

STUDENT GLOSSARY

A

Abscess: A concentration of pus in a cavity beneath the skin of a horse, which may be chronic, or acute.

Action: A horse's ease, or otherwise, of movement, which should be free and even, equal on all limbs, straight and without twisting in or out.

Age: Ageing; Of the horse, may be told by the teeth.

Aged: Of a horse more than eight years old, after which age becomes difficult to gauge accurately.

Aids: To the control of the horse

Airs: Artificial paces other than the natural walk, trot and canter.

Albinos: A recognised breed of horses, originating in the USA

Alfalfa, or Lucerne: A cloverlike plant, useful for fodder.

Alterative: A medicine which improves a horse's condition.

Amble: Of a horse: to lift it's feet on the same side together, i.e. a form of slow single-footing.

Anglo-Arab: Any Thoroughbred-Arab cross.

Anthrax: An incurable, fatal and notifiable disease, caused by a bacillus.

Appaloosa: A spotted bred of pony found in the U.S.A.

Appetite: A horse's inclination to satisfy hunger, or otherwise, which may be used as a pointer to fitness and feed requirements.

Approved Mare: A mare selected to be one of the forty or so covered by a particular stallion.

Arab: A breed of horse originating in Arabia, famous for endurance.

Arthritis: An incurable disease in a horse, causing lameness.

Astride: With legs each side, the commonest method of riding, as opposed to side-saddle.

Australian nose-band: A rubber strap slipped over the bit rings and joined over the nose by junction to the brow-band.

Azoturia: Otherwise Monday Morning Disease, thought to be caused by a day without exercise and full corn ration.

B

Back: Of a horse.

Back-pad: A harness-saddle, fitted as riding saddle and held in place by girth.

Back-rein: To cause the horse to back by use of the reins and aids.

Balance: Steady equilibrium: in horse may be improved by schooling.

Balding girth: A plaited leather girth, designed to avoid galls.

Balearic: A distinctive breed of horse found in Majorca.

Balk: Of a horse, to refuse a leap.

Ball: To administer physic to a horse in ball form: hence: balling.

Ballotade: A high-school air in which a horse half rears off its hocks and lands collectedly on all fours.

Bandages: Different materials, and different uses; sprains and strains, for keeping dressings in position, or to prevent injuries.

Bang: To cut the end of a horse's tail squarely.

Bank: A method of fencing with an earth mound. A common show-jumping fence.

Barrel: The body of the horse from behind the forearms to the loins

Barren mare: A mare incapable of breeding.

Bars: The part of the horse's mouth without teeth, between the tushes and the molars where the bit rests.

Bar-shoes: Shoes having the heel connected under the frog to relieve pressure, or in case of an injury.

Basuto: An extremely hardy breed of S. African pony.

Bay: A colour of a horse, varying from near brown to near chestnut, notable for black mane and tail.

Bedding: For a horse, may be straw, sawdust, woodchip, etc.

Bed down: To arrange a horse's bedding for the night.

Behind the bit: Frightened of the bit, unable to bear the pressure on the bars of the mouth, hence, overflexed and out of control.

Bending exercise: Weaving a horse between evenly spaced poles at various paces to test reaction to leg pressure and neck-reining.

Bishop: To file down the teeth of an aged horse, hollow the centre and burn black to emulate the teeth of a 5-6 year old.

Bit: Or curb-bit, when used in conjunction with the bridoon, or snaffle to make up a double-bridle.

Black: Melanistic pigment throughout the body, coat, limbs, mane and tail.

Black-brown: Where the dominant colour is black with a brown muzzle.

Blaze: A white marking between the eyes of a horse extending down the face the whole width of the nasal bones.

Blemish: A mark left on a horse either by injury or disease.

Blinkers: or blinders, or winkers: Rigid leather addition to harness bridle.

Blister: To set up a counter-irritant, producing severe inflammation intended to draw blood to the affected area and expedite healing.

Blood horse: A Thoroughbred.

Body: The trunk: a horse may be said to have 'depth of body', i.e. a deep chest conformation.

Body brush: A grooming brush of short stout bristles, used in conjunction with the curry comb for removing scurf and dirt.

Bog spavin: A soft and puffy swelling on the inside of the hock, caused by strain.

Bolt: Of a horse: to run away uncontrollably with the bit in its teeth. To gulp food, due to teeth decay or greed.

Bone: Measured by the amount below the knee or hock.

Bone spavin: A bone growth inside and just below the hock joint.

Bore: Of a horse: to lean heavily on the bit.

Bots: The eggs of the gad fly which are laid on the horse's legs.

Box: To lead a horse into a horse box.

Box foot: A hoof with a small frog, high heel and upright wall.

Bran: The husk of grain separated from the flour in the milling.

Bran mash: Horse feed of damped bran.

Break: To tame, or teach horse discipline.

Breed: To raise horse: A particular strain, or type of horse recognised as pure bred. There over 100 recognised breeds and types of horse.

Breeder: One who rears horses, a stud-owner.

Breeding: The pedigree of a horse.

Breton: A breed of French draught horse raised in Brittany and hardy good worker.

Bridge: The bridge of hands, or crossed reins across a horse's crest to prevent the body falling forward, over jumps, or steep slopes. Used in steeple-chasing.

Bridle: The head gear of a riding or driving harness.

Bridle-bracket: A wall bracket designed to hold a bridle.

Bridle-hand: The hand holding the reins, generally the left.

Bridoon: The small snaffle bit which makes up part of the double bridle.

Brittle-hoof: A hoof with easily split horn, due to lack of care, heredity, or bad shoeing.

Broken knee: Any open injury to the knee of the horse is so called.

Broken wind, or heaves: Overdistention and breakdown of the air vesicles of the lung of the horse caused by strain, or excessive bulk feeding.

Brood mare: A mare used for breeding purposes.

Brow-band: A strap joining the two side straps of the head-piece.

Brown: A colour recognised by the colour of the horse's nose.

Bruise: Contusion caused by a blow, not always obvious in a horse.

Bruised sole: Contusion to the sensitive sole or the horse's foot.

Brushing boots: A variety of boots used to prevent injury by brushing.

Buck: Of a horse: to arch it's back.

Buttock: Of the horse: the back of the thighs.

C

Cadence: A dressage term denoting the rhythm of a horse, its balanced movement and rhythmical airs.

Calkins, or calks: Projections on the underside of the heel of the shoe.

Camargue horse: A breed of horse, generally greys about 14hh, found in South France.

Canker: A rare disease resulting in the softening of the horn of the hoof.

Cannon bone: The shin bone of a horse.

Canter: A pace of three time with a fourth silent beat.

Cantle: The raised rear part of the saddle.

Capped elbow, or Soeboil: A swollen point of the elbow, generally caused by lack of bedding when lying down.

Capped hock: A damaged or swollen hock.

Carriage: The head, tail, body and deportment and bearing of the horse.

Carty: Of any draught horse, or similar type; derogatory in connection with a thoroughbred cross.

Cast: Of a horse which has lain down in the stables, or fallen down, and is unable to rise.

Cataract: An opacity of the lens of the eye, possibly heredity, or the result of a blow, or disease.

Castrate: To emasculate a male horse. Alt. Geld, hence, gelding.

Cavesson: A strong leather head-collar, used for lunging

Chaff: The remains left after thrushing corn, or less correctly chopped hay, or straw.

Champ: Of a horse: to work the bit in the mouth, to take hold of the bit and play with it.

Change of leg: The act of altering the leading leg at the canter.

Cheekpiece: The part of the bridle to which the bit is attached.

Chestnut: A whole colour of a horse: A horny growth on the inside of the forelegs, above the knee; on the inside of the hindlegs, below the hock.

Chin groove: An obvious cleft beneath a horse's chin which the curb chain should lie.

Chop: A mixed feed of chopped hay, crushed oats, etc.

Churn barrel: A well-ribbed-up animal, especially a brood mare with well-sprung ribs and a large belly.

Cinch: (U.S.A) Girth.

Clean-bred: Of any animal of any breed with no impure blood in the pedigree.

Clean leg: A horse's leg free from blemishes, splints, etc.

Clench, or clinch: The point of a horseshoe nail when hammered through the hoof, twisted off and hammered down into place.

Cleveland bay: A pure-bred type of carriage horse.

Clicking, or forging: The noisy action of a horse caused by striking the toe, of the forefoot with the toe of the hindfoot.

Clip: To remove the winter coat of the horse, Many different types of clip depending on the horse's work load.

Clips: Of shoeing: to hold shoe in place.

Close-coupled: Of a horse with a short, deep and compact body, with well-sprung ribs.

Clothing: Rugs, used to keep the horse from getting cold during the winter months.

Clydesdale: A breed of heavy horse originating in Clydesdale.

Coachman's elbow: The salute when driving a coach.

Coat: The skin of the horse; should be shining and glossy.

Cob: Any horse between 14-15h.h. of a sturdy build; only the welsh cob is a separate breed.

Cold: In the head of the horse is similar to that in a human.

Cold-back: A condition which may cause the horse to buck, or kick, when the saddle is first put on, or the rider first mounts.

Cold-bit: An unwarmed, frozen, bit should not be inserted in the horse's mouth.

Cold-blooded breeds: The breeds originating from NW Europe and parts of N.Asia, as opposed to the warm-blooded breeds from the Orient and Mediterranean.

Cold-shoe: To nail a shoe on a horse's foot without shaping and heating beforehand.

Colic: Two kinds of colic: spasmodic colic and flatulent colic. Similar symptoms of kicking at abdomen, tail whisking, swollen belly and constant stomach pains.

Collar: Fits over head and takes the weight of a load when the horse moves forward.

Collar gall: A sore generally caused by friction of ill-fitting collar.

Collect: To shorten the horse's pace, by light pressure of the hands while driving the hindquarters forward by leg pressure.

Colostrum milk: The first milk from a newly foaled mare is colostrum and is important to the foal for the purifying and disease-resistant qualities it contains.

Colt: A young entire, ie. uncastrated, male horse, from the stage of weaning from his dam to the time when he is either castrated or goes on to become a stallion.

Common: common bred. Lacking quality, coarse.

Concentrates: Concentrated foods of varied value.

Condition: Implies good working condition, ie. the body hard, but well covered with flesh, a firm neck, a silky and glossy coat, a bright eye, and good appetite, digestion, dung and urine, as well as good spirits.

Conformation: The build and manner which the horse is formed.

Congestion: Abnormal acculation of fluid in a part of the body of a horse. e.g. the kidneys and the lungs.

Conjunctivitis: Inflammation of the membrane covering the eye, due to cold, foreign matter, a blow, or whip lash.

Connemara: Breed of hardy pony found in Western Eire.

Constipation: The failure of the horse's bowels to operate due to faulty feeding or lack of exercise.

Contact: The link formed by the reins between the hands of the rider and the horse's mouth.

Contracted heels: A condition where the walls of the foot are contracted on one or both sides of the heel, due to lack of frog pressure.

Coper: A dealer in horses; often incorrectly used in derogatory sense.

Corn: A bruise on the sensitive sole of the foot, due to bad shoeing, or to the shoes being left on too long.

Coronary band, or coronary cushion: The bulge above the coronet band at the base of the pastern.

Coronet: the lowest point of the pastern immediately adjoining the hoof.

Cough: A violent noisy involuntary expulsion of air from the lungs.

Cow kick: A forward kick with the hind legs.

Cow hocks: Inward turning hocks resembling those of a cow.

Cracked heels; or grease: A chronic skin ailment commoner in the heavier breeds.

Crib-biting: A vice consisting of grasping the manger or similar object in the teeth and generally swallowing air at the same time, caused by boredom or imitation in stables.

Croup: The rump of the horse.

Crupper: A padded loop of leather fitted round the root of the horse's tail buckled either to a D at the back of the saddle, or at the rear of the harness-pad, to keep them in place if necessary.

Curb: To flex the lower jaw of the horse by use of the bit.

A thickening of the tendon, or ligament, at the back of the hock, about 4 inches below the point of the hock, caused by strain and most common in sickle hocks. *NB* False curb is caused by the head of metatarsal bone unduly large and is not a fault or unsoundness.

Curb-chain: A chain used in conjunction with the curb-bit, fitting across the chin groove and attached to the hooks on the cheekpieces of the bit.

Curb-strap or Lip strap: Fastened to each cheekpiece of the bit and holding the curb-chain in place.

Curby hocked: Implying that the hocks have curbs.

Curry comb: A metal plate with blunt teeth on one side for cleaning the body brush of accumulated scurf when grooming.

D

Daisy cutter: A horse with such a low action that it goes near to the ground, i.e. does not raise its legs.

Dales pony: A breed of native pony found in Yorkshire.

Dam: The mother of a horse.

Dandy brush: Generally of stiff fibre used for removing hard caked mud from the coat.

Dapple-grey: Of a horse, grey with darker spots of seasonal origin.

Dartmoor pony: A breed of pony native to Dartmoor, whose height does not exceed 12.2h.h.

Debility: Weakness, or lack of condition, due to disease, poor horsemanship, or similar cause.

Deep through the girth: Deep-chested.

Derm: The true skin, or inner skin, of a horse, full of blood vessels and nerves.

Destroy: To kill humanely.

Diagonal aids: Provided by the rider's opposite hand and leg to make the horse move diagonally.

Diarrhoea: Frequent evacuation of fluid faeces.

Dipped back: A back where the dip between the withers and the loins is pronounced. Also known as 'sway back'.

Direct impulsion: Making a horse move forward by pressure of the legs behind the girth, easing contact on the reins and using the voice.

Dished face: A concave shaped frontal appearance of the face.

Dishing: Throwing out the forefeet sideways, moving badly in front, with an untrue action, not straight.

Dismounting: The act of alighting from a horse.

Disunited: Of a canter; with the wrong rhythm and wrong legs together.

Dock: The root of the tail. To cut the tail to short, now illegal.

Doer: Of a horse: Good or bad, an animal which thrives well or badly; a good doer readily puts on flesh and condition, a poor doer does not, hence, does badly.

Done: Of a horse which is exhausted, or alternatively, of one that has been groomed.

Donkey Feet: Narrow, upright feet, generally with contracted frog; 'Box Feet'.

Dorsal stripe: A continuous black stripe from the neck to the tail, common in many northern and Asian breeds.

Double-bridle: A bridle consisting of a bridoon, or snaffle, and a bit, or curb-bit.

Draught horse: A horse accustomed to drawing loads in harness.

Drench: To administer liquid medicine to a horse.

Dressage: The training of a horse in obedience to the aids and collected paces.

Ds: D-shaped metal fittings attached to the saddle.

Dump: To rasp away the front of the toe when shoeing in order to make the foot fit the shoe rather than the shoe fit the hoof.

Dun: Black coloration of the skin of a horse.

Dung-eating: A vice indicating depraved appetite due to incorrect diet, lack of salt, or stomach acidity.

E

Eczema: Non-contagious inflammation of the skin.

Eggbutt snaffle: A snaffle with special hinges to the rings designed to avoid pinching the horse's lips.

Elbow: The upper joint of the foreleg.

Embrocation, or liniment A liquid used for fomenting strains in tendons, bruises and bumps.

Enema: The injection of a warm soapy liquid into the rectum by means of a syringe.

Enteritis: Inflammation of the bowels.

Entire: A stallion, or entire horse, i.e. one which has not been gelded.

Epidermis: The outer skin.

Equine: Pertaining to horses.

Equitation: Horsemanship, or the art of training a horse.

Ergot A rough pad of flesh at the back of the fetlock.

Escutcheon: The point below the point of the hips, down the flanks, where the direction of hair growth changes.

Ewe-necked: A condition when the neck appears to be concave rather than convex.

Exmoor: A distinctive pony breed found in Exmoor.

F

False-canter: A canter with the wrong leg leading.

False nostril: A flap of skin sometimes found inside the top of the nostril, which may give rise to 'high blowing'.

False quarter: A horizontal crack in the hoof caused by injury to the coronet checking horn growth.

False ribs: Those ribs to the rear of the eighth rib.

Far: A local term in the north country for the offside of an animal.

Farrier: A blacksmith, or a shoeing smith, hence, farriery.

Fault: To notice blemishes, weaknesses, in appearance, conformation, or temperament, hence 'faulty free', 'faulty'.

Favour: Of a horse, to indicate lameness by not placing weight on an injured limb, hence, 'favouring a leg'.

Feather: Long hair on a fetlock, especially heavy breeds.

Feather-edged: Of a shoe, used on a horse with a tendency to brush against the opposite leg.

Federation Equestre Internationale: (F.E.I) The international body governing the horse shows.

Fetlock joint: The joint between the cannon bone and the pastern.

Fetlock boots: Brushing boots.

Fever in the feet: Laminitis.

Fiddle-headed: Of a horse, having a large plain, coarse, carty head.

Figure of eight: Schooling exercise for a horse in the manege, in the shape of a figure of eight.

Filled legs: Swollen legs, usually caused by a lack of exercise, or overfeeding which can be reduced by massage and bandages.

Filly: A young female horse less than four years old.

Fire: To treat a damaged tendon, or joint of a horse, by cauterizing it with a red-hot iron: outdated method of veterinary treatment.

Firing-irons: The implements used for the above operation.

Fistulous wither: An abscess on the wither, penetrating between the shoulder blades, generally caused by an ill-fitting saddle tree, or due to a blow, or bite from another horse, or to contagious abortion virus.

Five-gaited: (U.S.A) For a horse with normal gaits of walk, trot and canter, plus an amble, between a walk and a trot, a single-footed pace.

Flag: Of a horse, to lose vigour after a gallop, or easily when in poor condition.

Flank: The part of the horse below the loins and behind the ribs, extending downwards towards the belly.

Flat-boned: Of a horse's legs and knees, with good clean, hard appearance.

Flat-catcher: (Obs) A good looking horse with a hidden vice or weakness.

Flat-footed: Of a horse which goes on it's heels rather than on it's toes, due to the lowness of the wall of the hoof.

Flat-sided: Of a horse whose ribs are not well rounded, or well sprung.

Flute-bit: A perforated hollow bit, intended to prevent wind sucking.

Fly link: The curb-chain link through which the lip strap is passed.

Flying change: A change of leg at the canter, both in front and behind, in the air at the precise moment when all four legs are in the air.

Foal: Of a mare, to give birth. A colt, filly, or gelding up to the age of twelve months.

Foal-heat: The mare's first heat after foaling, generally from the seventh to fifteenth day subsequent.

Foaling time: The time when a mare is due to foal.

Fodder: A term used for any feeding stuff commonly fed to horses. Also forage.

Forearm: The part of the foreleg from the elbow to the knee, which contains the bones known as the radius and ulna.

Forehand: All that part of the horse from the withers forward.

Forelock: The part of the mane extending forward between the ears and hanging over the forehead.

Forge: Of the horse: to let the hind-shoe make contact with the foreshoe when trotting, making clicking sound: due to fatigue.

Foreward seat: A balanced seat on the horse so that shoulder, knee and ankle remain in line with the weight forward rather than the back on the horse's loins.

Founder: Laminitis.

Four time: A pace of four time is any pace marked by four hoof beats in each stride.

Free-mover: A horse that moves freely, showing power and good shoulder movement and stepping out well.

Fresh: Descriptive of a horse when excitable and short of exercise.

Frog: A wedge-shaped portion of elastic horn between the bars of the foot, expanding laterally when carrying the weight of a horse.

Frog-cleft: A natural cleft in the widest part of the frog.

Front: The part of a horse in front of the rider, hence, good front, good rein, good outlook.

Full brother, or sister: progeny with the same dam and sire.

Fuller: To make a groove in the ground surface of the horse shoe, to take the heads of the nails and to grip the ground, as well as to make the shoe lighter: desirable in shoes for light horse, or hunter.

Full mouth: A horse at six years of age, when all its adult teeth are present.

Full pass: A movement when the horse moves sideways without gaining any forward ground, as opposed to a half pass when the horse moves sideways and forwards.

G

Gag-bit: May be of several kinds, aiming, by means of pulleys, or similar devices, to bring pressure of the jaws.

Gait: The pace of a horse: a horse normally has three.

Gall: A sore, caused normally by ill-fitting girths or saddles.

Gallop: A horse's fastest pace, a pace of four time.

Galvayne's Mark or groove: a brownish groove on the corner incisor tooth appearing generally but not always at the age of ten and reaching the bottom of the tooth at twenty; it is thus a useful gauge of a horse's age after nine years old.

Gaskin, or second thigh: Muscular development from the hock to the buttock, visible from behind.

Gelderland: A dutch breed of riding and coach horse.

Gelding: A castrated male horse.

General Stud Book: Started in 1791, it includes the breeding of all thoroughbred stock.

Gestation period: The period in the womb between conception and birth, about 11 months in a mare.

Get: Progeny of a stallion.

Get under: To approach too close to a jump.

Girth: The measurement around the horse's body from behind the withers to the lowest point.

Girth sleeve: A rubber, or sheepskin cover for the girth to prevent galls.

Girth straps: The straps on the saddle to which the girth or girths are fastened, generally three in number.

Girth-up: To secure the saddle in place by means of the girth.

Give a leg up: To help mount by holding leg for the spring.

Glanders, or farcy: a contagious and fatal notifiable disease, that can be communicated to man. Symptoms are discharge from the nose, a lump under the jaw and sores and abscesses on the nose or legs.

Going: The ground over which a horse travels.

Gone in the wind: Indicates unsoundness in the wind.

Goose rumped: Of a horse, when the slope from the highest point of the quarters runs steeply down to the root of the tail.

Go short: To go lame.

Grain: The corn of a cereal.

Grass sickness: A sudden, generally fatal, gastric disease, which attacks horses at grass between April and September.

Graze: Of a horse; to feed at grass:

Grazing: The act of eating grass, or pasture.

Green: Applied to a horse which is not fully trained, hence, green youngster.

Grey: Of a body coat, a varying mosaic of black and white hair on the black skin: as the age increases so the coat turns whiter in colour.

Groom: Male or female who attends to the requirements of the horse when in stables.

To clean and brush the coat of a horse.

Gymkhana: Mounted sports games.

H

Habit: The costume worn by a female riding side saddle.

Hack: A light type of riding horse. To ride out in company or alone.

Hackamore: A bitless bridle.

Half-bred: Indicates a mixture of breeding, possibly one side Thoroughbred.

Half sister: But of the same dam, by different sire.

Half -halt: A brief check in movement to prepare a horse for a change of pace or direction, or similar act.

Half-pass: A movement whereby the horse moves diagonally forward and sideways, forehand leading the quarters, on two tracks, head flexed in the direction of the movement, at a walk, trot or canter.

Halt: To stop.

Halter: A head-stall, with a lead of rope or leather, used for leading. Head collar.

Hand: The unit, equalling 4 inches, by which the height of the horse is measured.

Hand-rub or strap: To groom the horse by hand alone.

Haw: The third eyelid of a horse.

Hay: Dried grasses, used as a stable diet for bulk feed.

Hay grasses: The grasses used to make up the hay.

Hay net A net which can be stuffed with sufficient hay for the horse and hung at a convenient height from the ground.

Head: All that part forward of the neck.

Head carriage: The position of the head and neck combined.

Head-collar: Or head stall. Many varieties, used for leading and tying up.

Heart room: Indicating depth of girth and chest, allowing plenty of room for heart and lungs.

Heat, to be on, or in : Of a mare, or filly, in season, to be ready for introduction to the stallion for breeding.

Heaves, or broken wind: The appearance of a double exhalation which is noticeable in the flank movement of the horse.

Heavy horse: Any large draught horse: e.g. Shire or Clydesdale.

Heel: The lower rear part of the wall of the hoof of a horse.

Heel boot: A rubber, or leather boot over the heel to prevent a cut from the hind toe; also known as an over reach boot, or bell boot.

Heel bug: A swollen, painful heel: a form of dermatitis.

Herring gut: Of a horse with a flat-sided, weedy body and concavity from girth to quarters.

Hidebound: Of a horse with a staring coat and its ribs showing prominently.

High-blower: A horse which has a false nostril and gives a sound like a wind defect at gallop.

Hindquarters: The part of the body between the rear of the flank and the root of the tail, downwards to the top of the gaskin.

Hippophil: A horse lover.

Hippophobia: Fear of horses.

Hobble: To fasten the legs of a horse, to prevent it straying, or to cover a mare, or for an operation to prevent the horse from kicking.

Hobday: To effect the operation on the larynx for the relief of roaring, perfected by Sir Frederick Hobday.

Hock: the joint on the hind legs between the second thigh and the cannon bone.

Hock boot: A shaped leather pad with straps fitting over the hock to prevent a capped hock.

Hock Lameness: Lameness due to an injury to the hock, usually detected by turning the horse in a small circle.

Hog: To clip a horses mane.

Hogged mane : A mane clipped down to the crest.

Hollow back: A noticeably dipped back, from the withers to the loins.

Hood: A light cloth used for covering the ears, head and neck of a clipped-out horse; also termed the head cap.

Hoof: The horny outer covering of the foot, which grows downwards from the coronary band.

Hoof pick: A blunt hooked implement used for removing the caked mud and dirt from the sole of the hoof and frog.

Horn: The outer surface of the hoof, also known as the 'wall of the hoof'.

Horse: A herbivorous quadruped with solid hoofs, a long mane and tail, widely distributed throughout the world.

Horse box: A means of conveyance, by road, or rail, for one or more horses.

Horse coper, or dealer: A buyer and seller of horses.

Horseman or woman: One who rides a horse.

Horsemanship: The art of horse riding.

Horsemaster: One who is skilled in all matters concerning the horse.

Horse sense: Common sense.

Horse shoe: A metal bar shaped to the foot of the horse and nailed in place.

Horse sick: Of pastures that have been over grazed by horses and generally infected with worms.

Humour: A pimply skin condition caused by over heated conditions of the blood.

Hunter: A horse suitable for hunting, classified by show standards as from 14.2 h.h to 17.h.h. from small to heavy weight.

Hunter trails: Competitive events, usually over a course planned across suitable cross-country obstacles.

Hybrid: A cross between a horse and an ass.

I

Icterus, or jaundice: Characterised by loss of appetite, hard droppings, a staring coat, dark urine, yellow gums and mucous membrane of the eye.

Impulsion: Forward movement created by the muscular power of the hindquarters springing from the hocks and caused by riders judicious use of the legs and hands.

Inbreed: To mate closely related animals.

Incisors: The biting teeth in front of a horse's mouth, by which the horse's age can be estimated.

Indirect rein or neck rein: The rein opposite to the direction in which the horse is required to move, by pressure on this rein the well schooled horse can respond as if top the direct rein.

Influenza: Of two kinds , mild or severe. In both a high temperature and discharge from the nostrils and eyes. Is infectious, so treatment includes isolation.

In foal: Of a mare in foal.

In front of the bit: Of a horse which hangs on the hand and pulls.

In hand: Of a horse when led; also, in show classes, generally of mares and foals or stallions.

In the book: Of horses in the General Stud Book.

Itch, or mange, or scabies: Irritation of the skin or hair of a horse, caused by a mite.

J

Jaundice: See Icterus.

Jib: or balk: to refuse to move forward, sometimes running backwards instead.

Job in the mouth, or jab in the mouth: A deliberate or involuntary sharp jerk on the bit in the horse's mouth.

Joint-ill or joint evil: A disease which may attack a foal up to about eighteen months old and is due to an infection to the navel contracted at birth.

Joint oil or synovial fluid: The fluid which lubricates the bone surfaces in the joint.

Jointed bit: A bit having a jointed centre piece.

Jowl: The part of the horse's head within the lower jawbones.

K

Keep: Grazing for horses.

Keratoma: A horny growth on the inner wall of the horn of the hoof, caused by excess activity of the horn producing laminae.

Keyed bit: A mouthing bit with metal attachments shaped like keys, which the horse can play with and which will help produce saliva and so a soft mouth.

Kineton noseband: A device attached to the bridle to bring pressure to bear on the nose before bearing on the bars of the mouth, which can be of aid on a strong and determined puller.

Knee: The joint between the forearm and the cannon bone on the foreleg.

Knee-cap or knee boots: A covering for the knee, to provide protection to the knee.

Knee roll: A pad or roll of leather forming the edge of the saddle flap, to enhance the rider's grip.

Knuckling over: Of a horse when the fetlock joints, both fore and behind, collapse forward in action, or protrude obviously forward at a stance.

L

Lameness: A limping or halting movement, which may be due to many causes, injury to a hoof, etc.

Laminitis: An inflammation of the sensitive laminae of the inner wall of the hoof, which may be caused by lack of work and rich feeding, too much hard work on hard ground or after foaling.

Lampas: A condition associated with cutting permanent teeth: the roof of the mouth is swollen.

Laryngitis: Similar to a sore throat in a human, in a horse may be a more serious disease.

Leading leg: The foreleg leading in the canter.

Leucoderma: White patches sometimes appear on the hairless parts of the horse, due to the lack of pigment.

Levade: A high school movement whereby the horse raises its forelegs from the ground and tucks them inwards while bending deeply on its hindquarters.

Lice: Parasitic insects infesting the hair and skin, commonly found only on horses in poor condition.

Light in the hand: Of a horse which bends his head at the poll, drops his nose and flexes his jaw to the actions of the rider's hands and legs.

Light in the bone, or short of bone: Of a horse, when the bone below the knee, or hock, seems narrow, suggesting possible weakness.

Lip-strap: A narrow leather strap fastened to the ring on one cheek of a curb bit, passing through the centre link provided on the curb chain and buckled to the ring on the other side, to prevent the curb chain hanging to far down the chin.

Lisk: The point in the groin where the hairs divide in different directions.

Livery Stable: A stable which takes horses at livery, i.e. cares for the horses of others.

Lockjaw, or tetanus: A disease caused by the tetanus bacillus in a wound entering the bloodstream, generally through punctures.

Loins: The part of the back behind the saddle on either side of the spine.

Long rein: To drive a young horse by means of two long reins while the trainer is following on foot behind.

Loose box: The horse's stable, as opposed to stall, where the horses can move around freely and lie down.

Loose rein: A rein hanging loose without contact between the rider, and the horse's mouth.

Lucerne: A cloverlike plant high in nitrogenous content.

Lunge: To circle a horse on a single long rein around at various paces, in either direction.

Lymphangitis, or Azoturia, or Monday morning disease, or Big leg: An inflammation of the lymphatic vessels of the legs.

M

Maiden: Of either a mare which has never been put to stallion, or a mare carrying her first foal.

Mallein Test A test for the detection of glanders in horses.

Mallenders: Grease behind the knees, a chronic inflammation behind the knee joint with a watery discharge.

Mane: The long hair growing from the crest of the horse.

Manege: An enclosed area, possibly covered, used to school a horse and rider.

Mange: A contagious notifiable skin disease.

Mare: A female horse of four years or upwards, or a female of related species.

Martingale: A piece of harness attached to the girth and affecting the movement of the horse's head, via the reins or bridle.

Martingale ring: A rubber ring fitting around the martingale strap at the point where it is held in position by the neck strap in the correct position.

Martingale Stop: A leather stop fitted to each rein about a foot from the bit to prevent the rings from catching in the bit.

Measuring stick: A measure, generally of wood, with a sliding arm at right angles measured in hands and inches to give the exact height of a horse.

Megrims, or staggers: An infection of the brain resulting in the loss of balance and falling.

Metacarpal: The cannon bone of the foreleg.

Metacarpals: The two small bones behind the cannon bone, which sometimes become attached to it by bony deposits known as splints.

Metatarsal: The cannon bone of the hind leg.

Molars: The grinding back teeth in a horse's mouth.

Monday Morning Sickness: See lymphangitis.

Mouth: To accustom a young horse to the bit in its mouth.

Muck out: To clean out a horse's stable removing the dirty bedding and droppings.

Muck sweat: A lathered and sweaty condition after severe exercise.

Mud Fever: Similar to chapped hands in a human being, consisting of inflammation of the heels, legs and sometimes belly, due to the mud and wet.

Mule: The progeny of a mating between a jack ass and a mare.

Mule feet: Feet which are small of frog, with high heels and boxy appearance, also known as 'donkey feet'.

Mullen mouth: The half-moon mouth of a bit.

Mutton fisted, or ham handed: Of a rider whose hands are heavy and who lacks feel for a horse's mouth.

Muzzle: That part of the head including the nostrils, lips, gums and teeth.

N

Nag: An old English term for a horse.

Nail binding, or shod too close: The state caused by a nail driven too close to the sensitive laminae of a horse's foot.

Narrow: Of a horse, not filled out, generally in front, when its chest is narrow and the forelegs are close together, or behind when its croup and thighs lack muscle.

Navel ill: See joint ill.

Navicular bone: The small boat shaped bone at the back of the foot behind the pedal bone.

Navicular disease: A chronic inflammation of the navicular bone, caused by concussion and generally only found in the front feet.

Near-side: The left-hand side, looking towards the horse's head.

Near rein : The rein opposite to the direction in which the horse is required to move.

Neck-strap: The circular leather strap at the base of the neck through which the martingale passes.

Nicker: A brief, quiet neigh of pleasure.

Nicking: The cutting of certain tail muscles to cause a higher tail carriage, only common in the USA.

Nose-bag: A portable feeding device, attached to a bridle to allow the horse to eat.

Nose-band: A part of the bridle worn under the cheek pieces and above the bit.

Nose-band, drop: A nose-band fitting round the muzzle below the bit to prevent the horse from opening its mouth.

Notifiable disease: An infectious or contagious disease which must be reported to the police or government department concerned.

Numnah: A saddle cloth that is worn underneath the saddle to prevent pressure the back.

Nut cracker: A horse that grinds its teeth.

Nuts : Concentrated foods of varying value.

O

Oats: Grain grown in a cool climate as food for man and horses. Oats are a stimulating food, and can be rolled or crushed.

Obedience: Submission to the aids and response to a riders wishes and commands.

Occipital crest The bony enlargement between the ears at the top of the head.

Occult spavin: A growth occurring between two of the bones of the hock, just below the joint and on the inner side.

Odd feet: Differing sizes of feet in the same horse.

Oestrus: The period when the mare is ready for the stallion, in season, on heat.

Off-side: The right-hand side of the horse, looking towards the head from the back.

On: Used as in, 'On his toes', fidgety horse eager to go, full of energy. 'On the bit', of a horse with a light, but definite hold of the bit, not to be confused with leaning on the bit

'On the leg', of a horse long in the leg, i.e. too light in the chest, not deep chested and lacking substance.

One-sided: (Colloq) Of a rider who rides with their weight noticeably to one side of the horse: or; of a horse's mouth, which is noticeably less responsive on one side.

Opacity of the cornea: A disease in which the eye is swollen, probably kept closed, and may become dim and cloudy, due to a cold, foreign matter or a blow.

Ophthalmia: inflammation of the eyeball due to a blow or infection.

Over at the knee: Of a horse in which there is a noticeable forward curve at the knee.

Overbent: Of a horse showing an excessive bend at the poll.

Overreach: A wound in the heel, or the back of the coronet, caused by the hind-shoe striking the foreleg.

Overreach boots: Circular rubber boots worn over the foot to prevent injury.

Overshot: Of a horse whose upper teeth fit over its underjaw. Also: parrot mouth.

Oyster-footed: Of a horse with feet notable for their appearance and with regular concentric ridges.

P

Pacer: A horse which moves with the same legs on each side instead of with diagonal legs, as does a trotter: common USA, also known as an ambler.

Paddock: An enclosed grass field.

Palomino: In USA, the name for any horse of a particular golden colour, with a white mane and tail.

Panel: The cushioned pad of a saddle between the girth straps and the horse.

Pannade: The technical term for the curvet: a horse's leap with its fore legs together and its hind legs raised before its forelegs reach the ground.

Parrot mouth, or overshot jaw. See overshot.

Pass: Either a full pass, when a horse moves sideways without gaining any forward ground, or a half pass when a horse moves forwards and sideways.

Passage: A high-school air when the horse is trotting as if on air; a well cadenced regular movement with a marked moment of suspension.

Pastern: The part of the horse's leg between the fetlock joint and the coronet.

Past mark of mouth: Of a horse whose age can no longer be told accurately from the teeth marks.

Peck: A stumble, generally on landing after a jump, but it may well be at any gait.

Pedal bone: The crescent-shaped bone inside the hoof, which with the navicular bone and the lower coronet bone forms the foot joint.

Pelham bit: A bit combining the action of a double bridle, or both curb-bit and bridoon in one.

Periople: A thin secretion-like varnish covering the exterior of the wall of the hoof, secreted by the perioplic ring on the coronet band.

Petachial fever: An acute feverish condition accompanied by purple bleeding from the mucous membranes of the eyes and nose.

Piaffe: A high-school term for passage on the spot.

Piebald: Of two colours, generally white and one other.

Pig-eyed: Of a horse with small mean-looking eyes.

Pin-fire: To use hot pointed irons to stimulate growth of tissues: not used in modern practice.

Pink-eye: See influenza.

Pinto: A horse of multicoloured, or piebald, or skewbald, type in the USA.

Pin-toed: Of a horse with inward turning toes.

Pirouette: A high-school movement turning on the haunches at a canter.

Plaiting: crossing the forelegs in action due to conformation.

Plantar cushion: A thick, fibrous fatty cushion above the frog, inside the hoof, acting as a shock absorber.

Pleurisy: An inflammation of the membrane of the lung, or pleura, generally caused by bacterial infection, or as a complication of influenza.

Pneumonia: Inflammation of the lung by chill or exposure.

Point a leg: To rest a foreleg with the toe pointed, this indicates lameness or damage to the foot or leg.

Point of the loin: The highest point of the body to the rear of the saddle.

Point of shoulder: Above the shoulder, between the lower end of the shoulder blade and the upper arm.

Points: The various external features making up the conformation of the horse.

Point to point: A race, originally over natural country and obstacles.

Poll: The part of a horse's head between the ears.

Poll evil: A soft painful swelling between a horse's ears generally caused by a blow to the head.

Poll-pad: A pad attached to the head-collar when the horse is travelling to avoid the danger of poll evil in the horse box.

Pommel: The forward raised part of the arch of a saddle.

Port: A curve of varied size in the mouthpiece of a bit to allow room for the horse's tongue.

Post: To rise in the saddle at a trot.

Pricked sole: The result of the blacksmith driving a nail into the sensitive part of the sole of the foot, or of treading on a loose nail.

Proppy: Of a straight -actioned horse with lack of flexion at knees and pasterns .

Pulled tail: A tail which has had the hairs pulled from the side of the dock to give slim neat effect.

Pulse: The heart beat: in a horse normally between 36-42 beats per minute.

Purgatives: A means of clearing the bowels for curative reasons.

Purging: Diarrhoea.

Put down: To kill humanely: due to illness, accident or old age.

Put to: To harness a horse to a vehicle.

Q

Quality: Of a horse: an appearance of nobility and excellence of coformation combined with blood and bone.

Quarter: The part of the hoof between the heel and toe.

Quarteting: A brief method of grooming without removing rug and roller: first the quarters, then the forehand are groomed in turn.

Quarter marks: Patterns, such as diamonds, raised on a horse's quarters by brushing the hair in the reverse direction to the growth, producing a pattern or design.

Quarters: The hind quarters, those parts between the flank and the base of the tail and the gaskin.

Quidding: The act of dropping partially chewed food from the mouth, caused by malformed teeth, or teeth in need of attention.

Quittor: A fistulous sore on the coronet caused by a blow, an overreach, a suppurating sand crack or a neglected nail.

R

Race or Rache: A thin white strip down the face.

Rack: A single footed pace, in which each foot comes down alone at speed in turn.

Racking boots: USA term for overreach boots.

Rack up: To tether a horse to a ring in a wall.

Rag: A group of young colts.

Ragged hips: Prominent hip bones, due to poor condition.

Ram-headed: Of a horse with an outward curved profile, the opposite of dish-faced.

Rangy: Of a horse with size and scope for growth.

Rasp: A long handled file, used on a horses teeth.

Ray: A dorsal stripe.

Razor back: A prominent back bone.

Rear: Of a horse: to rise on its hind legs.

Red worm: A bowel parasite causing loss of flesh, a dry coat, dropped abdomen, anaemia.

Rein back: To make a horse step backwards a few paces.

Reins: The leather straps running between the rider's hand and the horse's bit.

Rein stops: Leather pads fitted to the rein to prevent the martingale from catching on the horses bit.

Remouth: To remake a mouth spoiled by heavy hands.

Renvers: also known as 'quarters out'. A movement in two tracks with the head and shoulders of the horse parallel to the manege wall and its loins and quarters bent outwards.

Rig: A horse in which one or both testicles have not come down into the scrotum: castration requires an veterinary operation. A rig may show stallion propensities and can be tiresome with mares.

Ring-bone: A bony enlargement of two types: if found the top of the hoof, it is known as 'lowring bone'; if found the pasterns bones, it is known as 'high ring bone'.

Ringworm: A very contagious skin disease caused by a fungus. Raised circular patches of hair, generally at first on the neck and shoulders.

Rise to the trot: Or trot light: to rise to alternate beats at the trot.

Rising: Of a horse's age: nearly. Thus, a horse approaching six years is said to be rising six.

Roach-backed: Of a horse when its prominent convex spinal column is visible.

Roan: Of a horse when its colour is affected by an admixture of white hairs giving a lighter effect.

Roarer: A horse which makes a noise when galloping due to a condition of the larynx.

Rogue: A vicious horse.

Rogues badge: A red ribbon tied around the horses tail to indicate that the horse may kick.

Roller: A girth with two pads for either side of the spine, to keep a day or night rug in place.

Roller mouth: A bit with mouthpiece rollers to prevent the horse from taking hold.

Roman nose: A convex line of face.

Rough off: To prepare a horse for going out to grass by easing off feed and gradual hardening, such as the removal of rugs and omission of grooming.

Round action: The action of a horse which does not have much free movement and fails to cover the ground.

Rowel: A wheel at the head of the spur, now very little used.

Rub down: To groom a horse which is sweating, or wet, with straw and afterwards with a dry stable rubber.

Rug up: To rug a horse in stable either for the night or for the day.

S

Saddle: A seat for the rider on the horse's back, to ease both horse and rider developed from about the 4th century.

Saddle cloth: A rectangular cloth, placed under the saddle.

Saddle galls, or saddle sores: Sores on the back in the area covered by the saddle, generally caused by an ill fitted saddle.

Saddle-horse: A recognised breed of USA horse: also a stand for placing a saddle for cleaning or storage.

Saddle mark: The shape of the saddle left in a natural position when clipping out a horse.

Saddle soap: A soap used for cleaning leather.

Safety catch: A hinged end of the stirrup bar designed to release the stirrup leathers if the rider falls.

Sallenders: A disease similar to mallenders only at the front of the hock.

Salt lick: A lump of rock salt, or a shaped block with minerals added, hung in the field or stable.

Sand colic: A type of colic occasioned by grazing in sandy soil , where the grazing could be mixed with sand.

Sand crack: A crack in the hoof wall running from the coronet downwards.

Sanfoin: A grass which makes fine hay.

Sausage boot A stuffed leather ring strapped round a horse's coronet to prevent a capped elbow.

School: Any area that is fenced or open, used for training the horse and rider.

Seat: Of a rider, the rider's position in the saddle.

Second thigh, or gaskin: The part of the horse's hind leg between the stifle and the hock.

Seated shoe: A shoe with a bevelled edge used to avoid contact with the sole in cases of flat feet and dropped sole.

Seedy toe: A foot ailment resulting from separation of the middle horn layer from the sensitive layer beneath, and in the space a soft horn forms.

Serve: To mate a mare with a stallion, hence service.

Service boots: Heavy felt covered boots to strap on the hind feet of a mare being served, to prevent her from damaging the stallion by kicking.

Sessamoiditis: An inflammation of the sessamoid bones just above and behind the fetlock joint caused by faulty conformation.

Shannon bone: The cannon bone in the hindleg.

Sheepskin noseband: A nose-band with a sheepskin covering over the front to prevent the horse from seeing shadows, sometimes known as the 'shadowroll'.

Shivering: A nervous condition in the horse, whereby the horse has involuntary muscular contractions in the hind legs. The condition is progressive and incurable, and could be genetic.

Shoe boil: A capped hock.

Shoeing block: A tripod used in several tasks of shoeing the horse.

Shoeing forge: A forge where only shoeing horses is involved: also termed a farriers shop.

Short-coupled: Of a horse which is deep of body, short of back and with well sprung ribs.

Short of rib : Of a horse with a noticeable space between the last rib and the point of the hip.

Shoulder galls: Injuries caused by a badly fitted harness.

Shoulder lameness: Lameness in the shoulder as a result of an injury.

Shy: Of a horse, to start at an object or noise.

Shy feeder: Of a horse with a bad appetite, having to be encouraged to eat.

Sickle hocks: Malformed weak hocks, slightly resembling a sickle.

Side-bone: A bony growth, which may form on either lateral cartilage of the foot and may be hereditary, or caused by a blow.

Side-reins: Reins attached to a roller or saddle, used for training the horse.

Sight unseen : As in 'bought sight unseen'. I.e. on a written or verbal description.

Silage: Grass preserved with molasses as fodder.

Single-foot: A very fast walk when one foot is on the ground at a time.

Sire: In breeding, the father of a horse.

Sitfast: A swelling on the back, hard and painful, caused by an ill-fitting saddle.

Skewbald: Of a horse with irregular areas of white and any colour other than black.

Skip: A wickerwork, rubber or plastic basket used in stables for removing droppings.

Skirt: The lower part of the saddle covering the spring bar for the stirrup leathers.

Slack in the loins: Of a horse with weak loins.

Snaffle-bit: A bit formed one by jointed or unjointed mouthpiece, with latter may be straight or halfmoon. The cheekring may be circular or D-shaped.

Snaffle-bridle: A bridle with a snaffle bit.

Snip: A single white mark in the region of the nostrils of varied sizes and positions.

Sock: A white mark from the coronet to a short way up the leg.

Sore back: A condition caused by ill-fitting saddlery, poor horsemanship, riding unfit horses, etc.

Sore shins: Inflammation of the membrane over the cannon bone caused by galloping on hard ground and resulting in heat and swelling.

Sorrel: (Common usage in USA) Meaning a light shade of chestnut, or dark red roan.

Spavins: See bog spavin, bone spavin, occult spavin.

Spay: To remove the ovaries from a mare.

Speedy cutting: Injury on the hock, cannon bone, or knee, caused by a blow from the opposite foot.

Splint: A bony enlargement on the cannon, or splint bones, generally on the inside of the forelegs and seldom in the hindlegs.

Sprains: Generally in the forelegs, but occasionally in the hind legs, caused by an injury, causing heat and swelling.

Spring tree: A saddle tree with two tempered steel lengths running from the head to cantle, providing resilience and strength.

Spurs: An artificial aid attached to the heel of the boot.

Stable rubber: A linen cloth used in grooming, a duster.

Staggers: See megrim.

Stale: Of a horse to pass urine.

Stallion: A horse of four years or more, entire, i.e. ungelded.

Stall: A compartment for a horse, open at the rear end, so that the horse must be haltered. In the USA a stall is the common name for a stable.

Standard bred: The American breed of trotting and pacing horse, on average 15.2hh.

Stand back: To take off some way before a jump.

Star: A white mark on the forehead.

Star-gazer: A horse that holds its head too high and hence does not look at its jumps.

Staring coat: The dull appearance of the hair when the horse is out of condition, ill or suffering from worms.

Stifle: The junction of the patella and the tibia in the hind leg, equivalent to the knee joint.

Stifle lameness: Lameness in the stifle, which could be due to a sprain.

Stirrup iron: A metal hoop in which the riders foot rests.

Stirrup leathers: See leathers.

Stocking: White marking on the leg, extending from the coronet band to the knee or hock.

Strangles: An extremely contagious disease of the throat and nose which may spread to swellings in the body caused by the streptococcus of strangles.

Strap: To groom a horse.

Strapper: A groom.

Stringhalt: A nervous disease causing the horse suddenly to snatch up one or both hind legs when walking or sometimes when trotting.

Stripe: A narrow white mark running vertically down the face, not wider than the nasal bones.

Stud: A place where horses are kept for breeding.

Stud Book: A record of pedigree stock.

Stud Groom: The leading groom of a stud.

Super-purgation: Overpurging, the result of an overdose of physic or of physic administered without preparation.

Surcingle: A webbing strap passing over the saddle or rug to keep it in position.

Swan neck: A neck of a horse in which there is a tendency to ewe neck in the lower part.

Sway backed: Of a horse whose back is perceptibly sunken behind the withers and short loins, due to a wrench, overloading, or old age.

Sweat flaps: Flaps to prevent both the buckles from causing discomfort to a horse and, as the name implies, sweat from staining the saddle or rider.

Sweat rug: A string rug put under a reversed top rug when a horse has been sweating. Modern sweat rugs come in many breathable materials.

Sweat scraper: A part of grooming equipment, used for removing excess sweat and water from the body of the horse.

Sweet itch: A spring and summer disease with irritation of the crest, withers and croup resulting in rubbing, producing bare patches of skin.

Switch tail: An undocked tail, with the hairs pulled to a point.

Synovial fluid: See joint fluid.

T

Tack: An abbreviation for tackle, and the accepted stable term for saddlery, hence tack room, and tack cleaning.

Tail bandage: Should be of cotton, worn to keep the tail protected, especially when travelling.

Take hold: Of a horse: to take hold of the bit in its teeth and pull against the rider.

Take off: The point from which the horse leaves the ground when jumping a fence.

Teeth: There are twelve molars, or grinders in each jaw of the horse, and six incisors or biting teeth, also twelve tusks, or canine teeth, generally absent in mares.

Temperature: In a horse the temperature should normally 100.5°F.

Tetanus: A disease caused by the bacillus tetani which gains entry through a wound. The temperature rises and there is a stiffening of limbs, while the membrane of the eye extends over the eyeball, and finally the jaws become locked.

Thick in the wind: Hoarse due to becoming fat and out of condition.

Thoroughbred: The purest bred and best known of all English breeds.

Thorough-pin: A distension of the tendon sheath above and either side of the point of the hock.

Throat-lash, or throat-latch: A narrow buckled strap running under the throat and preventing the bridle slipping over a horse's ears.

Thrush: Inflammation of the frog, caused through standing in damp conditions.

Tied in below the knee: Of a horse where the measurement of the leg below the knee is less than that further down,

Tied in under the hock: As above but in the hindlegs.

Tips: Shortened shoes to protect the toes of a horse at grass on stony soil.

Tooth rasp: A file with a long handle for removing sharp edges on teeth.

Touched in the wind: Slightly affected in the wind.

Tracheotomy: An operation to the throat to assist the breathing, by inserting a tube in the trachea, or wind pipe.

Trot: A pace in which the horse moves from one pair of diagonals to the other, i.e. a pace of two time.

Trot light: See rise to the trot.

Trot out: Trot faster than normal.

Tubed: Of a horse with a tube inserted into the throat, a result of a tracheotomy.

Tucked up: Of a horse with a tightly drawn up belly giving a thin appearance between the loins and ribs.

Turned-out: Put to grass, not kept in the stable.

Twisted gut: A fatal condition when the membrane holding the coils of the stomach in place snaps, generally due to colic.

Twisted snaffle: A pattern with the bar turned to provide a serrated edge.

Twitch: A rope loop fixed to a wooden handle, which is used to restrain a horse by placing the loop over the horse's muzzle and twisting it. Gives a sedated effect.

U

Undershot: Of a horse whose incisors do not meet properly because the lower jaw protrudes further than the upper jaw.

Unseen: See sight unseen.

Urticaria: or nettle rash: small lumps suddenly appearing over the body, which come and go suddenly, due to a dietary or other allergy.

V

Veterinary boot: A leather boot to protect the foot.

Veterinary certificate: A certificate of soundness, declaration of the physical health of the horse when examined by the vet. Used when buying and selling horses.

Veterinary surgeon: A member or Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

Vice: Any bad habit acquired by the horse, e.g. Weaving, wind sucking or cribbing.

W

Waist of the saddle: The narrowest part of the saddle.

Wall: Of the hoof, that part visible when the hoof is on the ground,

Wall eye: A blue eye surrounded by white, the condition due to the lack of pigment, but not a blemish.

Warbles: A species of fly which lay their eggs in the skin of the horse.

Warts: Unsightly skin growths occurring most frequently on the nose, belly and sheath.

Water brush: Part of the grooming kit.

Weaving: A stable vice. The horse rocks from side to side continuously.

Well let down: Of a horse's hocks, when they are long and low, and drop vertically to the ground.

Weymouth bit: Generally a straight mouthpiece and port with cheeks varying in length, it is worn with a thin jointed snaffle to make up the double bridle.

Whinny: A horse's call denoting pleasure.

Whistling: An affection of the larynx due to partial paralysis of the vocal cords.

White face: Where the white covers the forehead and the front of the face down towards the mouth.

White Line: The line of union between the wall of the hoof and the sole of the foot.

Windgalls: Soft painless swellings round the fetlock, caused by strain, unsightly but not harmful.

Wind-sucker: A horse which sucks the air and swallows it, similar to crib biting.

Wisp: A grooming aid of hay or straw, coiled in a rope form, then in a figure of eight, used to stimulate circulation.

Withers: The withers start at the base of the crest and should be highest at the top point of the shoulder and gradually slope back.

Wolf teeth: Small rudimentary teeth which may appear just in front of the first upper molars, they may interfere with the bit, and are usually removed.

Worms: Common parasites of varying types and degree of danger.

Y

Yaw: Of a horse, to push its head down and forwards when ridden, fighting the bit.

Yearling: A colt, or filly, one year old, but not yet two.