

The Importance of Shoeing and Trimming in Treating Hoof-Generated Lameness.

In these economic times we find ourselves putting off the things that cost money. We keep our horses around for a little peace of mind and to remind us of what is good in this world. Maintenance costs go up every year when you add the feed bill, vet bills and property bills. Lets not overlook maintenance of your horses' feet.

How happy would you be if you were walking around with sore feet all day? A horse feels the pain just like we do. If hooves grow too long, it causes pain in the joints and muscles. If your horse is compensating for a sore foot you may see developing pain in the hocks, hips or back. Many horses with lameness originating from the foot can be successfully managed with regular hoof care every 6-8 weeks, particularly those horses with structurally sound but poorly managed feet. Observation of hoof balance, structure and shoeing is an integral component of treating every lame horse. If you choose to wait until the horse is lame to start trimming, the costs will add up in a hurry. Your farrier can provide the most help when you schedule in advance and maintain a regular schedule instead of only calling when there is a problem with your horses' feet.