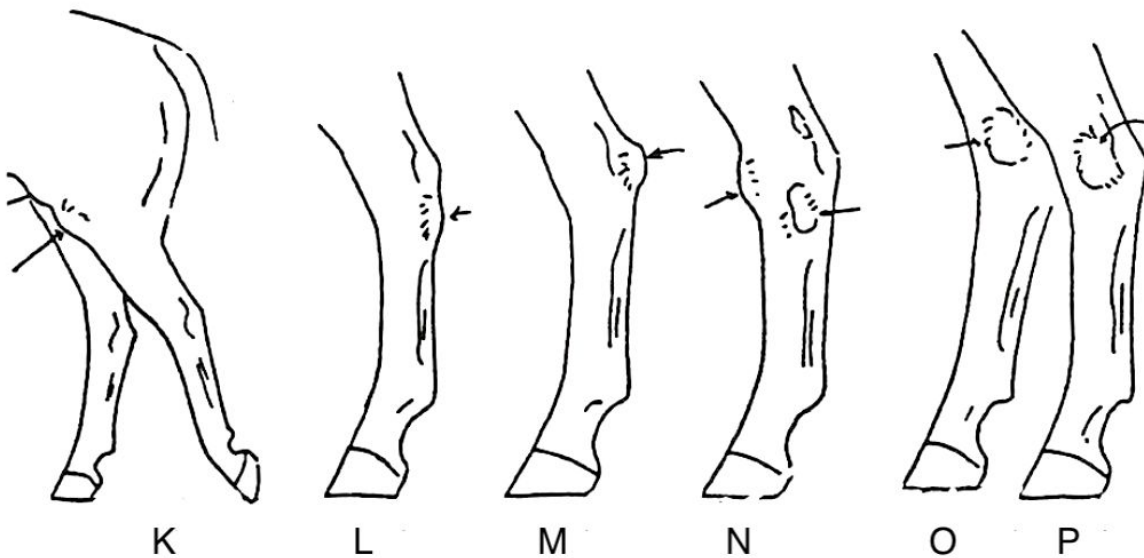
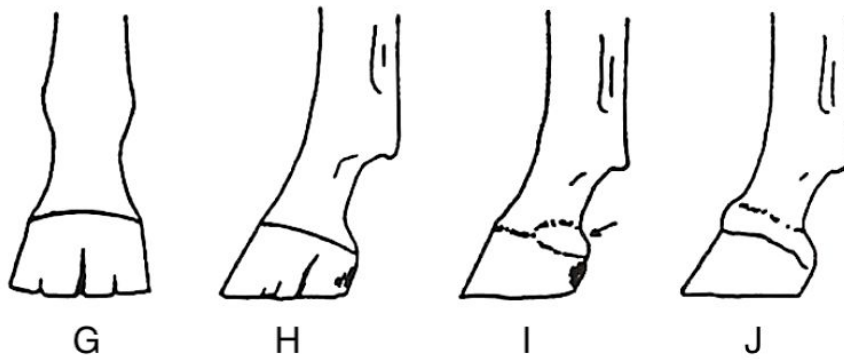
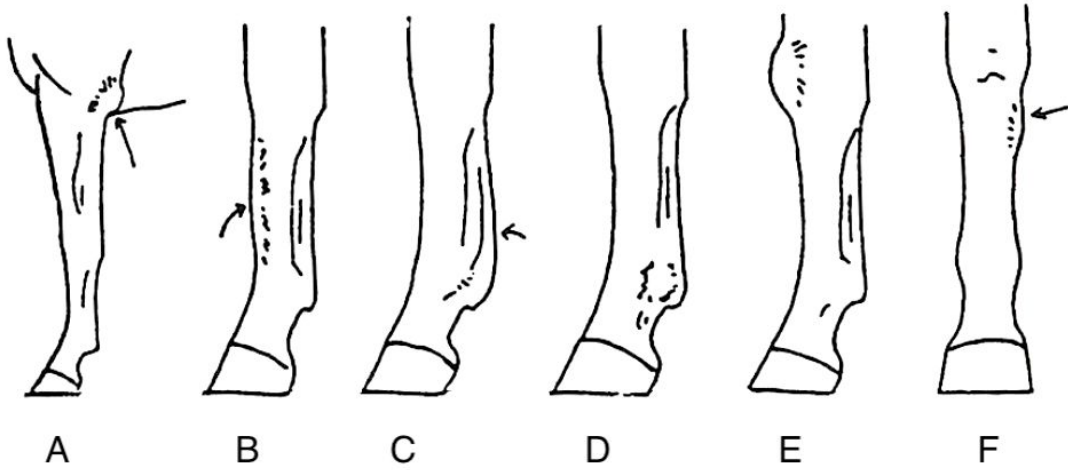


Blemishes and Unsoundnesses Study Guide



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- A. Shoe Boil - A soft, flabby swelling over the point of the elbow; also called capped elbow
- B. Bucked Skin - An inflammation of the periosteum (bone skin) on the front side of the cannon bone, usually occurring on the forelegs of young horses that are strenuously exercised; typically a temporary racing unsoundness
- C. Bowed Tendon - Fairly severe front limb tendon strain in which the flexor tendons bulge inside of being straight and parallel to the cannon bone; the damage may be permanent; usually caused by poor conformation, poor shoeing, over-stretching, improper conditioning, overwork, or accident
- D. Wind Puff - Enlargements of the fluid sacs or bursa around the pastern or fetlock joint on either the front or rear legs; protrusions of joint capsules and/or tendon sheaths caused by stretching due to excessive fluid
- E. Popped Knee - A general term describing inflammatory conditions affecting the knees, so named because of the sudden swelling that accompanies it
- F. Splint - Bony enlargements occurring on the cannon or splint bones; characterized by swelling, heat, and sometimes lameness; most common in young, strenuously worked horses
- G. Toe Crack - A crack located specifically at the toe of the horse's hoof
- H. Quarter Crack - A crack in the side of the hoof that may extend to the coronary band; may or may not be a cause of lameness; should be treated by a farrier
- I. Sidebone - When one or both of the lateral cartilages in the foot turn to bone; since the lateral cartilages normally act as shock-absorbing apparatus, they can no longer function properly
- J. Ringbone - A bony enlargement occurring in the region of the pastern bone on the first, second, or third phalanx; occurs more frequently in the front legs than in the hind legs; caused by strain on the ligaments of the coffin and pastern joints
- K. Stifled - An injury to the stifle joint; swelling, tear, arthritis, etc
- L. Curb - A thickening of the plantar ligament at the back of the hock, resulting in an enlargement below the point of the hock

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- M. Capped Hocks - A swelling at the point of the hock; comparable to capped elbow of the forelimb; usually caused by repeated injury from kicking in stalls, lying on hard or concrete floors, or trauma from other sources
- N. Bone Spavin - A serious unsoundness affecting the bones of the hock joint; a bony enlargement that appears on the inside and front of the hind legs below the hock at the point where the base of the hock tapers into the cannon bone; also called jack spavin
- O. Bog Spavin - A filling of the natural depression on the inside and front of the hock; an inflammation of the synovial membrane; a bog spavin is much larger than a blood spavin and may be a blemish or an unsoundness
- P. Thoroughpin - Unsoundness or a blemish; soft, puffy swelling that appears on the upper part of the hock, in front of the large tendon; the swelling can be pushed from one side to the other