

HYDROTHERAPY

Sea water has long been used in the treatment of inflammation and injury in both humans and animals. And horses are no exception, according to Emma Hawthorne.



A keen and experienced horsewoman, Emma set up her Flawborough Equine after seeing for herself the many benefits that the Equine Hydrotherapy Spa could bring when used alone but also in conjunction with conventional veterinary treatment or complementary therapies.

Spa therapy can accelerate healing and repair over a wide range of injuries of the lower limbs from tendon injuries to the most grotesque wounds.

In a safe and controlled manner, equine hydrotherapy spas greatly intensify the natural healing effects of cold running sea water. The spa uses jets of aerated chilled saline water to reduce inflammation and speed up the healing process.



"Bringing the sea to your horse"

Common questions answered...

"Why is Spa treatment more effective than cold hosing?"

Spas work on the lower legs, treating them with very cold salty water accelerating healing and repair due to a number of factors.

The water is kept at 2°C which firstly takes out heat and inflammation but also means that when the horse comes out of the Spa there is a big increase in

circulation to the affected area. Salts act as a poultice and draw out infection, as well as creating an additional cooling effect. The depth of water applies pressure to the injured area and aeration acts as massage encouraging circulation and healing.

The great thing about the Spa is that it gets legs colder than any other treatment. Research shows that it's also a very relaxing experience for an injured horse.

“When would be the optimum time for hydrotherapy treatment?”

So often it's a case of 'closing the door after the horse has bolted'. This therapy is very effective and the earlier we can start treating a case the better – as far as the owner and the horse are concerned. It delays their 'time out' period.”

“Is treatment costly?”

It's more affordable than you might think. We have a wide range of cost effective treatments but it is important to consider carefully each case in turn and put together a suitable rehabilitation programme.”

Bringing great benefits...



Vet, Matthew Barlow of Home Farm Equine, Nottinghamshire says that the concept of bringing the benefits of the sea to the horse is extremely innovative. “The Spa is particularly useful in reducing acute inflammation in the early stages of tendon injury and greatly reduces healing time. It gets horses back in action faster and many cases do not require further treatment.”

