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NEWS FOR FARRIERS

Blacksmith Hammers and Files from Bellota

Popularity of The History Channel's "Forged in Fire" has sparked a renewed interest in the art of blacksmithing in America. The Bellota line includes a couple small "sledge" style hammers, the Cross Peins and a Ball Pein, all useful in the blacksmith trade. The range of Bellota files are also useful for blacksmiths and knife makers.

Visit farrierproducts.com for more information on these products.

Cross Pein

Dutch Sledge

Liberty Steel Hybrid 3

Liberty Steel Hybrid 4

Liberty Steel Hybrid 5

Liberty Hybrid Nails Now Available in Sizes 3, 4 and 5

Liberty Steel Hybrid Nails size 3, 4 and 5 are now available - ask your favorite FPD dealer about these new nails!

LIBERTY
A NAIL EVOLUTION

- Modified head design works well in concave and shoes punched for E-head nails
- Extra strong and durable material
- Extra length
- Extra pitch as result of new head design
- Perfect in combination with pads
- Extra sharp and smooth for less damage

JUST A REMINDER

Bloom Forge Signature Series Hammers

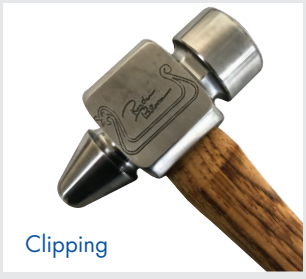
The full range of Bloom Forge Signature Series Hammers are now available through your FPD dealer. This new tool range includes rounding hammers in 1.75, 2, 2.5 and 3 lb. weights; a 2 lb. Cross Pein; a 2 lb. Clipping Hammer; and a 20 degree angled 2 lb. Cross Pein in a right and left hand option.

The face of the Signature Series hammers are slightly wider and the overall length from one face of the hammer to the other is less when compared to regular Bloom hammers.

There is more mass (weight) in the center of the hammer, as well as a customized handle with tear drop shape and smaller circumference. All hammers are made in Wisconsin.

Rounding

Cross Pein



Clipping

20 Degree Angled Cross Pein

Article from The Natural Angle • Volume 8 Issue 3

Working with a Club Foot

AS SEEN ON FPD'S HOOFWALL BLOG

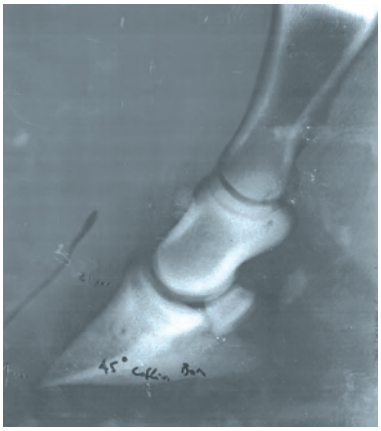
By Dave Farley

When asked to work on a horse with a club foot, take extra time to evaluate the whole horse. Look at the horse from all angles. Watch the horse as it takes a couple of steps; this can help you see where the foot cannot take stress. A horse will protect himself just as you do when hurting. Learning this and understanding the lame horse is mandatory for a farrier to have a successful, positive shoeing experience. Doing anything less is simply application, not correction.

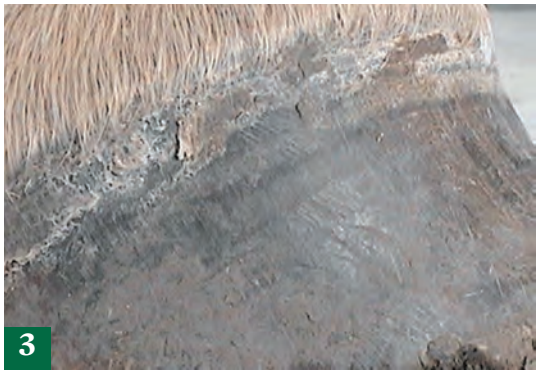
The condition of the foot, the way the horse stands and your shoe modification ability will help determine the end result. With all this in mind we worked on a club foot case recently. This particular horse, a six year old gelding, has what I feel is a grade three club foot (on a 1-5 scale). Apparently the club foot condition has been with this horse since it was a foal. This horse found it difficult to stand square or under himself before shoeing.

In **photo 1** you can see the dish in the hoof wall is at or just below the coronary, a grade 3, whereas a dish at or just above the end of the toe would likely be considered grade 1 or 2. This club foot, as seen in **photo 2**, has very straight medial and lateral walls, versus only medial or lateral. Look closely at **photo 3** and you can see hoof growth at the heel is approximately twice as much as the toe growth. There is separation of the wall from widest area medial to widest area lateral shown in **photo 4**.

Above: Right Front Foot



Above: Left Front Foot

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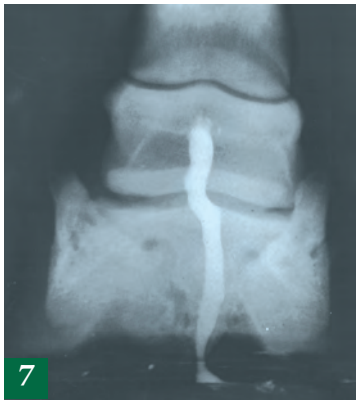
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The bars are starting to close in or point towards the frog as you can see in **photo 5**. If the end of the bars are not opened as I did on the right (I simply use a rasp and knife) they will start to pinch and narrow the frog.

There are several other factors that contribute to this horse's lameness. Look at **photos 6 and 7**. Notice the pronounced side bone. **Photo 8** shows a prolapsed sole that is painful, making it impossible to have a normal stride. Also notice the degenerative sole growth just in front of the frog. This is from osteomyelitis or infectious bone. **Photo 9** is the lateral x-ray showing the remodeled bone and poor quality of the bone. The toe crack in photo 10 has also been the site of drainage from abscesses due to micro fractures from the distal end of the coffin bone. With all this in mind I decided to modify a shoe to do several things. Rocker the shoe both toe and heel to allow for ease of break over and landing, add a leather rim pad to raise the prolapsed and painful sole off the ground and fit the shoe more medial to center the frog while putting the hoof support closer to the center of the leg **(photos 11 & 12)**.


10

Before applying this shoe it was almost impossible to pick up the left front. After application of the modified shoe to the right I was then able to shoe the left. I also applied a thicker rim pad to the left front to raise that side allowing the right foot and leg to be more square and weight bearing. You can see in **photo 13** that the left front is much wider than the right, a result of bearing more than its share of weight over the years.


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