



# Hoofproblems Overview

**IntraHoof-fit**

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## INTERDIGITAL INFECTIONS

### Symptoms

Sudden lameness. The skin between the outer and inner claw is infected. The tissue above the coronet is swollen.

### Causes

The causes are *Fusobacterium necrophorum* and *Bacteriodes melaninogenicus*. These bacteria can be found in practically every cowshed. They penetrate the skin via small wounds between the claws, when they subsequently cause inflammation.

### Prevention

Ensure that the floor of the cowshed is clean and well roughened up. Clean the cowshed floor regularly, for example with a dung scraper. Ensure that there is sufficient ventilation and a fresh climate in the cowshed. Avoid small stones and uneven floors.

### Treatment

Treat affected animals with Hoof-fit Gel, and tape severely affected claws. Repeat the treatment after 5 days, if necessary. Treat the cows met Hoof-fit Liquid every 10 days as a preventive measure. Have the animals trimmed at least 2 to 3 times a year.



## LAMINITIS + SOLE ULCERS

### Symptoms

The animals' claws are warm, they stand and walk awkwardly and they lie down often. If the animals stand they often cause a clip-clopping sound as they move around. The claws are flatter and broadened with rings on them. The claw wall is sometimes kinked and shows excess horn formation.

### Causes

Laminitis is caused by bacterial toxins released during dietary disturbances or infections, such as disturbances in the balance in the rumen, prolonged milk fever, mastitis or uteritis. The bacterial toxins result in oedema in the corium, disturbances in the horn-forming cells and a reduction in the blood circulation.

Sole ulcers often result from laminitis and/or stable foot rot. These disorders bring about excessive pressure on the rear outer claws. This is where most sole ulcers occur. Unevenness and sharp edges in the floor or loose stones pressing into the claw can also cause sole ulcers. The lesion in the claw arises due to a disturbance in the microcirculation of blood to the laminae of the claw. The laminae are rich in nerves and are very sensitive.

### Prevention

Ensure that the feed rations are well-balanced and avoid excessive quantities of concentrates. It is important to increase concentrates gradually after calving.

### Treatment

In the case of laminitis, it is important to restore the claw to its normal form and to combat the possible causes (including the wrong feed). In the case of sole ulcers, the claw must be trimmed to expose the sole ulcer. If it touches the ground, it is advisable to tape the lesion or to fit a block under the other claw.





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## MORTELLARO'S DISEASE (Digital Dermatitis)

### Symptoms

Acute, severe lameness, which is extremely painful and infectious. The symptoms are strawberry-like areas on the transition from the horn to the skin between the bulbs of the sole. Typical signs of this disorder are hairs which stand up erectly around the infected area.

### Causes

The bacterium, *Borrelia burgdorferi*, often in combination with various environmental factors, is a possible cause of Mortellaro's disease.



### Prevention

Reduce the infection pressure by:

- keeping the cowshed floor clean and dry, and ensuring that it is sufficiently roughened up.
- ensuring sufficient ventilation and a fresh cowshed climate.
- purchasing the minimum number of cattle.
- avoiding overcrowding of the cowshed.
- keeping floors dry by, for example, using a dung scraper.
- preventing the spread of mud.
- preventing zinc and manganese deficiencies

### Treatment

After trimming, treat affected animals with Hoof-fit Gel. Repeat the treatment after 5 days, if necessary. Treat the whole herd with Hoof-fit Liquid every 10 days as a preventive measure. Have all the cows trimmed at least 2 to 3 times a year.



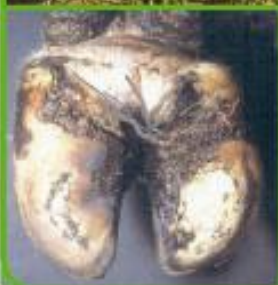
## STABLE FOOT ROT (Dermatitis Interdigitalis)

### Symptoms

Wet eczema with a characteristic smell. Infections in the interdigital skin (particularly the bulb area) cause extra blood circulation in the bulb area which, in turn, stimulates extra horn formation. This extra horn formation leads to V-shaped splits in the bulb area. The disorder is most frequent when the animals are housed inside, and it often occurs in various animals simultaneously.

### Causes

A chronic infection caused by *Bacteroides nodosus*.



### Prevention

Ensure that the cowshed climate is fresh and dry. Prevent overcrowding and ensure that the cowshed floor is in the best possible condition. A dung scraper is useful here.

### Treatment

Remove excess horn and treat the areas between the claws with Hoof-fit Gel. Repeat the treatment after 5 days, if necessary. Treat the whole herd with Hoof-fit Liquid every 10 days as a preventive measure. Have all the cows trimmed at least 2 to 3 times a year.