



The Holistic Hoof Care Practitioner

Good hoof care is necessary but is by itself not enough for optimal hoof health. Optimal health requires overall holistic management principles. Holistic hoof care means that the whole horse must be balanced in order to achieve the strongest possible feet.

Together with the management principles laid out in module # 2 "Complimentary and Supportive Care" will give you some tools to achieve this goal.

Because the word holistic is usually associated with medicine, it is important to clarify the role of the Equine Hoofcare Provider as distinct from, yet complementary to, the role of the veterinarian.

The Equine Hoofcare Provider, like the chiropractor or acupressure practitioner, does not diagnose or treat disease. The chiropractor aligns the spine, the acupressure practitioner balances the energy; and the Equine Hoofcare Provider aligns the hoof and lower leg.

The goal of a holistic hoof care approach first and foremost is to prevent disease or discomfort. This approach can also offer options differing from conventional approaches for treating common hoof dysfunctions. Like the distinction between a holistic medical practitioner and a conventional medical practitioner, a holistic hoof care provider differs from a conventional farrier.

The training of an Equine Hoofcare Provider, aside from the acquisition and cultivation of physical skills, involves understanding of cause and effect and the ability to recognize connections and correlations. Once a cause is understood, it can be removed. When the cause is removed, permanent healing becomes possible.

It is the function of the Equine Hoofcare Provider on an individual client basis to recognize and remove the cause of any present hoof problems with the informed cooperation of the horse owner. And, through knowledge of physiologically correct hoof form and skills in orthopedic trimming aid the hoof in returning to its healthy form and function, allowing the horse to return to soundness. The horse is viewed in a holistic light, so that every aspect of its

environment and physiology is understood to play a part in the return to soundness or the delay or prevention of it.

By now you understand the responsibilities of the work on an equine hoof, "Hoof Care Professional I + II" will give you some tools to succeed in the business of Hoof Care.



U
N
O
A
L
A
V
O
L
T
A
—
O
N
E
A
T
A
T
I
M
E