

● BOOK REVIEW

Founder Data Collection And Analysis:

How To Take, Read and Interpret Radiographs For The Prognosis And Treatment Of The Foundered Horse

By Dr. Esco Buff

Dr. Esco Buff's first book is a welcome addition to the professional farrier's library. The goal of the book as stated by the author is "to provide the veterinarian, farrier and horse owner with the most successful treatment techniques..." Dr. Buff achieves this goal by providing intelligent insight for owners and farriers using the heart bar method of treatment in founder cases. The work covers topics such as emergency first aid at the onset of founder, radiographic techniques, information detailing correct use and interpretation of radiographs specifically with regard to the use of the author's Founder Data Collection and Analysis Forms, as well as ideas concerning proper fit and application of the heart bar shoe. By offering a well rounded approach to treatment that emphasizes teamwork between owner, vet, and farrier, Dr. Buff has provided the shoeing community with a very useful tool.

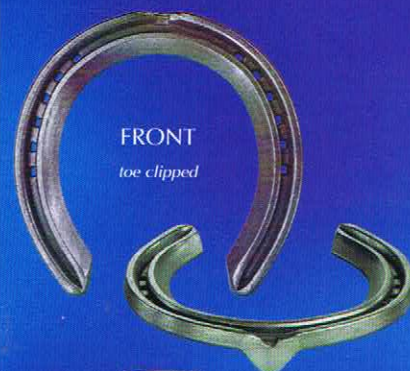
The chapter on first aid is clear, succinct and addresses the issue at the level of the average owner. The remaining chapters are geared toward the farrier and veterinarian and use appropriate jargon and explanation for the techniques described. I was most impressed by the in-depth explanations on how to effectively use the founder data sheets in treating founder cases. The photographs throughout the book were clear and supportive of the text. Inclusion of founder case study statistics and the reference section documenting the use of others' work was also a welcome sight. Though the text provides solid, functional information on a complex subject, in my opinion, the layout of the pages did not do the text justice. Prolific emphasis on ideas, words and quotes in the text, along with the lack of full paragraphs in some sections were occasionally disruptive to the continuity of the work. That aside, Dr. Buff has deftly approached a controversial topic with professionalism and success. Anyone treating horses with laminitis looking to glean more information on the subject should read this book, no matter what theories or applications they may regularly employ. — *Addie Piatt*

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