for Hoof-Seal to adhere to the hoof?

A. No. Simply clean the mud and soil adhering to the hoof wall and sole either with a brush or pressure water jet, then pat dry with a towel and apply a liberal coating of methylated spirits to dry off the hoof wall and sole surface. Allow it to evaporate, then apply the Hoof-Seal® in a thin coating over the hoof wall and sole.

Q. How do I use Hoof-Seal®?

A. Clean hoof wall, sole and frog with a stiff brush if necessary to improve the adherence and physical barrier function of the applied film. It is best to apply a thin even coat of Hoof-Seal® to the wall, sole and frog of clean dry hooves. Under adverse dry or wet conditions, Hoof-Seal® may be applied twice weekly to maintain the hooves in a flexible, resilient condition. Under moderate weather conditions, apply Hoof-Seal® at weekly intervals to maintain optimum hoof condition. Normally apply to the sole once or twice a week and the hoof wall once every 7-10 days.

Pack Sizes: 500mL can with brush cap

2L refill can with a pull-up spout for top up of the 500mL can.

Also available in 20L drums with extra cans and brushes for larger stables and studs.

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