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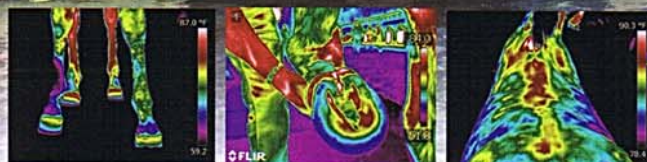
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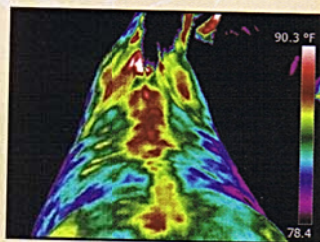
ALL BREEDS & DISCIPLINES

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Boyd Martin, "Horseman of the Year" and his mount, Remington XXV, owned by Densy and Ron Juvonen, competing at The Advanced Pine Top Horse Trials in Thompson, GA. Sponsored by Arch Equine Infrared Imaging. Equine IR can prove invaluable to your Finances and your Horse's Health. [www.ArchEquineIR.com](http://www.ArchEquineIR.com)

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# Equine thermal imaging for today's owner

Thermal imaging is not a new idea to the equine industry and has been around for more than twenty years as a tool to help diagnose many hidden issues and injuries to a horse.

No matter what the breed or discipline the use of infrared or thermal imaging has advanced in the areas of technology and equipment portability. The days of trailering your horse to another site are over and can now be brought directly to your facility and used as

a first line diagnostic tool.

What you can't see will hurt your horse and thermal imaging can catch many problems even before they become evident with X-Ray, ultrasound or even an MRI, all of which are more expensive than a thermal scan.

Thermal imaging is also used to identify poor saddle fit and gives a clear picture of the pressure points your saddle is creating.

From pre-race to pre-purchase, thermal imaging can be invaluable

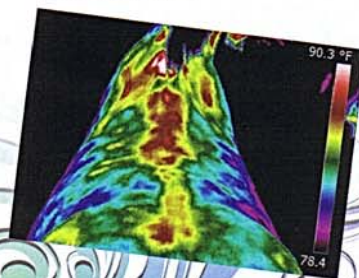
in protecting your investment and the health of your horse.

Arch Infrared Consulting, along with a network of equine qualified and certified thermographers, offers thermal imaging services from full horse scans and saddle fit to licensed veterinarian reports by vets who are qualified and experienced interpreting thermal images.

We will walk you through the proven pre-imaging protocol that will give you the best report and handle all the report-writing that

goes to the veterinarian for interpretation. We then consult with you on the report to help you and your team to decide on a course of action.

For more information, call Arch Infrared Consulting, 877-370-1144 or 843-851-0657.



## Veterinary acupuncture and chiropractic used for horses

As more people turn to complementary therapy for their own health, they also tend to look for complementary solutions for their animals' well-being. When speaking of animal (especially equine) care, complementary refers to veterinary acupuncture and chiropractic care (sometimes referred to as manual therapy). These treatments "complement" routine veterinary care; they do not take the place of regular visits to the vet.

Some traditional Chinese medical therapies for horses include acupuncture and herbal therapy. Acupuncture involves the insertion of needles through the skin for treatment or prevention of disease, including pain. Acupuncture seems to be an interaction among the nervous system, the endocrine system and the immune system. According to Ed Boldt, Jr., DVM, "Anatomical examination of classical acupuncture points has shown that most of the acupuncture points are associated with certain anatomical structures of the nervous system."

There are several forms of acupuncture. Dry needling uses a solid needle, often with a handle. Smaller needles are used for the lower limbs, feet, head and ears, while larger needles are commonly used in a neck, back and upper limbs.

Aquapuncture involves the injection of fluid (commonly

Vitamin B12) into an acupuncture point. Sometimes antibiotics, homeopathic medication or hormone medication is used.

Electrostimulation or electroacupuncture involves the application of electrical current to the acupuncture needles. The doctor may vary the frequency, intensity and type of electronic pulse, depending on the condition and location on the body.

In moxibustion, an herb (usually mugwort) is burned in a moxa stick a half to an inch above the acupuncture point, allowing the heat to be transferred down the needle to the body. It is used mostly for chronic muscle and arthritis pain.

Other acupuncture techniques involve hemoacupuncture (like pricking a finger for a blood sample) and cold laser and infra-red stimulation, which involves a laser.

The common principle in chiropractic theory is that normal neurological balance is affected by joints that are not performing as they should. Doctors of chiropractic consider the spinal column, pelvis, limbs and head.

Any therapy is begun with a thorough exam, including his history. The vet doctor will want to know what he is used for and at what level. He will watch the horse walk and see how he moves and holds his body. He may palpate the acupuncture points on both sides of

the body, and check for sensitivity. He may also ask that the horse be lunged. A conference with the horse-owner then will determine whether he returns to his regular vet for conventional treatment or starts with complementary therapy.

Pain is a symptom which may suggest acupuncture. A reaction or sensitivity may give him a clue to the problem. Some signs that might suggest chiropractic treatment is needed are abnormal posture when standing, discomfort when saddled or being ridden, extending head and neck or a hollowed back trying to evade stiffness in the neck and back, poor performance, abnormal behavior, sensitivity to touch, unusual gaits with shortened stride, or an inability to engage the hind end or round the topline.

During an exam, the vet will check all musculoskeletal problems, including environment, use, shoeing, rider and saddle fit.

Acupuncture can be effective in controlling equine foot pain. Caudal heel pain and navicular syndrome can respond well to acupuncture. Contributing factors such as hoof balance and shoeing are important. Acupuncture can be beneficial in treating laminitis, arthritis, tendonitis and stifles. Using both acupuncture and chiropractic may alleviate body pain. Hot or cold compresses and herbal therapy may also be beneficial in healing tendons and ligaments.

Using both acupuncture and chiropractic may ease the pain of some neurological and respiratory problems. They are sometimes used in conjunction with Western medical practices.

Acupuncture and chiropractic are not meant to take the place of Western medical therapies or diagnostics. They can help control pain.

Acupuncture can also be helpful in treating gastric ulcers, poor appetite, reproductive and immune system problems, corneal ulcers and behavioral problems in response to pain.

When seeking complementary therapy, look for a veterinarian who has additional training in veterinary acupuncture and chiropractic to treat your horse. For information on veterinary acupuncture and veterinary chiropractic contact The International Veterinary Acupuncture Society, P.O. Box 271395, Fort Collins, CO 80527, phone 970/266-0666, e-mail office@ivas.org or visit www.ivas.org.

Contact The American Veterinary Chiropractic Association, 442154 E 140th Rd., Bluejacket, OK 74333, phone 918/784-2231, or visit www.animalchiropractic.org.

References available at the AAEP website, www.aaep.org/health\_articles\_view.php?id=314. Other articles for horse owners can be found at www.aaep.org/health\_articles.php.



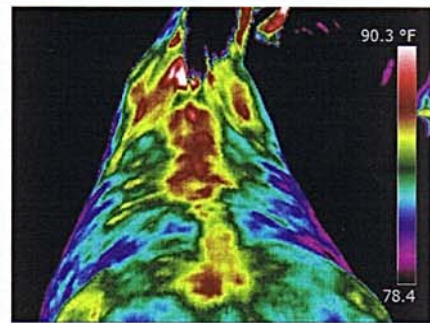
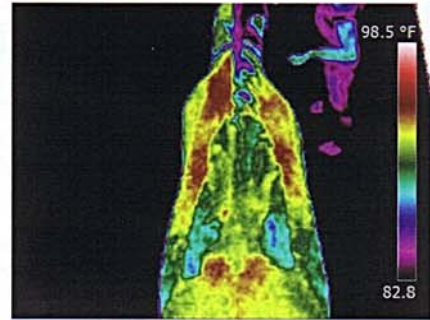
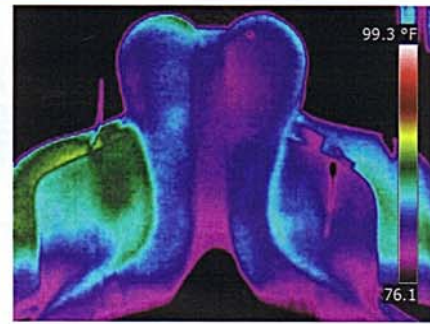
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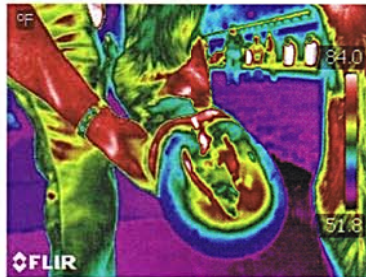
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