

CASE STUDIES
VITAFLOOR SYSTEM



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1. ABOUT VITAFLOOR

Vitafloor has been tested on horses since 2002, both at our stables in Larvik and at Sweden's Agricultural University at Uppsala (SLU).

The research so far shows that Vitafloor has a healing effect on various injuries as well as muscle stiffness and colic, has preventive properties and trains the horse's muscles. When standing on Vitafloor, the horse's blood circulation increases without the horse being strained by heavy work.

It is no easy task to stimulate a 500kg body mass, especially when the aim is to prevent cell breakdown in stimulating circulation. Vitafloor stimulates the whole horse. This is a unique facility, which is difficult to achieve in any other way except for stationary whole-body stimulation.

The blood circulatory system is the body's most important transport system in which the blood vessels act as roads, the blood as a mode of transport and the heart as the power engine. Blood picks up oxygen from the lungs and delivers it to all cells in the body. At the same time it collects waste products and transports these to the body's purifying organs. This is the front line in keeping healthy and repairing injuries. Research on humans shows that stimulation improves blood circulation, which makes it an ideal treatment for maximising blood flow when it's needed.

Letter from racehorse trainer Bendik Bö

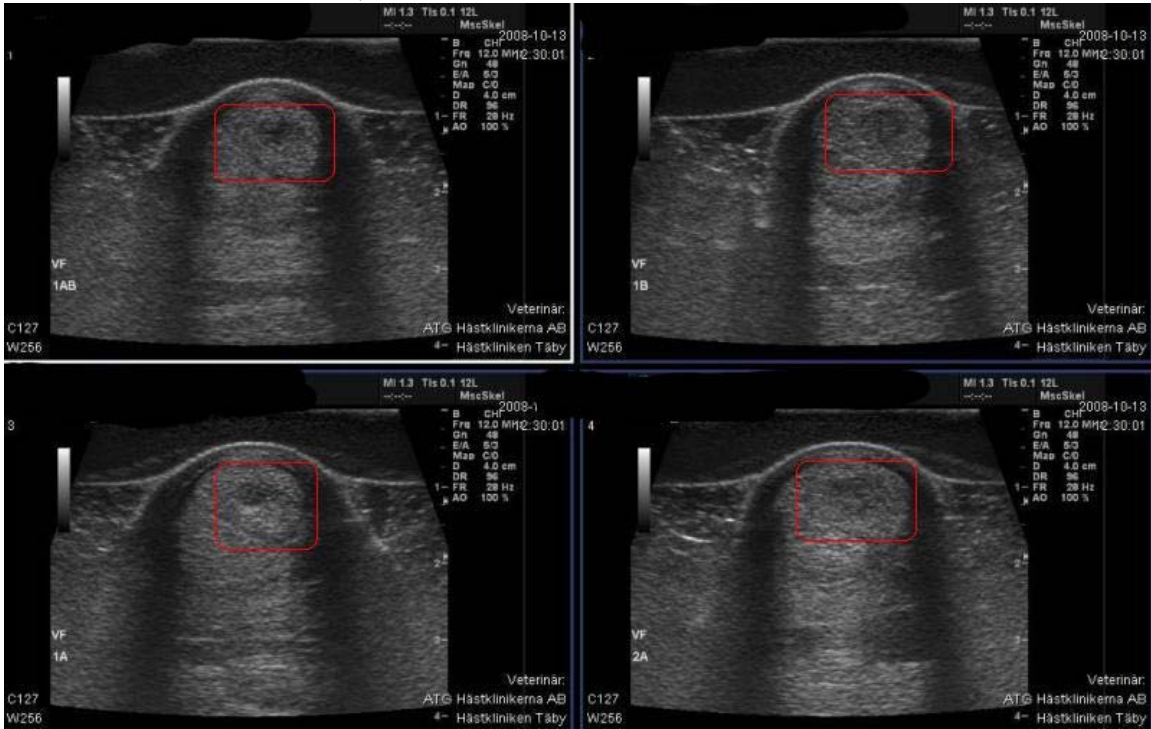
We use Vitafloor in our stables and are highly satisfied with the results we get with our racehorses. We trained the Horse of Year in 2007, and we have won several major races. Since we began using Vitafloor we've had hardly any health problems with our horses.

Sometimes owners bring us horses that are having difficulties, and we rehabilitate them before starting to race. These pictures were taken at ATG Täby's Horse Clinic using ultrasound. They show a tendon injury on a racehorse that was in rehab. The horse made an excellent recovery in a short time after treatment on Vitafloor.

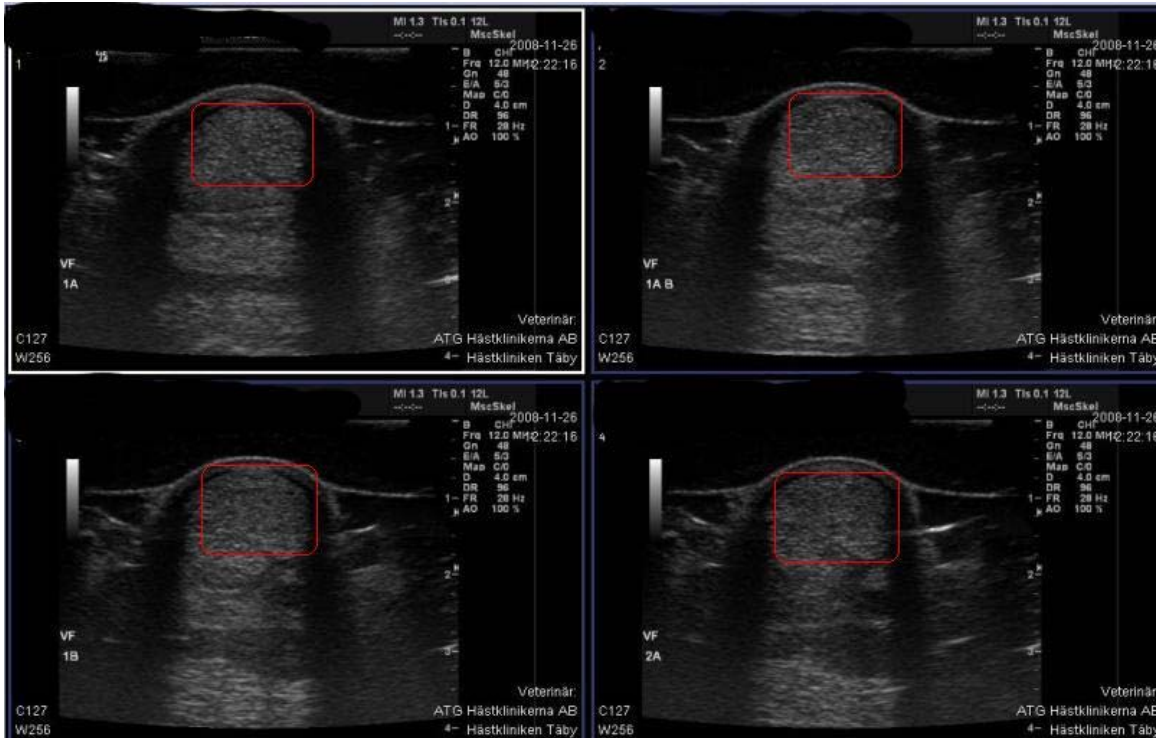
The first four pictures below show a central tendon injury. You can see the central black "gap" which is the bleeding in the tendon and where there are missing fibres. This is a serious injury for a racehorse. There is always a risk that a tendon injury will recur. The injured tendon needs daily support to prevent that. Often, small haemorrhages appear without us discovering them. Gradually, the bleeding increases and the injury returns.

Vitafloor increases the circulation and prevents this haemorrhaging. It enables us to build up the horse's condition, and the tendon has a better chance of staying healthy.

Pictures taken 13th October, 2008 :



Pictures taken 26th November, 2008:



The last four pictures show an excellent six-week healing process. The black gap is gone and new fibres have grown. Given the time period and treatment, it's clear that the horse's own body has healed itself in the most natural way possible. At this point we can start training and get the horse back in shape.

A big issue with this kind of serious injury is that the horse is kept in as good a condition as possible. That way you increase the chances of prolonging the horse's active lifespan.

The best situation, of course, is that the horse doesn't get injured at all. And one of Vitafloor's biggest advantages is its preventive effect in avoiding injuries through strengthening the horse and improving circulation. Injuries can appear after an impact, sprain or trip, and it is important to heal the injuries the best way possible.

I believe that Vitafloor is excellent both as a preventive and curative treatment.

Best regards

Bendik Bø, racehorse trainer

2. HEALING OF INJURIES

NAVICULAR BONE DAMAGE, CALCIFICATION OF THE SHORT PASTERBONE AND DAMAGED FETLOCK JOINT

Iravit, born 1986. Show-jumping horse

The horse had previously had several injections in the fetlock and had been abandoned by one owner after showing lameness in walking. He received Vitafloor treatment twice a day for one month and is reported as being fit and functioning very well.

Two girls shared ownership of Iravit. There were so many problems with the horse that one of the owners had given up. We asked if we could place the horse on Vitafloor, and after one month of daily treatment on Vitafloor, Iravit was back in good form and was able to train again.

After having been written off, he has since been sold to a new owner. Iravit and the new owner have competed in show-jumping events, and it is a pleasure to see that this magnificent horse is again able to assert itself in high-level competition after four years away from the arena.

3. FETLOCKS

Waquaas, born 1996. Racehorse. Trainer, Bendik Bø

Waquaas is one of the best sprinters in Scandinavia and has won significant prize money during his career. However, he had a poor year at the age of nine and was more or less written off.

When we took him on he had a minor fetlock problem, was stiff in his muscles, ill tempered and not keen to train. We treated him on the Vitafloor twice a day continually. Subsequently, as a 10-year-old in 2006, he secured three victories against the toughest competition, defeating the best sprinters in Scandinavia. It was a sensational comeback.

He continued to be fresh and sound for the entire season. Last autumn, he unfortunately kicked himself in the fetlock and has since undergone surgery. He returned to racing in autumn 2007 and is a fantastic success story for Vitafloor.

Giant Ferguson, born 1997. Warm-blooded trotter. Trainer Steinar Holm

Giant Ferguson had serious fetlock tendon-joint inflammation, and had unsuccessful surgery to the ring ligament. He started Vitafloor treatment in December 2004, and, over time, we observed great improvement to the fetlock. He has subsequently functioned extremely well, and has set a new personal record since his comeback. Giant Ferguson continues to receive daily Vitafloor treatment at his trainer's yard.

4. HOOF PROBLEMS

Ohio, born 1996. Show jumper. Owner Per Ivar Fritzen

Ohio was feed poisoned at a young age and has bad circulation in all legs. He had many sores and tender joints, hoof soles and sole depressions. He also had deep-haemorrhaging hoof cracks on both forelegs. We started Vitafloor treatment on Vitafloor in September 2005 and he gradually improved. The sores are gone and the hoof crack has started to heal. Prognosis for Ohio is looking very good. Ohio is back home with his owners and is preparing for competition.

5. LOOSE BONE PARTS IN FETLOCKS

***Guappa*, born 2001. Race horse. Trainer Pia Höiom**

Guappa started to race as a two-year-old but suffered from loose bone fragments in both front fetlocks. He was considered to have poor skeletal quality. He was operated on and was later treated on Vitafloor. Since then, he has suffered no further skeletal problems, has begun racing again and has won races.

6. KNEE PROBLEMS

Cassio, born 1993. Show jumper. Owner Anne Geelmuyden

Cassio had knee problems in the left foreleg with the lower outside knee joint. The owner was near to giving up on the horse after innumerable injections. He had chronic inflammation in the tissue and tendons on the outside of the joint. Cassio was treated on Vitafloor for about a month, and made swift progress. He left our stables after a month, having been reported fit. He is now in full training for the new season.

Equip Hill, born 2002. Race horse, trainer Bendik Bø

Equip Hill was a very promising three-year-old, but hung right and had problems with his right hind leg. We got him in training in the spring as a four-year-old. We treated him continually on Vitafloor once a day and he showed good progress that season.

He started 12 races as a four-year-old and won over 200,000 Swedish krona in prize money. He seems to be even better this year and is fresh and sound but needs continual treatment on Vitafloor to stimulate the hind leg and promote spinal activity. He won his second start in 2007 and put three straight wins under his belt. Among other races, he won the Valley Chapel Memorial along with 400,000 Norwegian krona in prize money. He started his fourth season with Timeform rating of 80 and now as a five-year-old has a Timeform rating of 91. In total, Equip Hill earned more than 1.4M Swedish krona. It has been a fantastic transformation.

7. TENDON INJURIES

***Leave a Strip*, born 1999. Warm-blooded trotter. Trainer Ole Johnsen**

The injury started with haemorrhaging along the suspensory ligament. The tendon was torn but not completely. The horse received treatment for one month on Vitafloor, and during this period had only walk training. Leave a Strip was then examined by a vet and

it a great improvement was found in the injured area. After this, the training was gradually increased and the horse is now fit and is training for race.

Conquistador, born 2000. Racehorse. Trainer Bendik Bø

Conquistador came to Bendik Bø's stables in August 2006 with a tendon injury and one poor fetlock. He then had a 56 handicap. Conquistador has been treated on Vitafloor twice a day continually since he came to us. We trained him for two months before his first start for us, when he finished third. He then raced through the entire winter and kept fresh and sound. From the time we got him into our stable he has been placed in all his races and has earned 108,000 Swedish krona.

Sugar News, born 2000. Warm-blooded trotter. Trainer Arthur Bø

Sugar News had a torn toe extensor tendon in the hind leg. The tendon was sewn back together, and he was then treated daily on Vitafloor. He was reported fit after two months. The vet was surprised to see such quick and complete healing. Since then, Sugar News has entered several races with great success.

River Run. Born 2001. Gallop horse

River Run developed a large bow on a superficial flexor tendon during a morning gallop. He was only walked for five weeks after this incident. He began tests at the Swedish Agriculture University in March 2004. Before treatment, an ultrasound scan of the tendon was performed, and the veterinary Gøran Sand and Hans Brostrøm clinically examined him. The ultrasound showed minimum 50% damage (destroyed fibres and tissue) in the superficial flexor tendon. River Run began treatment on Vitafloor with 13 sessions of 30 minutes for 12 days. A new ultrasound scan showed great improvement. Sand and Brostrøm, the veterinarians, regarded the healing process as sensational.

Celladone Express, born 2000. Gallop horse

Celladone Express had an 18-month-old tendon injury, with 50% destroyed fibres and tissues. An ultrasound showed great progress following 14 days of treatment at Uppsala with only Vitafloor and box rest. He then travelled to Norway for training and treatment. Following one month and three weeks standing in the box he managed one hour and 15 minutes striding. He then went back to Uppsala and an ultrasound showed that the tendon was 100% healed.

Conclusion

These horses had considerable tendon injuries. We have also seen noticeable healing on other superficial flexor tendon injuries.

8. MUSCLE TREATMENT

Vitafloor stimulates and trains the muscles in such a way that the muscles are able to tolerate more work so that the horse is less susceptible to injuries in the bones, tendons and suspensory ligaments.

Forearm muscles are a somewhat overlooked muscle group, and this is strange as all the tendons on the bone have their own muscle that is attached to them in the underarm. This muscle receives much stimulation and training during Vitafloor treatment, and gives improved shock absorbency during landing.

9. GENERALLY STIFF HORSES***Moe Sigyn, born 2001. Cold-blooded trotter. Owner Tor Martin Moe***

Moe Sigyn had very stiff muscles, especially in the right shoulder, and was also slightly nervous during track races. She was treated for one month on Vitafloor and also had some sporadic treatment after a break. She has performed well following the treatment,

with a fourth-place finish at the Mare Derby in 2005. She has now been put out for breeding and was mated in spring 2006.

***Moe Argr*, born 2000. Cold-blooded trotter. Owner A. Grønheim**

Moe Argr was suffering from knee problems, muscular problems and bad motor control. He also cheated in his trot. He came to our stable in June 2005 and was treated twice a day for about three months. He gradually improved, underwent a veterinary examination and had a zero bend test. He went home to his owner in September 2005 and has achieved good results during the autumn and winter season of 2005/2006

***Robis Ingo*, born 2001, Warm-blooded trotter, trainer Stig H Johansson**

Robis Ingo had very stiff muscles and moved awkwardly, with unidentifiable problems. Stig H Johansson noticed a marked improvement after the horse had been treated on Vitafloor. The horse is now functioning very well.

***Augusta Bell*, born 2000. Warm-blooded trotter. Trainer Stig H Johansson**

Augusta Bell struggled greatly with muscle problems and moved in an awkwardly. She has been treated for a period and her movement improved gradually. The horse is now functioning very well.

***Bit Noble*, born 1998. Racehorse. Trainer Pia Höiom**

Bit Noble had poor front fetlocks and had very stiff and sore muscles. The horse started treatment on Vitafloor in summer 2002 with precise results. The fetlocks functioned well and the horse is no longer stiff and sore. The improvement continued during the 2003 season. Bit Noble is a horse that has shown that he is highly receptive to treatment on Vitafloor in maintaining good health.

CONCLUSION

These are just a few examples of horses with particular problems. We also have many other horses that have shown considerable improvement in muscle flexibility.

The unique strength of Vitafloor is that it treats the whole horse.

10. UNDIAGNOSED PROBLEMS

***Relampago Plus* born 2000. Race horse. Trainer Bendik Bø**

Rempalago Plus came to Bendik Bø's stables in August 2006 with non-specific mental and physical problems. He had a nervous disposition and was out of shape. We began treating him twice a day on Vitafloor and then reduced this to once a day. He made his debut for us in with a third place, beaten by a length, and has since increased 7kg in handicap. He is now fresh and sound. In his last race, he was narrowly beaten by some of the best sprinters in Scandinavia.

***Moe Odin*, born 1997. Cold-blooded trotter. Owner Stable 17H**

Moe Odin came to our stables in August 2004 and was ruled out from further race activity. He had been treated by many experts in Sweden and Norway, none of whom could define exactly where the problem was.

Moe Odin has an enormous gait and needs everything to function well in order for his trot to be in harmony. The root of the problem could not be found, so treatment was difficult. When he came to our stables we immediately noticed this and we were of the opinion that the problem could be seen both at the front and rear. We immediately started treatment using Vitafloor, and at the same time started training the horse.

We quickly noticed progress in the gait, and were then able to gradually increase the training schedule. In the middle of October, Moe Odin was in hard training and he debuted on the racetrack on 4 December. In November he was checked by a vet and

showed zero on the bend test (compared with 2 degrees when he came to us). The hind gait was also very good.

Many people think that he is now well and has regained his magnificent gait and suppleness. Seven starts after his comeback he has had five victories, a second place and one fourth place.

Moe Odin continued training at our stables and was treated on daily on Vitafloor until 28 March, when he was moved on to the Spang-Berg Stallion Station for the breeding season. In 2005 and 2006 Moe Odin was the biggest earner in Norway among older cold-blooded trotters. He has earned 2,700,000 Norwegian kroner since his comeback and has set a new personal record of 19.6a during the 2005 season. In 2007 he gave Sweden's cold-blooded trotter king Järvsøfaks a good run for his money.

***Voje Best*, born 1999. Cold-blooded trotter. Owner Stall Heigar**

Voje Best could not trot at all and had undiagnosed problems. He received intensive treatment two to three times a day and trained at the same time. He gradually improved and after three months he strode in at a fantastic 1.35 in a routine race. This is excellent considering that Voje Best had not entered a race for two and a half years. He went back to his owner in May 2005, which is an excellent result for a horse that could not function at all before being treated on Vitafloor.

11. SKELETAL PROBLEMS

Tests on humans have shown that treatment with whole-body vibration can increase bone density by up to 20%. Treatment with vibration is the only treatment that has a documented effect on osteoporosis (brittle bones).

We have treated several horses following surgery to the pastern bones, and these have shown progress with lasting positive effects.

12. PREVENTIVE TREATMENT

DIGESTION

Horses treated on Vitafloor have been shown to maintain a healthy digestive system. Vitafloor increases the blood circulation in the intestines, thus improving the digestion of food.

To date, there have been no problems with horses suffering from colic following treatment. In fact the opposite holds true. Horses in the early stages of colic have, without exception, been cured after 30 minutes of treatment on Vitafloor. However, we always recommend that a vet be contacted if a horse has colic.

MUSCULATURE

As mentioned in the section on injuries, we have seen muscle improvement after treatment using Vitafloor. We believe that, with regular treatment, horses will have considerably less chance of suffering from muscular problems.

JOINT PROBLEMS

This is a serious problem among racehorses. The primary and secondary causes of joint problems is topic that is a much discussed. Good coordination skills, strong and supple muscles, and healthy tendons, ligaments and skeleton result in fewer or no problems with joints and joint fluids. Regular use of Vitafloor can offer significant benefits in these areas.

URINATION

Urination and the circulation and uptake of fluid is vital to a horse's health and well-being. We often see that after treatment on Vitafloor, horses drink water and urinate. This is a good indication that the horse's cleansing functions are working properly.

As we have mentioned, Vitafloor treats the horse as a whole, improving its general health, physical condition and mood.

COLIC

Stig H. Johansson, the Swedish trot trainer, has said that after installing Vitafloor he no longer has problems with horses suffering from colic. He uses Vitafloor frequently on horses that trot badly and have poor coordination on the track. Aside from the obvious benefits, he is also very pleased with the Vitafloor's effect on more indefinable problems. In summary he is delighted with Vitafloor's effects and results.

13. VITAFLOOR AS TRAINING EQUIPMENT

Tests on humans have shown that whole-body vibration has a training effect on muscles. Muscles undergo constant minute changes to their length, and this results in a training effect. Tests have shown that just 10 minutes of daily treatment over the course of 10 days produces a significant increase in muscular power.

We have seen an overall positive effect on horses that we have treated on Vitafloor. They are considerably faster and have more spring in their step. Trotting horses become more trot-reliable.

We, and many of the people we work with, have seen that horses treated on Vitafloor and on box-rest for longer periods, do well and look healthier. These horses start training more easily and have a higher level of base condition than normal. This is a consequence of increased blood circulation.

Vitafloor helps horses to becoming more flexible and supple. This has a positive effect when the horses warm up before races, and they use less energy in finding the trot.

RESEARCH AT THE SWEDISH AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY (SLU) AT UPPSALA

SLU has been testing Vitafloor since December 2003. The research has primarily been focused on tendon injuries. The horses' experience of the treatment has also been observed using blood tests. SLU's research into Vitafloor is ongoing. However, many injuries and problems can be difficult to measure on today's instruments. Along with SLU we are trying to find new and better measuring units in order to produce research results that are credible. For this reason it was natural to begin with tendon injuries as these could be registered and followed up using ultrasound.

Tests using a thermograph on Vitafloor have shown significant changes to the horse's surface temperature – as much as 4.5°C colder or warmer. The use of a thermograph on

horses is a new research area, and scientists are now trying to explain this cooling and warming effect.

The results seem to indicate that Vitafloor enables the horse's circulation to provide warming and/or cooling where it is needed.

It appears that the horse's balance improves. The correct healing temperature is individual from horse to horse, and from injury to injury. Vitafloor triggers the horse's own healing processes and redirect, increases or lowers blood supply to the areas where the needs it, while eradicating waste products that block the healing process.

Thermographic tests confirm our assertion about correct and increased blood circulation.

Tendon injuries are inspected with ultrasound at the start of the project, and continually during the healing process. Research at SLU has been carried out on nine horses with tendon injuries. In general, the scientists are careful in commenting, as they believe that a broader range of injuries should be researched. Also, a control group has not been used. We maintain, however, that our many years of experience with tendon injuries tell us how long the average healing process takes. A one-year injury absence is not uncommon for this type of injury.

14. PRELIMINARY CONCLUSION

SLU has carried out intensive research on Vitafloor. They have not found any negative effects on the horses – only positive ones.

Vets describe the healing process on tendon injuries as good, and just as good as or better than other currently known treatments. It has been noted that blood circulation increases in the whole horse. This can be observed in conjunction with the fact that the muscles are being trained during treatment. During the research period at SLU, the horses simply stand in the box, so that no other outside factors influence the research results. An increase in the horse's metabolic rate has been observed, and there have been no problems with colic. They are used to horses that suffer periodically with colic, and have been surprised at how quickly the horses recover after treatment with Vitafloor. This is something that they do have control groups of, since there are many horses that stand in ordinary boxes during their stay at SLU.

The vets at SLU consider Vitafloor to be an exciting product. This is confirmed by the fact that they have applied to Sweden's Agricultural Research for funds for more research. This, combined with the findings of our own research and that our reference users, means that we feel justified in stating that Vitafloor has a great effect on healing and the prevention of injuries, and is also a productive piece of training equipment.