

January 2009

# EQUINE UPDATE

## Sarcoids:

How Swanspool is tackling a major problem - the Diode Laser... A solution to a persistent problem?



A Swanspool Case:  
Before and 2.5  
months after Diode  
Laser Surgery



## TREAT THOSE SARCOIDS EARLY !!!

The use of topical creams in the treatment of sarcoids is common, but what do you use when they get too big... We now have an option - the diode laser. Read below for more info.....

### What is a Sarcoid?

A sarcoid is basically a skin tumour. As with many tumours their cause is not fully understood; however there has been a link to the Bovine Papovavirus (cow wart virus). As a general rule there are 6 different types / stages of sarcoids - ranging from small occult sarcoids (which can even look similar to ringworm lesions) up to Malevolent sarcoids which can be extremely aggressive. It is important that if you see a skin lesion that looks suspicious to get it checked out as early as possible.

### Treatment Options:

From experience we know that sarcoids can be treated in a variety of ways - but the earlier they are caught the better the overall clinical result can be. Treatment is dependent on the sarcoid type, its location and even the temperament of the patient. Currently the practice offers several topical treatments for

different types of sarcoids - but we found that topical treatments is not always the best course of action. Therefore the Diode Laser may be helpful. In certain types of sarcoid we are able surgically remove them under heavy sedation, without the need for extensive topical applications of creams. The images at the top of this page just show how successful the treatment can be in the right cases. Case selection is imperative - therefore if you have any questions contact the practice for more information.

### Down to Basics:

Cost is always an issue when it comes to any surgery - therefore we have kept the use of the laser simple. We only charge a flat rate fee for its use, in addition to our time and drugs used (price correct at time of publishing). This may sound expensive, but when compared to prolonged topical treatments it can work out cheaper.



### The Diode Laser Machine.

Small and portable - we now can even come out to your yard with this equipment to remove certain types of sarcoid. Book a visit or give us a call to discuss the options.