

What's wrong with Buster?

Busters Lyme disease Symptoms:

- ~Aggressive with a bad attitude
- ~Loss of energy
- ~Leg Edema and swelling of multiple joints
- ~Body Stiffness
- ~Sensitive to being touched
- ~Eye whites were RED and eyes got crusty
- ~Sore feet

Equine Vet tested:

- No loss of appetite
- No Fever
- No Hoary Alyssum found in his hay.
- Neg test Laminitis
- Neg test Anaplasmosis
- CBC results HIGH for a bacterial infection

Cornell University Lab Test Results:

- Lyme Disease ELISA results: HIGH
- Lyme Disease Western Blot results HIGH level of Antibody to infection.
- This horse has a staining pattern in Western Blot Consistent with an antibody response to *Borelia burgdorferi*

Sept 16th Busters back leg looked very swollen.
My first thought and fear was he had broken his leg.
I got closer and seen all 4 legs were swollen.
Poor Buster could barely move.
Something was definitely wrong and Buster needed a VET!

It took a while but he finally loaded in the trailer.
We were off to see our Vet Kirsten at www.sunriseequine.com
Kirsten checked Buster over.
He seemed fine except all 4 legs were swollen from his body to hoof.
His attitude was normal, he had no temp and was eating normal.
The Vet ruled out Hoary Alyssum, Laminitis and Anaplasmosis.
They ran a Complete Blood Count which came back HIGH.
Busters problem was a Bacterial infection.
He was put on 24 Sulfa Tablets for 5 days.
The leg swelling went down.

Days later the swelling traveled to his Sheath

I was Horrified and then It hit me like a Brick!
A Bacterial infection with an unknown cause, swollen body parts,
Buster has Lyme disease!

My neighbor Char has 2 horses that were ill with Lyme disease.
She spent Thousands of dollars trying to diagnose their Mystery illness.
A simple Lyme disease blood test finally solved that mystery.
So Buster went back into the trailer and we are off again to see the Vet.

I told my Vet Chars story.
I explained how we live in a High risk area for Lyme disease.
Both Char and I have Lyme Disease including members of our families.
Yes... I know the Books say Lyme disease is Rare.
I live in a County LOADED with Deer Ticks and LYME DISEASE!

An Equine Lyme titer test was preformed and sent to Cornell labs NYC.
The Lyme disease test cost around \$120.
Buster was placed on 90 Doxycycline a day until his results came back.

Friday our Vet calls and asks how Buster is doing?
She has the test results back.
Yes, Buster is Positive for Lyme disease.
He will need more antibiotics.

Today, both my horse and I are on antibiotics for Lyme disease.
I am not sure for how long or if we will both recover 100%
My hope is to create awareness about Lyme disease and let them know it can
happen to anyone. Especially to those who live in High Risk areas.
Ticks love Horses, pets, Adults and Kids.
Lyme disease can and will affect you everywhere,
Prevention is the Key...get educated.

Farnam is the ONLY brand I recommend Horse owners to use as Prevention.
The product must STATE: Repels and KILLS TICKS.

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*Except of course for cats and dogs Frontline from your vet.
Currently they don't have Equine Frontline YET.



