



## **Newsletter**

### **March 2011**

Hi everyone, wow it is March already and horses are already starting to change into their winter coats! Sorry there was no February newsletter, we were rather distracted with finalizing the website and getting it up and running (see below for details). Also see below for details of how to enter in our monthly competition and an interesting article on "Lugging".

Hope you are all having a good season and good luck to all those competing at Horse of the Year. Till next month, take care,

The Team at Berry's Equestrian.

## COMPETITION

This month we are offering a \$100 Berry's Equestrian voucher. To enter go to our contact page and fill in your details with the answer to the following question in the Enquiry box. (Hint see our article below on Lugging).

Question - "What disciplines can horses lug in?"

## WEBSITE

We are very excited to have the Berry's Equestrian website up and running. We will be adding specials, information and more product lines all the time and invite you to keep coming back to see what is new. In the next few days we will be offering 50% off all the long riding boots we have in stock!

## Article - LUGGING

Lugging is a common problem with horses. For some horses it occurs as a one off due to new injury, while in other horses it becomes a normal trait. Horses lug in all disciplines. There are many possible causes of lugging, some of which include:

- Mouth problems
- Front and Hind Limb pain
- Temperament/vision problems
- Respiratory problems

## SIGNS OF A HORSE LUGGING

A horse that lugs will carry its head to one side and horses may lug inwards



or outwards either towards or away from the pain.

## **TREATING A LUGGING HORSE**

It is important to find out why the horse is lugging and to deal with the cause. A good point to start with would be to have his teeth checked. The wolf tooth is the most common individual tooth to cause pain because it is found exactly where the bit sits and hence most people remove them, particularly if a horse shows any sign of pain or lugging. If there are no issues with the teeth, then the next step would be to get vet to check for other possible causes.



If pain is not the cause of the lugging (if it has become a habit) then there are bits available to prevent horses from lugging:

- Butterfly Bit
- JR lugging Bit

These bits, are only allowed to be used in racing, NOT ESNZ disciplines.

- Bits available in 4.5" or 5"
- Bits available from Zilco
- Prices range from \$34.90-\$54.90



## **ACTION OF THE JR LUGGING AND BUTTERFLY BIT**

A butterfly bit is a bit in the shape of a butterfly, which sits (on either side) outside the mouth to allow the rider to exert more pressure on one side of the mouth or the other to keep the horse traveling straight. The JR lugging bit is a straight thin bar that encircles lower jaw, preventing lugging.