



# Natural Help 4...

## Rain Rot in Horses



### What is Rain Rot?

Rain rot or rain scald is one of the most common skin diseases in horses. This condition can be present in any horse around the world, but is **most common in areas with high humidity** and hot temperatures combined with heavy, drawn out periods of rainfall.

This provides the perfect conditions for the organism that causes Rain Rot to reproduce and flourish. Though it is **not a life-threatening condition**, Rain Scald on a horse can cause great discomfort.

### Symptoms and signs of Rain Rot

Rain rot or dermatophilosis can appear as:

- Large crust-like scabs
- Matted tufts of hair
- Dozens of tiny scabs (pink with pus when the scabs are removed)
- Small lumps on the horses' skin or hair (early stages)

The above-mentioned **symptoms usually appear on the horse's back and rump**, fetlock (dew poisoning), front of the cannon bone, tips of the horse's ears and around the eyes and muzzle.

### What Causes Rain Rot?

The organism *Dermatophilus congolense* is responsible for the condition called rain rot. This **organism is not a fungus, but it behaves like both bacteria and fungi**. This organism is carried on the horse's skin, and with a weakened immune system, it may then develop into rain rot.

Causes that may contribute to rain rot include:

- Shared contaminated barns, saddle blankets, leg wraps and brushes.
- Extreme moisture (Horses with thick coats tend to suffer).
- Damaged skin (by a cut or scrape) allows the organism to enter.
- Poor stable management, damp stalls with poor ventilation and.

### Diagnosing Rain Rot

Diagnosis is usually made by observation – your **vet will look out for large, crusty, circular areas** or small, raised areas with small scabs (a mass of raised

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Never disregard professional medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this ebook or on ANY website.

hair is usually a tell-tale sign as the scabs cause the hair to stand upright). To make a specific diagnosis, your vet may send away some of the exudate to be identified under a microscope or by staining it with New Methylene Blue, Diff-Quick, or a gram stain.

## Help for Rain Rot

*Dermatophilus congolensis* thrives in areas with no air – so **removing the hair from affected spots is key**. Scab removal is also recommended, allowing the organism exposure to oxygen. Do this with care, as it may be sore for your horse.

Try wetting the scab first, for easier removal, then cleanse the wound with an anti-bacterial shampoo, and pat dry. For **severe cases, antibiotics such as penicillin, ampicillin**, streptomycin or gentamycin may be used. Immune-boosting drugs may also be recommended for the horse's immune system.

*Note: If your horse has a severe case of rain rot, discuss treatment with your veterinarian and discuss the antibiotics listed above and possible side-effects. Dangerous secondary bacterial infections known are staphylococcus (staph), and streptococcus (strep).*

## Natural Remedies

Natural and holistic treatments have been used for centuries to help boost the immune system as well as **promote healthy skin and shiny coats** and manes. Herbs such as Yarrow, Nettle, Echinacea and Hawthorn help to support the immune system and promote healing using nature's medicine chest.

Borage is a well-known herb high in gamma-linolenic acid (GLA). This herb has been studied for its supportive effects on the skin and can help to support the production natural oils in the horse coat. **Horsetail has also been approved as an aid to wound healing** by the German Commission E expert panel, while herbs such as dandelion, Rosemary and Kelp can help to strengthen the immune system while nourishing the skin from the inside out.

Spirulina is a rich source of nutrients, containing up to 70% protein, B-complex vitamins, phycocyanin, chlorophyll, beta-carotene, vitamin E, and numerous minerals – **helping to add nutrient value to a horse's diet**. The added bonus of natural remedies, of course, is a stunning shine without the risk of side effects!

## Tips related to Rain Rot

Here are some helpful tips to prevent the spreading of the organism:

- Remove equipment that may rub and irritate your horse's skin (saddles and leg wraps)
- Disinfect everything you use on multiple horses. This includes anything you use on an infected horse such as halters, saddle pads and brushes. Favorite rubbing spots like a stall door or fence should also be disinfected.
- During wet weather keep your horse under shelter, or use a rainproof and breathable blanket.
- Keep your horse in a dry, clean area that is well ventilated.
- Give your horse added protection against biting insects (if you use a net, be



### Michele Carelse, Clinical Psychologist



All of our natural remedies are formulated by our expert team of herbalists, naturopaths and homeopaths, and headed by Michele Carelse.

Michele has had years of experience in the manufacturing and use of natural remedies for both people and pets. In addition, she is a trained Clinical Psychologist and has been incorporating natural remedies into her treatment of patients with depression, anxiety, ADD, ADHD and stress for many years with spectacular results.

- sure your horse cannot get stuck in it).
- Isolate a horse with rain rot from any others.
- Wash your hands thoroughly after working with an infected horse.

## **To treat your horse (be sure to wear gloves):**

- Use a natural shampoo that lathers well. Let sit for 10 minutes, then rinse well. Be sure to dry gently, yet thoroughly – as the organism is likely to reoccur in moisture!
- Remove all scabs that are present – be gentle – this may take a few sessions over a few days. The washing with shampoo will help to moisten them. Dry the horse immediately after scab removal (try a casual walk in a sunny area, where dry wind can help dry the wet areas).

## **The Natural Approach**

While Western medicine has become the norm in many cultures, it is not the only treatment option. Conventional western medicine, often called allopathic medicine, is the system of medicine taught at most medical schools and most pharmaceutical and synthetic medicines are manufactured and marketed according to the principles of allopathic medicine. Allopathic medicine is also sometimes called orthodox medicine.

Because most of us in the Western world have grown up in a society in which allopathic medicine is the prevailing norm, we forget that, only a few decades ago, homeopathic, herbal and other natural medicines were commonly available – and freely used even by conventional doctors and veterinarians. While there are often heated debates about which system of medicine is 'better' than the other, many responsible doctors and vets (whether they are allopathic or not) recognize that both have a role to play in the treatment program.

Just like humans, domesticated animals like dogs and cats are affected by the health hazards of modern living. Pollution, poor nutrition, stress and unhealthy lifestyles can lead to a variety of illnesses and conditions that are very similar to those experienced by humans. In fact, many, if not most pet health concerns can be addressed by helping your pets to live a healthier lifestyle. While it has its place, conventional medicine for animals and 'modern technology' have failed our pets in many ways.

According to pet expert and author CJ Puotinen, most holistic veterinarians and animal health care professions list annual vaccinations and commercial pet foods as the major contributory cause in the rising rates of chronic illness in pets today. Similarly, Juliette de Bairacli Levy, respected author and renowned animal breeder, points out that contrary to the belief that mass vaccination and antibiotic use will contribute to a decrease in disease, the opposite has in fact proved true. Like their human counterparts, today's pets are becoming more and more vulnerable to chronic disease and ill health. This has led many veterinarians to search for alternatives and to espouse more holistic methods of keeping our pets healthy.

"In the wild, animals instinctively seek out healing herbs to help them when they are ill or undernourished. In fact, Asclepius, the ancient Greek god of medicine,

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If you have a question about one of our products, its usage or dosage, ask Michele and her team of experts about about it [HERE!](#) We will do our best to get you an answer within 24 hours.

## **Great Health Sites**

[Natural Pet Health Blog](#)

[Natural Holistic Health Blog](#)

[PetAlive Natural & Herbal Remedies for Pets](#)

[Native Remedies - Natural & Herbal Remedies](#)

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respected dogs very highly for their ability to seek out and eat medicinal herbs in the wild. This ability is shared by other animals, including cats. We are coming to realize that nature often has the answers - but animals have always known this! Natural medicine can help your pet just as it can help you. While there is always a place for conventional veterinary medicine, natural medicine can compliment conventional veterinary care and in many cases do just as well. I have applied the same care and research that have gone into our Native Remedies range for adults and children to the development of pet-friendly, safe and effective natural remedies for animals. As always, all remedies are formulated to the highest therapeutic standards and manufactured under strict pharmaceutical conditions for your peace of mind and the well being of your pets. " Michele Carelse, Clinical Psychologist.

"When a veterinary surgeon practices the use of homeopathic medicine and is asked why he does so, he may give one of several answers. The simple answer would be that the results are good, an emphatic answer would be that homeopathic treatment has no unpleasant or dangerous side effects, while still achieving successful results.

The [PetAlive Homeopathic range](#) has been formulated with this knowledge and is specifically designed to treat your pet in a holistic and natural manner."

Dr. Glenn Ferguson  
M-Tech Homeopathy, Doctor of Chinese Medicine

## **Related Natural Remedies:**

**[EQuine Immunity Booster](#)**: Promotes a healthy, strong immune system in horses

EQuine Immunity Booster blend contains a combination of specially selected herbs known for their ability to **support immune functioning and promote vitality**.

There is a great deal of evidence to suggest that the use of **carefully chosen herbal ingredients** can play a big role in **improving immune functioning**. Along with the correct lifestyle choices, our herbal remedies can make all the difference to your horse's health.

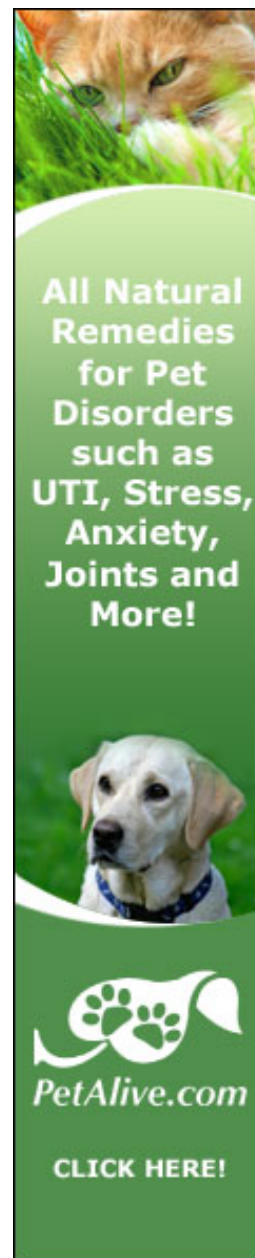
EQuine Immunity Booster is a loose herbal blend and can be added to horse feed daily – quick and easy with no fuss.

[Learn more about EQuine Immunity Booster](#)


**[EQuine Shiny Coat Supplement](#)**: Promotes a healthy, shiny coat, tail and mane in horse

EQuine Shiny Coat Supplement blend contains a combination of specially selected herbs known for their ability to **support the health of the equine coat and mane** from the inside out.

There is a great deal of evidence to suggest that the use of **carefully chosen herbal ingredients** can help to promote healthy skin and coat. Along with the



All Natural Remedies for Pet Disorders such as UTI, Stress, Anxiety, Joints and More!



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**Six Good Reasons to choose PetAlive as your trusted suppliers of herbal & homeopathic remedies:**

correct lifestyle choices, our herbal remedies can make all the difference to your horse's health and prevent a thinning mane.

Used as a general supplement, EQuine Shiny Coat Supplement is a loose herbal blend and can be added to horse feed daily – quick and easy with no fuss, whether your horse is competing in a show or not!

[Learn more about EQuine Shiny Coat Supplement](#)

Read the testimonials for these quality products [here!](#)

1) All PetAlive products are manufactured according to the highest pharmaceutical standards - using only the best quality raw ingredients from nature's medicine chest.

2) PetAlive and our suppliers are registered with the FDA as accredited suppliers and manufacturers of health supplements. Our products are sold all over the world and are manufactured to strict international standards in a GMP accredited manufacturing plant.

3) All our remedies are manufactured in an FDA registered pharmaceutical facility under close supervision.

This includes formulation, acquiring and testing of raw ingredients as well as final manufacturing. This gives us the confidence to say that when you are buying a PetAlive product, you are buying the safest and the best! We know what goes into our remedies - which is why we know what you will get out of them!

4) Manufacturing is done strictly according to the principles of GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) and all raw ingredients undergo stringent testing before being approved by our registered manufacturing pharmacists.

5) We offer a free email [Ask Our Experts](#) service run by trained consultants ready to advise you on the best choice for your pet's health.

6) We offer an unconditional [One Year Money Back Guarantee](#).





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