

Ref.: Experiences using the synthetic horseshoe „easywalker“

As a veterinary I'm using the „easywalker“ in my job as veterinary as well as with my horses in riding sports.

I could collect experiences in 3-day eventing in level CIC** and in show jumping competitions in class S using the easywalker on my horses. All of them showed from the very beginning better and light-footed movements. This could be noticed especially on difficult ground conditions. If deep or hard ground, my horses moved, jumped and landed always similar good and I could not observe any ground preferences of my horses. The horses do not slip and run even under difficult ground conditions safely and compared to steel shoes one can use smaller studs to have the same traction. For myself is the prophylactic effect with typical sport injuries most important as well the acute injuries as the chronicle ones of the extremities. I expect this when using the easywalker The light weight, the influences to the hoof capsule, the improved movements and most of all the much better blood supply to the capsule are for myself authoritative.

The influences of the improved blood circulation could be observed in:

- a better quality of the hoof material,
- an improvement of the hoof shape,
- a horse with sound extremities all over the year,

Over all the easywalker is the first synthetic horseshoe which is really suitable for all kind of performance sports.

In the orthopaedics we are using the easywalker always when is indicated, that the movement on soft “ground” relieves the horse from its pain and we could very often observe that just the change of the horseshoe reduced the problems for the horse. Preferably we are using the “easywalker” in case of athrose in the distal toe links, for laminitis and problems in the navicular region.

Finally and conclusive I can say, that often steel is no longer a suitable solution and the easywalker with his positive aspects is clearly a superior solution. The reality showed only few horses which could not benefit using the easywalker. This were mostly horses which had a problem with the vertical hoof mechanism and therefore moved sensitive. The disadvantageous effects of many conventional synthetic horseshoes to the hoof capsule and the whole distale extremities could not be observed with the “easywalker”. Many of the prejudices for synthetic shoes, like poor wear resistance, disadvantageous changes of the hoof shape, bad movements (stopping or sticking on the ground), breaking/cracking of the hoof wall, etc. could not be observed from our side with the easywalker.

On the contrary the reality showed, that many of these prejudices are based on not sufficient knowledge (for instance the so called “sliding phase”) or not suitable craftsmanship from side of the farrier (problems with the hoof wall, disadvantageous changes of the hoof shape, bad hold of the shoe on the hoof).