



2020 Joint Training

United States Department of Agriculture &
Horse Industry Organizations
February 8, 2020

Agenda

- FY19 Inspection Findings
- Inspection Process
- Inspection Questions



FY19 Inspection Findings

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019

2020 Joint Training: United States Department of Agriculture & Horse Industry Organizations

Horse Industry Organization Findings

HIO FY18 Findings

	Padded	Flat
Bilateral	93	7
Unilateral	257	11
Scar Rule	121	1
Prohibited Substance	43	0
High Band	14	3
Illegal Shoeing	33	2
Action Device	34	0
Other	27	3
Total HPA NCIs*	622	27
Non-HPA	27	17
Totals	649	44
Entries Inspected	13,717	37,792

*Includes 120 NCIs detected by DQP after return/referral from USDA (115 NCIs for padded horses, 5 NCIs for flat shod horses)

HIO FY19 Findings

	Padded	Flat
Bilateral	143	7
Unilateral	334	17
Scar Rule	161	5
Prohibited Substance	58	5
High Band	17	13
Illegal Shoeing	73	0
Action Device	40	0
Other	98	19
Total HPA NCIs*	924	66
Non-HPA	30	19
Totals	954	85
Entries Inspected	12,676	39,347

*Includes 220 NCIs detected by DQP after return/referral from USDA (210 NCIs for padded horses, 10 NCIs for flat shod horses)

USDA Findings

USDA FY18 Findings

	Padded	Flat
Bilateral	8	0
Unilateral	12	1
Scar Rule	2	0
Prohibited Substance	2	0
Action Device	1	0
Heel/Toe	0	0
50%	1	0
High Band	0	0
Other	4	0
Totals	30	1
Entries Inspected	1,108	530

USDA FY19 Findings

	Padded	Flat
Bilateral	1	0
Unilateral	2	0
Scar Rule	0	0
Prohibited Substance	0	0
Action Device	0	0
Heel/Toe	1	0
50%	0	0
High Band	0	0
Other	1	0
Totals	5	0
Entries Inspected	902	308

Prohibited Substance Results

FY18 Prohibited Substance Overall Totals

Type of Substance Found	No. of Times Identified in Sample
DMSO	1
Allyl Isothiocyanate	0
Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane	1
Decamethylcyclopentasiloxane	11
Camphor	0
Menthol	2
Methyl salicylate	0
Dodecamethylcyclohexasiloxane	0
Salicylic acid	0
Butylated hydroxytoluene	0
Benzocaine	57
Isopropyl myristate	9
Lidocaine	2
Isopropyl palmitate	65
o-aminoazotoluene	116
Octyl methoxycinnamate	35
Cinnamaldehyde	0
Other	360
No. of Samples Collected:	520
No. of Positive Samples:	331
Positive Rate:	63.65%

FY19 Prohibited Substance Overall Totals

Type of Substance Found	No. of Times Identified in Sample
DMSO	2
Allyl Isothiocyanate	0
Octamethylcyclotetrasiloxane	0
Decamethylcyclopentasiloxane	3
Camphor	1
Menthol	2
Methyl salicylate	2
Dodecamethylcyclohexasiloxane	2
Salicylic acid	0
Butylated hydroxytoluene	2
Benzocaine	44
Isopropyl myristate	4
Lidocaine	1
Isopropyl palmitate	26
o-aminoazotoluene	22
Octyl methoxycinnamate	10
Cinnamaldehyde	0
Other	220
No. of Samples Collected:	268
No. of Positive Samples:	166
Positive Rate:	61.94%

Data Takeaways

- NCIs identified increased for all categories from FY18 to FY19
- Prohibited Substance results remained approximately the same
- Complete data will be posted to our website shortly

2020 Changes

- Correct back tags for inspection
 - Will be required in 2021
- All horses may present for inspection with saddles on
 - Random checks
- Shows with only 1 VMO
 - Bilateral sore on palpation



Inspection Process

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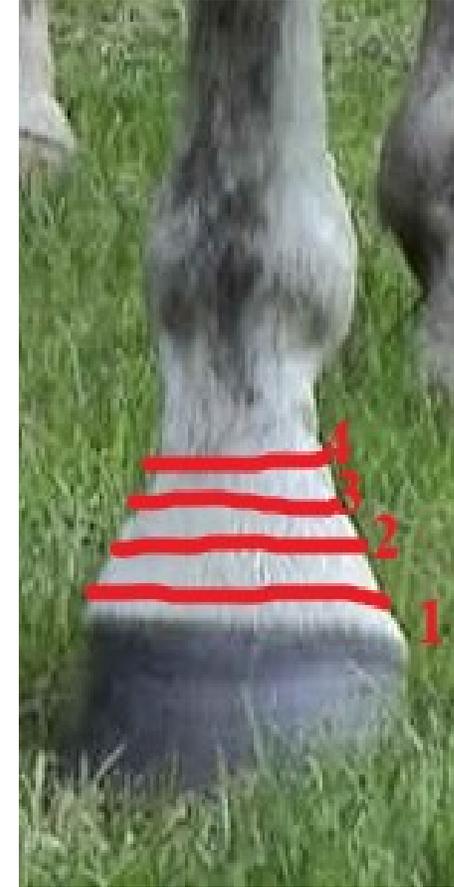
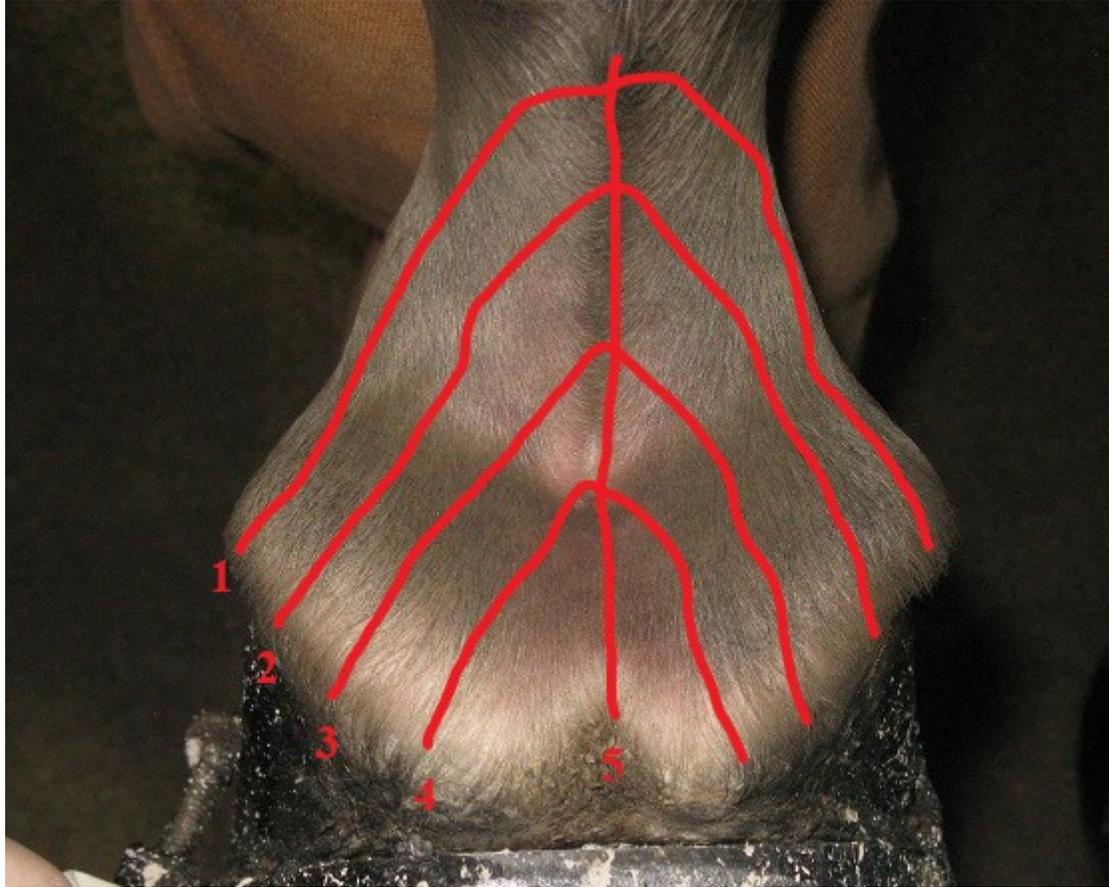
Topics Covered

- Selection of Horses
- Conducting the Inspection
 - USDA palpation technique
 - DQP Inspection of hind legs
 - inflammation
 - Detecting soreness
 - Definition of “sore”
 - Assessing Scar Rule compliance
 - Detecting Prohibited Substances
 - Assessing Equipment
 - Action devices
 - Pad Measurements
- Referring & returning horses to DQPs

Selection of Horses

- USDA VMOs will inspect horses from a representative sample of the class types (i.e., Performance, Park Pleasure Performance, Country Pleasure, flat shod, etc.)
- Other Factors to be Considered (not exhaustive list)
 - Observations made while on a barn walk
 - Concerns about the horse's way of going, appearance, or demeanor
 - Post-show horses
- USDA VMOs will generally not inspect a horse if a DQP has already excused the horse

USDA Palpation Technique



[USDA Inspection Process Demonstration- Performance Horse](#)

Inspection of Hind Legs

- As needed, DQPs may inspect rear limbs of all horses inspected on the show grounds, pre-show or post-show
 - Can be performed as horses walk the figure 8
- DQPs will always examine the rear limbs:
 - All horses exhibiting lesions on the rear legs
 - All horses exhibiting unusual movement of the rear legs

Definition of Sore & Inflammation

1. Examine the posterior pastern and assess whether there is clear visual evidence of active inflammation
 - Open lesions: wounds, lacerations
 - +/-moisture-blood, exudate
- The above characteristics may be associated with a raised cord of tissue
 - Are often on the area of the pastern in which the chains are in contact

Definition of Sore & Inflammation

Does the inflammation meet the definition of sore?

Sore when used to describe a horse means... Any other substance or device has been used by a person on any limb of a horse or a person has engaged in a practice involving a horse, and, as a result of such application, infliction, injection, use, or practice, such horse suffers, or can reasonably be expected to suffer, physical pain or distress, inflammation, or lameness when walking, trotting, or otherwise moving,.....

Yes: horse is noncompliant with HPA and meets statutory definition of “sore”

- The inflamed area does **not** have to palpate sore to be noncompliant
- Inflammation can be present on posterior, anterior, antero-lateral pastern
- Unilateral or bilateral

No: must determine whether horse is in compliance with Scar Rule

Inflammation



Inflammation



Posterior Pastern Scar Rule

*Examine the posterior pastern
for Scar Rule compliance*

1. Determine whether the skin is uniformly thickened
 - Hold the skin taut using one hand, and use your second hand to palpate perpendicular (or across) the ridges of tissue
 - Non-pliable, hard ridge(s) or nodule(s) with distinct edges that will not flatten=not uniformly thickened epithelial tissue

Posterior Pastern Scar Rule

*Examine the posterior pastern
for Scar Rule compliance*

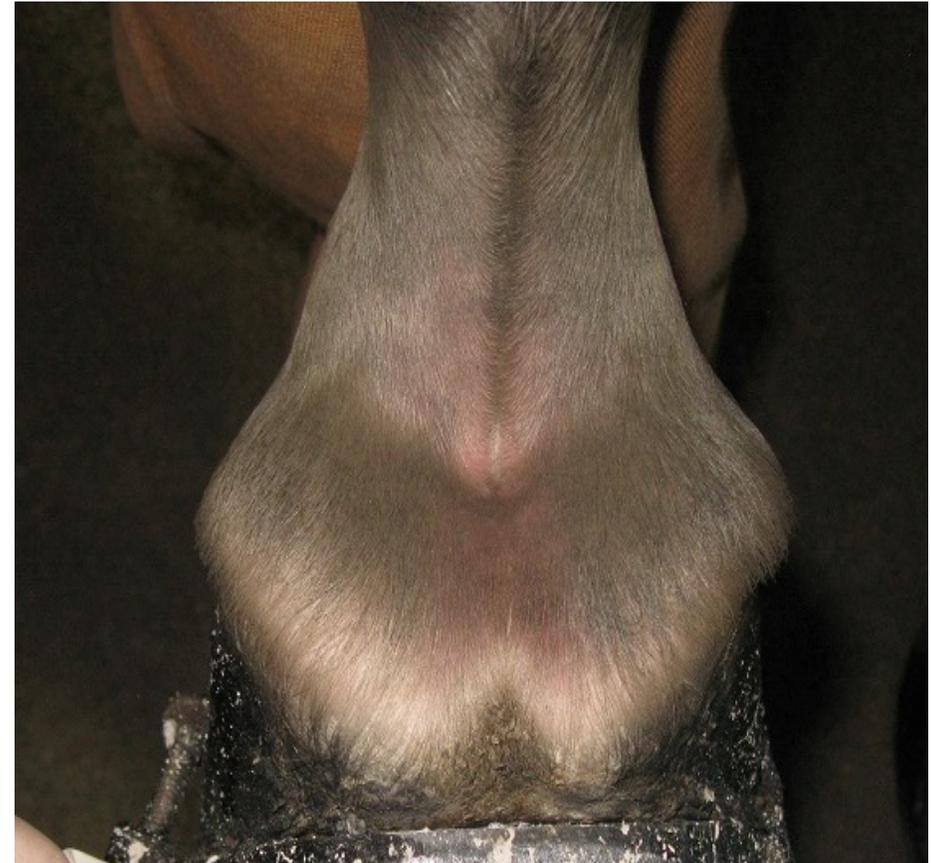
2. If non-uniformly thickened epithelial tissue is found, look for hair loss associated with the ridges
 - Generalized hair loss with non-pliable, hard ridge(s)/nodule(s) with distinct edges = non-compliant with the Scar Rule and sore

OR

- **Multiple** focal areas of hair loss on top of non-pliable, hard ridge(s) or nodule(s) with distinct edges = non-compliant with the Scar Rule and sore

Scar Rule Compliant

- No areas of hair loss
- No hard ridges/nodules



Scar Rule Compliant

- Pliable ridge with indistinct edges that will not flatten
- Ridge covered in hair



Scar Rule Compliant

- Non-pliable, hard ridge with distinct edges
- Ridge will not flatten
- Ridge covered in hair



Scar Rule Noncompliant



Scar Rule Noncompliant



Scar Rule Noncompliant



Anterior/Antero-lateral Pastern Scar Rule

- Examine the anterior and antero-lateral pastern for clear evidence of non-compliance
 1. Are there non-pliable, hard ridge(s) or nodule(s) with distinct edges?
 - Yes:** horse is non-compliant with Scar Rule and is sore
 - No:** horse is in compliance
- For anterior pastern only, our focus will be at the coronary band

Scar Rule Noncompliant



Scar Rule Noncompliant



Observation of Pain

Detection of Pain During Inspection

- A consistent and repeatable withdrawal response during digital palpation
- Assess the horse for primary and secondary signs of pain
 - Primary: Withdrawing of the foot
 - Secondary: Flattening of the ears, tucking of the flanks, moving its back legs toward to its front legs to relieve pressure (standing in the bucket), moving its body backwards, widening of the eyes, and clenching shoulder or leg muscles

Observation of Pain

- **If horse responds to first touch, THIS is not counted as the initial pain response**
- If you find an initial pain response by the horse withdrawing its foot, mentally note the location where the horse exhibited the pain response
- Continue following and complete the pattern for digital palpation
- After completing the pattern of digital palpation, return to the location where you detected pain and will re-palpate the same area
- If the horse exhibits a **second pain response** by withdrawing its foot, the horse is demonstrating consistent and repeatable signs of pain and is sore
- If the horse does not withdraw its foot, continue digital palpation moving away from the location where you elicited the pain response from the horse
- Return to the location where you detected pain and re-palpate the same area
 - If the horse exhibits a **second pain response** by withdrawing its foot, the horse is demonstrating consistent and repeatable signs of pain and you have reason to believe the horse is sore

Observation of Pain

- If the horse exhibits an inconsistent withdrawal of its foot during the initial inspection of the horse, the DQP/USDA VMO may consider:
 - Requesting that the horse walk the cones again and then conduct the inspection
 - Requesting to inspect the horse post-show
 - Placing the horse in timeout followed by a re-inspection
 - Allowing the horse to proceed

Prohibited Substance

- Inspecting the lower limb for Prohibited Substance
 - No substances are permitted on a horse's leg prior to DQP inspection
- If the DQP detects prohibited substances, the DQP should notify the custodian regarding this HPA noncompliance and disqualify the horse on behalf of show management

Action Devices

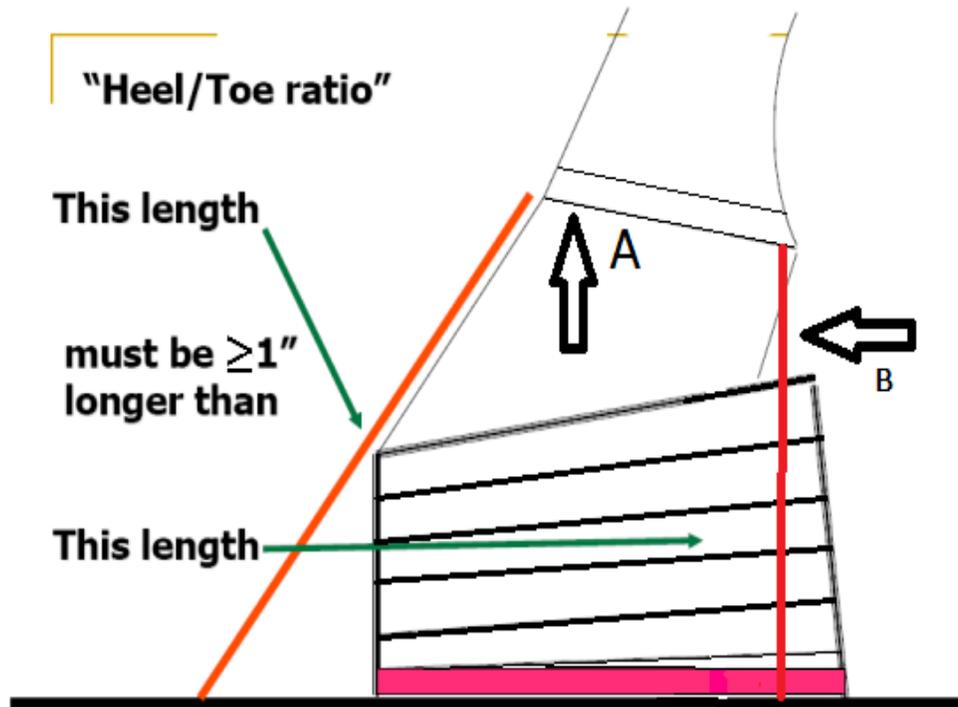
- Include beads, bangles, rollers, collars, boots, and similar devices.
 - Assess length: assess the placement of the action device and where it strikes the animal while moving
 - Assess weight
 - Assess construction



Action Devices



Measurements: Heel-toe Ratio

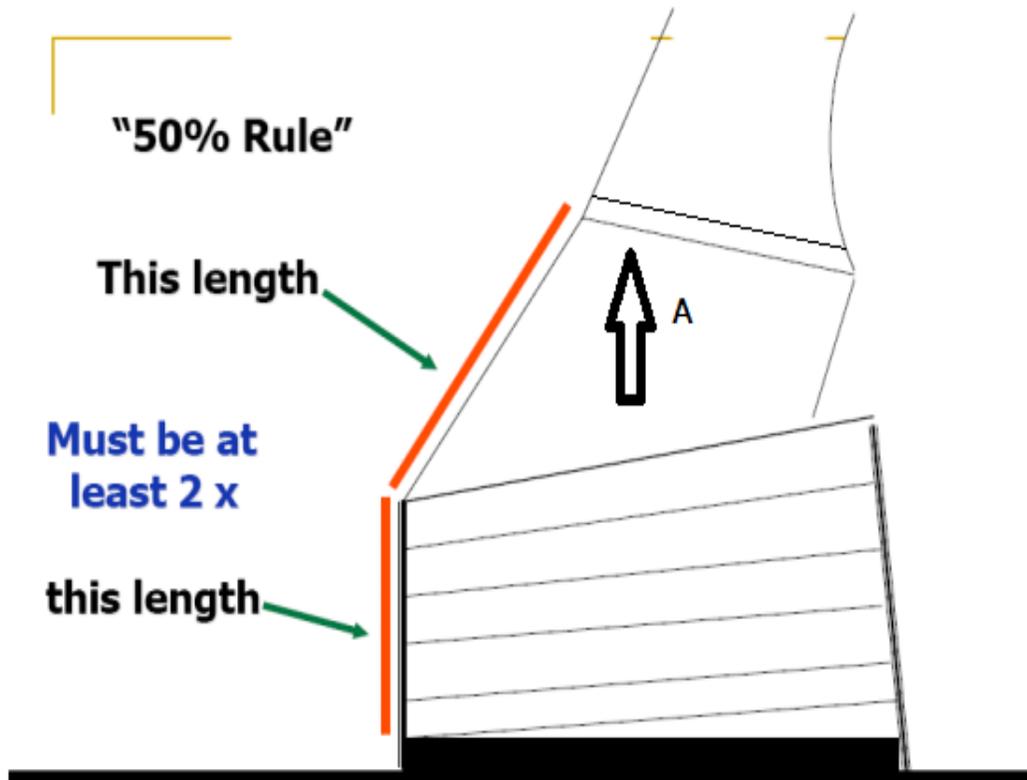


Toe length: measured from the coronet band (arrow "A" in the diagram), at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall, to the ground.

Heel height: measured from the coronet band, at the most lateral portion of the rear pastern, at a 90 degree angle to the ground, at the rear of the shoe (arrow "B" in the diagram). The heel measure excludes normal caulks at the rear of a horseshoe that do not exceed $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length. That portion of caulk at the rear of a horseshoe in excess of $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch is added to the height of the heel.

Note: The exclusion of $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length only applies to horseshoes with caulks. If a horseshoe does not have a caulk (i.e., a rubber bottom horseshoe), the heel is measured from the coronet band, at the most lateral portion of the rear pastern, at a 90 degree angle to the ground, at the rear of the shoe.

Measurements: 50% Rule



Natural hoof length: measured from the coronet band (arrow "A" in the diagram), at the center of the front pastern along the front of the hoof wall, to the distal portion of the hoof wall at the tip of the toe.

Artificial extension: measured from the distal portion of the hoof wall at the tip of the toe at a 90 degree angle to the proximal (foot/hoof) surface of the shoe.

Measurements

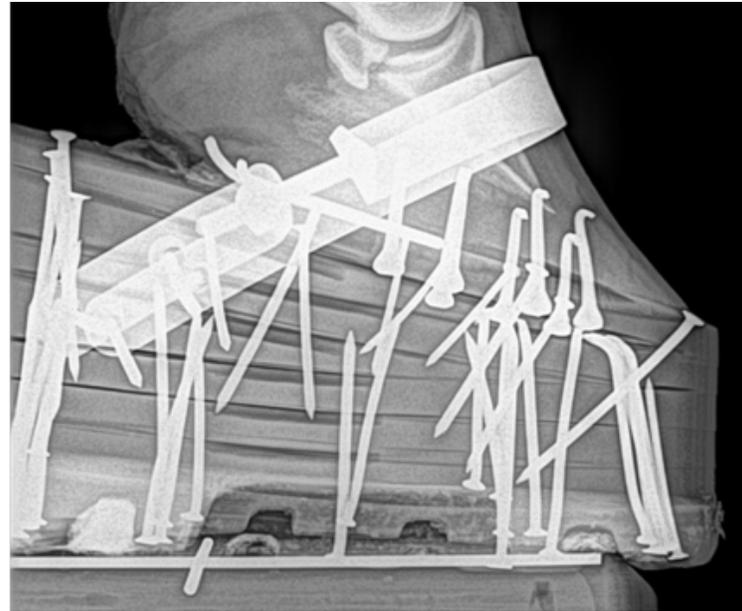
Hoof band

- Measure the distance from the top of the hoof band to the bottom of the coronary band (please see diagram below)
- This distance must be $\frac{1}{2}$ inch or greater the DQP/USDA VMO should also ensure the hoof bands cannot be easily and quickly loosened or tightened by hand, by means such as, but not limited to, a wing-nut or similar fastener



Other Aspects of Inspection Process

- Use of hoof testers
- Use of radiology of hoof and package
- Shoe/package removal



Other Aspects of Inspection Process

- Monitoring of the barns/stalls/trailers
- Monitoring warm-up area

USDA Returning/Referring Horses back to DQPs

- All horses found by USDA to be noncompliant with HPA will be returned/referred back to DQPs for inspection
 - All sore horses: palpated sore, meet the definition of sore, or are noncompliant with the Scar Rule
 - Action device noncompliance
 - Pad/shoe/wedge noncompliance
 - Prohibited substance noncompliance
 - Unusual movement seen during USDA inspection
- If DQP finds a noncompliance on inspection
 - DQP notifies show management or designee
- If DQP does not find a non-compliance on re-inspection
 - The VMO will inform the Show Manager/designee of the USDA inspection findings
 - Show management will determine if the horse is disqualified
 - USDA will complete paperwork for the non-compliant findings



Inspection Questions

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Reminders

- Please submit the following information:
 - 2020 HIO Rulebook
 - DQP Information
 - Name
 - Address
 - Continue to update information (within 10 days)
 - Change in DQPs
 - Warnings/revocations

Next Steps

- Test
- Inspection demonstration & review