

New! Kerckhaert Standard Max

A great choice for modifications, ranch and trail work.

- Additional thickness and width in comparison to the Kerckhaert Standard
- 3/8" thickness
- Full toe, balanced for the stock width
- V-crease allows appropriate nail choice for hoof and horse size
- Easily modified to front or hind pattern
- Available in sizes 0-3



Find an FPD Dealer near you at farrierproducts.com/locations.

FootPro™ Shaft Extension

The FootPro 1/2" Shaft Extension is now available for farriers looking for a longer shaft on their 1/4hp buffers in order to be able to stay clear of the motor body. The new FootPro extension will fit a 1/2" shaft and is available for either the left or right side of the buffer. The left has left hand threads and the right has right hand threads. The extension makes using the left side for sharpening a right hand knife or using the right side for sharpening a left hand knife less critical.



APRIL » Bellota Top Level

As a show of our appreciation to the farrier industry, we will be conducting a drawing each month on Facebook. Thirty names will be drawn each month to receive the free item for that month. **During the month of April, the giveaway item will be the new Bellota Top Level Rasp.** Follow FPD on Facebook @farrierproductdistribution to see what we're offering in the current month. This giveaway is only valid in the U.S. and Canada.



The new Bellota Top Level is another great addition to the Line of Bellota Rasps:

- 8 tooth rasp side pattern
- 1.95" wide - 12% wider than regular rasps
- Thinner than regular rasps
- Same weight as regular rasp models

View the Full Line of Bellota Rasps, Files and Tools at farrierproducts.com.



Look for posts like this one on Facebook @farrierproductdistribution and register for a chance to win the monthly free give-away.

Hoof Tester

THE TOOL CORNER

By Dave Farley



Most seasoned farriers will agree that a good hoof tester is a must in your shoeing tool collection. When used properly you can determine an area where a hoof has pain. The key thing here is to know how to use them correctly. Assuming that we have chosen the foot that is affected, the first thing to do is clean up the feet. I almost always start with the sound foot first. This allows me to get the feel of a normal squeeze for that horse. Before picking up the foot take a good look at the outside. Make sure the wall is free of mud, manure or hard dirt that will hinder the hoof tester from working properly. Is there any sign of hoof wall cracks or an inflamed coronary band? If not pick up the foot and clean the bottom.

It is very important to have a routine when using hoof testers. If you have never used a hoof tester before I think you should practice first on a small ball. Tennis balls are great for this. A tennis ball will give a little just like a hoof. Squeeze the ball until you have the ability to apply the same pressure each time your hands close the handles. I still do this occasionally just so my hands are familiar with that feel. I start on the outside of the foot just behind the bar and squeeze. Move from that area forward about an inch squeezing with the same amount of pressure. Continue around the foot ending up just behind the bar on the inside of the foot. If you find an area that the horse reacts to don't stay in that area and continue to squeeze. Continue around the foot then start over to see if you get the same response in the same area. If you are sure this is the spot you have to determine if it is your job or the vet's to continue. If I feel it is a hot nail I pull the nail and let the caretaker of that horse know what to do. Even if I am sure what is causing the sensitivity, I suggest that the vet be called and informed of the problem. I do not start digging on the bottom of a hoof. This could be a very negative thing to

do. If I do not get a reaction on the sole then I squeeze each side of the frog and across both heels. One point I would like for every

one to remember is that the side of the hoof tester you don't see is also working and applying pressure to the outside of the foot with every squeeze. For this reason I like to keep that side no higher than about one-third the height of the foot or where our nails should be. If you get higher than that (especially on a thin walled horse) the horse may show pain in the outside and you may mistake it for sole pain. As with every horse I feel if we observe the horse while being led from the stall, working and or just standing before we start to work on it we may be able to determine where the problem is. Look close, pay attention, and develop your eyes and ears. Practice using your hoof testers on a tennis ball before using them on a horse and you will be more successful finding the sore spot on a hoof.

**AS SEEN
ON FPD'S
HOOFWALL
BLOG**

