

Dairy Lameness Control – Sole Ulcer

First Name:		Last Name:		
Email:			Veterinary Practice:	
Postcode:		Date:		

Please circle one answer only e.g. A

- 1 On average, how many cows experience sole ulcers in a typical 100 cow herd?
 - <2 cases
 - 2-4 cases
 - 5-7 cases
 - 8-10 cases
 - >10 cases
- 2 Which animals are most prone to sole ulcers?
 - Maiden heifers
 - Low yielding cows
 - Highest yielding cows
 - Dry cows
 - Very fat cows
- 3 Which claw is most commonly affected?
 - Hind medial
 - Hind lateral
 - Fore medial
 - Fore lateral
 - No one claw predisposed
- 4 What is the most common complication of sole ulcers?
 - Rupture tendon
 - Deep infections (deep digital sepsis)
 - Heel bulb abscess
 - Foul
 - Laminitis
- 5 Sometimes proud flesh develops on a sole ulcer. Which is the main characteristic differentiating corium from proud flesh?
 - It does not bleed
 - Colour (black)
 - Colour (bright red)
 - Lack of surface pain/sensitivity
 - Swelling
- 6 What is thought to be the main trigger for pedal bone sinking and pinching of the bony process on the bottom of the pedal bone?
 - Laminitis
 - Stoney tracks
 - Long standing times
 - Changes associated with calving
 - Body condition score loss
- 7 Which treatment is most successful for sole ulcers?
 - Nothing
 - Trim only
 - Trim+block

Trim+block+anti-inflammatory
Block+anti-inflammatory

8 When should antibiotics be considered?

At first diagnosis
If the cow seems in pain
If the ulcer is large
If swelling is detected above the coronary band
If the sole ulcer has an odour

9 What is the future prognosis of a 2nd calved cow first diagnosed with an uncomplicated sole ulcer?

Excellent – most don't require treatment
Good – she should make a full recovery within a week of treatment and get no further problems
OK – but she likely to require repeated blocks and anti-inflammatory to recover
Between OK and poor – the sole ulcer will probably recover in 4-6 weeks with correct treatment but she is prone to go lame again
Poor – she is likely to get the same problem 4-5 times in the same lactation
Poor – she is likely to need claw amputation

10 What is the most practical preventative method?

Alter rations to increase forage to concentrate ratio
Improve lying comfort and resting
Increase routine foot trimming frequency
Implement regular mobility scoring
Minimise body condition score