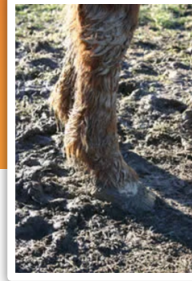


# Winter's Here!

Hoof care in winter by  
Andrew Mahon



## Hoof care

Here we are again up to our knees in mud and wet conditions.

We have to let our horses out into the fields to allow them to get exercise and get fresh air they are animals that thrive on been out in the field. Exercise is what makes the whole body of the horse work as it should and to keep it healthy.



*Wet sticky mud .*

## What can you do to keep the hoof healthy?

Proper management is key to keeping the horses hoof healthy.

Check you horse's hooves regularly if they are staying out full time as that hoof sinks into the mud and can't be seen until removed from the mud by lifting it out manually.

Pick out the mud or sticky clay checking for stones or foreign items that can do harm to the hooves and to see if the hooves need to attended by the farrier for trimming or shoeing.



*Damage done to the hoof.*

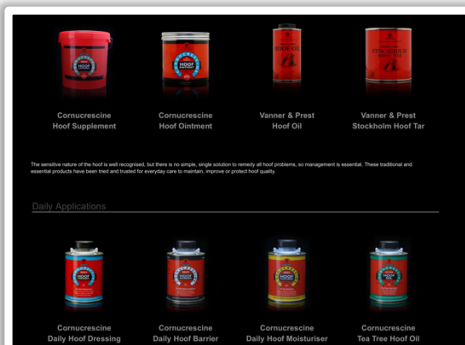


## What happens the hooves in the mud ?

The horses hooves do change in its strength to its area in which it stands in for example in the summer in dry conditions the hoof hardens and can be Tough to withstand wear and tear, on the other side in the wet conditions the hoof can soften and can be easily damaged or have shoes sucked off by the sticky mud.

## Caring for the hoof ?

Your farrier can be the best person to ask about the best care for the hoof . The types of shoes to what care you can provide and how. For example hoof care products that can provide care in both the summer and the winter which in turn helps the horse then the rider the owner and of course the farrier



## What to use ?

Like a lot of items each farrier have their own preferences when it comes to hoof care I myself like Carr Day and Martin as they have been around for years and they provide hoof conditioner for the summer and a barrier for wet conditions to seal the hoof wall from the wet and mud. But ask your own farrier what they feel is best for the horse they know best.

## Remember

The old saying “NO FOOT NO HORSE” has been said through the ages but is the most honest saying told so I am hoping that you now have some tips in how to care a little more for your horses hooves always ask your farrier what’s best for your horse and I wish you all the best of wishes and keep safe

Thanks for listening

ANDREW MAHON

