

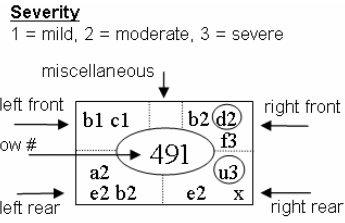
Karl Burgi¹ and Nigel B. Cook²
¹Dairyland Hoof Care Institute, Inc., Baraboo, WI
²School of Veterinary Medicine
 University of Wisconsin

The abc system of hoof lesion scoring has been a popular method of recording by hoof-trimmers in North America. In order to reduce confusion with regard to lesion recognition and severity grading, a picture guide of a variety of hoof lesions at each severity grade (mild, moderate and severe) was prepared using a modification of the system.

Key:

Diagnoses

A = abscess (white line) P = phlegmon (foot rot)
 B = bruise (white line hemorrhage) R = rotated P3 (corkscrew)
 C = corn (interdigital hyperplasia) S = sole fracture (heel ulcer)
 D = digital dermatitis (heel wart) T = toe ulcer
 E = erosion (heel horn) U = ulcer (sole)
 F = fissure (white line) V = vertical fissure (sand crack)
 G = deep digital sepsis Y = horizontal fissure
 H = hemorrhage (sole) Z = thin soles
 I = imbalance X = lame K = block O = wrapped lesion



Severity Score	A = Abscess	B = Bruise	C = Corn	D = Dermatitis / Heel wart	E = Erosion / Slurry Heel	F = Fissure	G = Digital Sepsis
	White Line Abscess	White Line Hemorrhage	Interdigital Hyperplasia	Digital Dermatitis	Heel Horn Erosion	White Line Fissure	Deep Digital Sepsis
1 = Mild	Small amount of pus, not extending to coronary band	Localized redness in white line of outer claw	Grape size growth between claws	Small dime size moist area in interdigital cleft	Small pock marks of erosion or small fissure	Small fissure in white line close to heel	Obvious signs of sepsis from a complicated sole ulcer (severe)
2 = Moderate	Large amount of pus, but does not emerge at coronary band	Diffuse redness in white line of one or both claws	Growth larger than a grape, but confined between claws	Strawberry granuloma larger than a dime	Single large fissure across entire heel	Wide fissure, but does not extend to coronary band	Asymmetrical swelling around coronary band (severe)
3 = Severe	Pus emerging at coronary band	Diffuse hemorrhage with separation	Large tumor-like corn	Verrucose tentacles growing out of granuloma	Multiple fissures extending across heel with extensive erosion	Large fissure extending to coronary band without pus	Separation around coronary band (severe)
Severity Score	H = Hemorrhage	P = Phlegmon / Foot Rot	S = Sole Fracture / Heel Ulcer	T = Toe Ulcer	U = Ulcer	V = Vertical Wall Crack	Y = Horizontal Fissure / Thimble
	Sole Hemorrhage	Interdigital Necrobacillosis	Sole Fracture	Toe Ulcer	Sole Ulcer	Vertical Fissure	Horizontal Fissure
1 = Mild	Superficial hemorrhage in typical site	Slight separation of interdigital skin with little swelling	Small fissure at junction of heel and sole not extending into heel	Small fissure at white line in toe area	Deep hemorrhage with exposure of corium less than dime area	Wall crack without associated pain	Small fissure on one claw
2 = Moderate	Deep hemorrhage in typical site	Split in interdigital skin with swelling around the coronary band	Large fissure with underrun sole confined to heel area	Disintegration of sole horn in toe area extending to corium	Exposed corium more than a dime	Painful crack starting at coronary band	Small fissure on both inner and outer claw
3 = Severe	Diffuse extensive hemorrhage across sole	Deeply erosive lesion with swelling around the coronary band	Separation of a large area of sole	Widespread necrosis of corium in the toe extending to bone	Prolapse of corium through full thickness defect	Painful crack extending from coronary band to toe to depth of corium	Large fissure on both inner and outer claw within 1.25 inches of sole surface