

Trimming Methods discussed and Learning-to-Trim Truths

The Perfect Trim???

"The best trim a horse could get...would be the one he would give himself..."

I tend to think (and would hope) that all trimming methods would agree with this statement that 'best' trim a horse could get is the one that he would give himself if he was in the right circumstances to do so.

The 'trim' he would get if he was born in the wild, hit the firm ground and started to shape his feet through movement. This would be the 'best' he could get. Given a supportive environment...these feet would be near perfect!

It would never turn into an argument over who's method of what trim is best or better than the next. The horse would give himself what is best for him. Perfectly shaped feet for that individual doing "X" amount of movement. The growth and wear rate would be totally equally balanced to one another ... and this relationship is dynamic.

The foot responds to the stimulus given it. The horse is born with this innate ability. Sadly, this ability is denied and suppressed in many domestic horses through shoeing, improper trimming, confinement, feeding practices, etc.

I hope all 'methods' would agree that it is ideal if horses/foals were brought up in a supportive correct and/or enhanced natural environment to start with. This would give them the most 'natural' foot and one that is tailored to carry the individual. If you learn the 'natural' shape of the foot and then learn to groom the feet as well as the horses' environment ... you can and will have 'better than wild' feet. Those that can carry a rider for hours over diverse terrain (like endurance riders), feet that can jump or perform in Dressage effortlessly, and feet that can do absolutely anything they are conditioned to do. High Performance Barefeet!

BAREFOOT HORSES ARE SOUNDER AND STRONGER BY NATURE



BAREFOOT HORSES CAN DO ANYTHING THEY ARE CONDITIONED TO DO

If and when more horses are raised with the 'natural' way in mind, the incidence of lameness associated with the feet would become near obsolete. Personally I think a lot of things would become near obsolete if horses were given a barefoot and natural lifestyle right from the start...and continued throughout their life. Things like colic and early arthritis, 'mystery' lameness, navicular, hock lameness, founder/laminitis, aggressiveness, or 'bad' behavior...vices, and even some acquired 'diseases' ... the list can go on.

It has been my experience to date that most, if not all lameness' are reversible or at the least arrested through proper natural care and trimming.

The benefits of Natural and Barefoot care far outweigh the alternative of 'traditional' stabling and shoeing practices.