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June 2010

Equi-Ads

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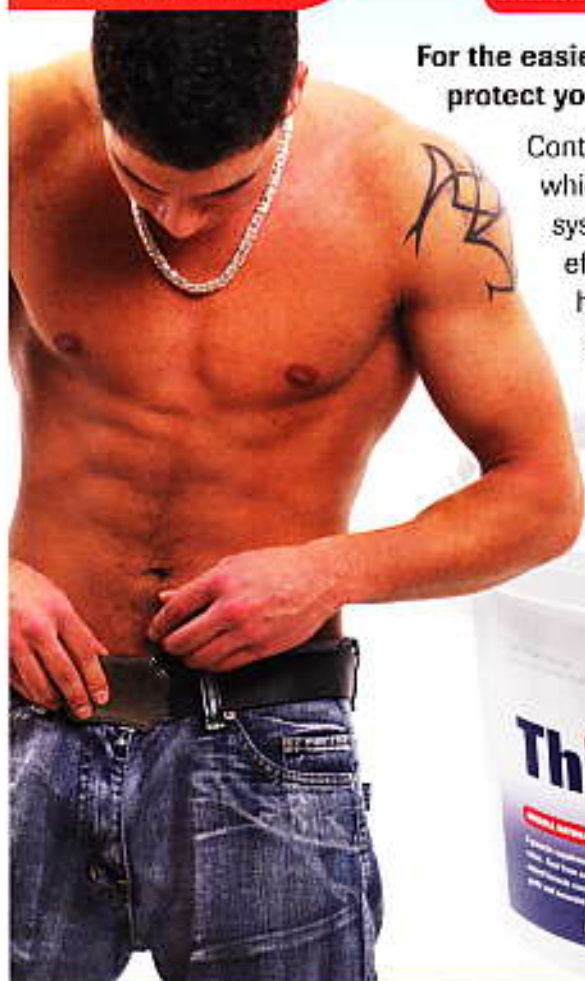
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and more...

Is hyperflexion being sanctioned by the back door?

On the 15th April 2010 the FEI Bureau gave its approval to new stewards' guidelines on warm-up techniques.

"The key initiatives in the new guidelines, which will be implemented from 15 May 2010, are:

Movements which involve having the horse's head and neck carriage in a sustained or fixed position should only be performed for periods not exceeding approximately ten minutes without change (diagrams defining the head and neck positions will be provided to the Stewards)

No single neck position should be maintained which may lead to tiredness or stress

The rider is not permitted to use rough, or abrupt aids or apply constant unyielding pressure on the horse's mouth through a fixed arm and hand position

The guidelines state that it is the steward's responsibility to ensure that riders respect the above procedures and intervene if required. The steward will intervene should he/she observe:

Neck stretching achieved through forced or aggressive riding

The use of extreme flexion if it does not comply with the above

A rider deliberately maintaining a sustained fixed head and neck carriage longer than approximately ten minutes

If the horse is in a state of general stress and/or fatigue

The steward may also ask the rider to walk for a certain period in situations where the rider's stress may cause undesired riding.

Only in exceptional circumstances and with the permission of the Chief Steward, may a pre-competition training session exceed one hour. There should be at least one hour break between any training/warm-up periods."

Some of these guidelines are all well and good, but to my mind (and that of millions of other caring horse people) extreme flexion cannot be obtained without at very best 'a fixed arm and hand position', and if carried out for more than a few seconds will cause stress and/or fatigue. If carried on for ten minutes it will constitute abuse; which I thought the FEI had already admitted in their previous statements, I quote "The FEI condemns hyperflexion in any equestrian sport as an example of mental abuse. The FEI states that it does not support the practice." Are they now saying that it is okay for up to ten minutes, as long as it is not achieved by force?

The BHS have clearly condemned hyperflexion. Is it not time that the FEI made definitive guidelines for the stewards and judges? If they condemn hyperflexion, they should stop it!

Anne Wilson

New for 2010

Improved Fly Repel Spray

1000 ml bottle RRP: £14.99

This replaces last year's Fly Repel with a new improved formulation which contains Lemongrass Oil, Teatree Oil, Lavender Oil, Citronella Extract and Ethyl Butanol.

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Summer care with Equimins

Biting Midge Cream is a gentle, easy to apply cream which has been created to help soothe and cool skin at the same time as repelling midges and other flying insects.



refresh and relax the horse at the same time as soothing minor cuts and bruises.



Lavender Wash contains lavender essential oil to soothe and calm, and coconut to help remove sweat and dirt. It's a great product for use after strenuous exercise, or just as a refreshing wash whenever it's required.

Biting Midge Cream contains Tea Tree Oil, Chamomile Extract and Apricot Oil, in addition to other ingredients, and is available in 350g and 1kg containers. Prices start from £8.18.

Extra Strength

Extra Strength is Equimins' premium fly repellent product which is incredibly effective.



It is designed to repel flies, biting insects, midges, mosquitoes and other flying insects and has undergone rigorous testing in parts of the world where they have biting insects all year round.

This product is slightly more expensive than other fly repellents but a little really does go a long way. It is available in 500ml trigger spray bottles and retails at £12.95.

Grooming Products

Lavender Wash

Lavender Wash has natural antibacterial properties and has been designed to

This product is free from soap, thickeners and detergents and can be used diluted for general use, or undiluted to help relieve bruising. It is available in 500ml and 1 litre bottles and prices start from £5.35.

Detangler

Equimins' Detangler Lotion is a specialist product designed specifically to help detangle manes and tails.



Detangler is supplied in a 500ml and a 1 litre trigger spray bottle for easy application, and is also available in a 5 litre jerrycan refill. The 500ml trigger spray retails at £7.60.

For more information see www.equimins.com, email sales@equimins.com or call 01548 531770

Sheets ahead this summer!

The British climate is ever changing and despite the warmer weather being just around the corner we all know that summer can throw up some lower temperatures! To protect your horse's coat this season the Rainbow Equine Summer Sheet provides just the right amount of coverage to keep your horse clean and comfortable.



The Rainbow Equine Summer Sheet is made from super tough and durable, top quality 12oz cotton and comes in smart navy blue with navy and white binding. With excellent wicking properties, the Rainbow Equine Summer Sheet is machine washable at 30 degrees and gives lightweight protection from chilly evenings and stable stains whilst also allowing the skin to breathe.

pleated design at the quarters and generous cut in the shoulder makes it ideal for the modern sports horse.

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