

# Skin Conditions for Horses & Dogs

## Sweet Itch

Essentially a severe allergic reaction to the saliva of biting insects. Symptoms include intense itchiness, hives, scabbing, hair loss and weight loss due to scratching and stress. Most often present on the underside of the belly, under the mane, or dock of tail. To alleviate symptoms and treat secondary bacterial infections, begin with a soaking bath in Equiderma Neem Shampoo, allow to absorb into skin and coat for as long as possible before rinsing. Follow with Equiderma Neem Conditioner to calm inflamed skin. Apply Equiderma Skin Lotion to any affected areas liberally, repeat Lotion application daily until healing is evident. Spray body with Equiderma Herbal Horse Spray daily or as needed.

## Wounds & Burns

For severe wounds, consult your veterinarian immediately. For wounds that can be treated at home, keep the area clean and free of dirt/debris. Gently wash wound site daily with Equiderma Neem Shampoo to keep bacterial infections at bay. Apply Equiderma Wound Ointment liberally to protect the site, keep insects away, and prevent proud flesh development while the site is healing. Calendula Wound Ointment will also soothe inflammation and ease pain, and is particularly effective on burns and insect bites.

## Scratches

Pastern Dermatitis (or scratches, mud fever, greasy heel or cracked heel) is usually found in the hollow of the pastern, presenting as reddened, tender scabby or scaly patches of skin/sores. This condition can be caused by the same microorganisms that cause rain rot, and can worsen rapidly so treatment at the onset is crucial. As with most bacterial or fungal infections, start with a soaking bath in Equiderma Neem Shampoo, then gently rinse. If the area is dry and scaly, apply Equiderma Skin Lotion as often as needed until healthy skin appears. If the area is wet and seeping blood or serum, apply Equiderma Zinc Oxide Paste.

## Ringworm in Horses or Dogs

The same fungus that causes ringworm in humans can easily spread to or from our pets and animals. Ringworm typically appears as hairless, flaky and irritated circular patches of skin. They can appear anywhere on the body and are highly contagious, so treatment should begin immediately and exposure to your hands, clothing and other animals should be strictly limited. If possible, remove hair from the area. Begin with a soaking bath in Equiderma Neem Shampoo (or Barn Dog for canines) to treat the fungus, allowing it to soak in as long as possible before rinsing. Thoroughly dry and liberally apply Equiderma Skin Lotion (or Barn Dog Lotion for canines) daily or as needed until the infection clears. It is critical to keep the area dry, and exposure to sunlight is ideal. Fungus thrives in dark, moist, warm places so monitor conditions carefully when blanketing horses.

## Summer Sores

If your horse develops a sore that will not heal, you may be dealing with a summer sore. These frustrating wounds are the result of a strange parasitic relationship between the horse, stomach worms and flies. Consult your veterinarian as doses of dewormer may be beneficial along with topical treatment. Gently wash the site with Equiderma Neem Shampoo, towel dry and generously apply Equiderma Skin Lotion daily. When possible, wrap the area with vet bandages after Skin Lotion application, changing bandages daily.

## Neck Threadworm

Neck Threadworm is a parasite that lives in your horse's nuchal ligament (neck). For most horses, it causes no problems, but some have a violent reaction to the conditions caused by hosting this parasite. The horse becomes itchy around the mane, tail, chest, shoulders and midline of the belly. Many cases of Neck Threadworm are misdiagnosed as Sweet Itch, but happily the same treatment regimen will greatly alleviate symptoms. Give your horse a soaking bath in Equiderma Neem Shampoo, letting the skin absorb the shampoo as long as possible before rinsing. Cover the affected areas in Equiderma Skin Lotion, finish with Equiderma Herbal Horse Spray. Consult your veterinarian as doses of dewormer are often recommended to combat the parasite internally.

## Dandruff in Horses or Dogs

Dandruff can be caused by environment and temperature, or by more serious issues that affect the hair follicles such as ringworm, fungus, dermatophytes and lack of proper fats in the diet. If the area of hair loss is under the mane, it could be sweating and trapped heat. Hair loss due to heat and sweat is also common on the face, eyes and around the ears, often the result of a horse's aversion to having their faces washed. For less severe cases of dandruff, shampoo with Equiderma Neem Shampoo, and follow with a soaking treatment of Equiderma Conditioner, letting it absorb into the skin as long as possible before rinsing. For more severe cases, include application of Equiderma Skin Lotion into your grooming routine. Follow a similar treatment regimen for dogs, substituting products for Barn Dog Shampoo, Conditioner, and Skin Lotion when needed.

## Mystery Hair Loss/Itching/Mane & Tail Rubbing

There are many reasons why your horse may experience these symptoms, Sweet Itch, dirty sheath/udder, pinworms, and ticks to name a few. Consult your veterinarian to rule out cases that may need medical treatment. For all others, bathe with Equiderma Neem Shampoo, and use Equiderma Sheath & Udder Cleanser around your horse's sensitive areas. Follow up with Equiderma Skin Lotion, and add Equiderma Herbal Horse Spray to your grooming routine.

## Mallenders & Sallenders

Only present in horse breeds with heavy feather like the Gypsy, Shire, Drum, Clydesdale or Friesian, you'll recognize it by the thickened, crusted scale and scabs on the front and hind legs of horses. Sallenders and Mallenders can become extremely uncomfortable for your horse and when untreated can cause secondary fungal and bacterial infections that lead to lameness. The cause is the overproduction of keratin, the building block of hair, horn and feather. There is no cure, but it can be managed easily. Start with a soaking bath in Equiderma Neem Shampoo, then application of Equiderma Skin Lotion will gently soften the waxy buildup and the scabs will start to drop off. The Lotion will also help prevent and address any infections associated with this condition.

## Sore Paws

If your dog suffers from dry or cracked paws, first check for signs of a more serious issue. Once other conditions have been ruled out, start treatment with a thorough soak in Barn Dog Shampoo, rinse and towel dry gently. Apply Equiderma Wound Ointment to the paw generously, getting in between the pads of the paw. If needed, a sock can be applied while the area heals.



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## Thrush

Thrush infections are caused by bacteria (and occasionally fungus), affecting the central and lateral sulcus (grooves) of the frog, resulting in a black, foul-smelling discharge. Clean and pick the hoof well, then apply Equiderma Thrush & Whiteline Treatment generously over the entire hoof, using the brush of a hoof pick to ensure the treatment reaches into all the grooves. Repeat daily. In extreme cases, saturate cotton balls in the treatment and use the metal tip of a hoof pick to wedge the cotton ball into the grooves of the frog.

## Whiteline Disease

Whiteline disease is classified by progressive hoof wall separation affecting the toe and quarters of the hoof, often caused by fungal spores. This condition is marked by areas of crumbly, powdery black or grey tissue at the white line. Removal of infected tissue, application of Equiderma Thrush and Whiteline Treatment, and protecting new hoof growth are important treatment factors.

## Sunburn

Horses who have been clipped or have lighter colored coats or markings are particularly susceptible to sunburn. Apply a thin layer of Equiderma Zinc Oxide Paste to exposed skin to prevent sunburn. If your horse has already experienced burns from too much sun exposure, Equiderma Wound Ointment will provide immediate soothing relief, but do not turn the horse out in intense sun after application as the ointment may amplify sun exposure.

## Hot Spots in Dogs

Acute moist dermatitis appears as red, irritated and sometimes oozing sores anywhere on your dog's body, but especially the head, legs, hips and paws. Begin with a soaking bath in Barn Dog Shampoo, letting the shampoo soak into the skin as long as possible before rinsing. Follow with Barn Dog Conditioner, rinse completely and towel dry thoroughly. Apply Barn Dog Skin Lotion daily to the spots until healthy skin appears.

## Yeast Infections in Dogs

Yeast Dermatitis usually occurs in a dog's ears, between the pads of their paws, or in skin folds (like the face of a bulldog). Skin will become red and oily, sometimes with a foul odor, and your dog may shake their head, scratch and lick excessively. Begin with a soaking bath in Barn Dog Shampoo, letting the shampoo soak into the skin as long as possible before rinsing, towel dry thoroughly. Apply Barn Dog Skin Lotion as often as needed to the affected areas.

## Sheath Cleaning

Sheath cleaning is a vital part of your gelding's care, but all horses benefit from periodic grooming of their genital areas. Sheath cleaning should be conducted about every 3-6 months. Start with a generous amount of Equiderma Sheath Cleanser in your hand and apply it to the sheath area, leave cleanser on for a few minutes if needed to loosen the grime buildup. It is vital to check for the presence of beans. Rinse thoroughly with warm water throughout the process. More comprehensive instructions are available on our website at [www.equiderma.com](http://www.equiderma.com).

## Hives

Hives can appear for many reasons, most often as a result of insect bites, stings or exposure to allergens in products or the environment. In extreme cases, consult your veterinarian. If the hives can be treated at home, start with a cool, soothing water rinse. If the hives are the result of insect bites, a bath in Equiderma Neem Shampoo will be highly beneficial, followed by daily spritzes with Equiderma Herbal Horse Spray. For any type of breakout, generously apply Equiderma Wound Ointment to the affected areas for immediate relief.

## Elbow Callus in Dogs

Elephant-skin-like elbow calluses can appear in dogs for many reasons, sleeping habits, obesity, or spending too much time on hard surfaces like concrete. This results in skin trauma and a callus develops at the site. For the most part they do not cause your dog pain, however they can crack open and become infected or become so large that it causes your dog distress. At the first sign of a callus developing, provide a soft bedding alternative for your dog. Apply Equiderma Wound Ointment generously to the area and re-apply daily. This will soften the callus, soothe any existing irritation and prevent infections from developing. You may also create a sleeve using a sock to provide extra cushioning while the area heals.

## Rain Rot

Dermatophilosis is the most common bacterial skin disease in horses. It thrives in moist warm places, and when high temperatures and biting insects damage the skin, the bacterium produces threadlike tentacles that penetrate skin and spread out, triggering an acute inflammatory response in the horse. Once you suspect rain rot symptoms, begin treatment immediately and to limit the spread, do not share grooming tools or blankets with other horses. Treatment is simple, start with a soaking bath in Equiderma Neem Shampoo, letting the skin absorb the shampoo as much and for long as possible before rinsing. Dry thoroughly, and liberally apply Equiderma Skin Lotion daily or as often as needed until the condition clears. For particularly susceptible horses, treat preventatively with soaking shampoo treatments and skin lotion applications. Use Equiderma Daily Defense Dry Shampoo to keep the skin and coat dry between treatments and under blankets.

## Cannon Crud

The official name is cannon keratosis. Like Mallenders/Sallenders, it is caused by an excess production of keratin, it exudes from the skin and dries there. You may also see it on your horse's face, ears and above the hocks. While the condition is harmless, removing the crud can be irritating to your horse. Start by applying Equiderma Skin Lotion, this will begin to soften the buildup, and leave on. The next day, bathe with Equiderma Neem Shampoo and you will begin to see the buildup slough off on its own. Repeat the alternating 2 steps as needed.