



Equine BodyWorks USA

Revealing Affliction. Reducing Discomfort. Improving Movement & Performance.™

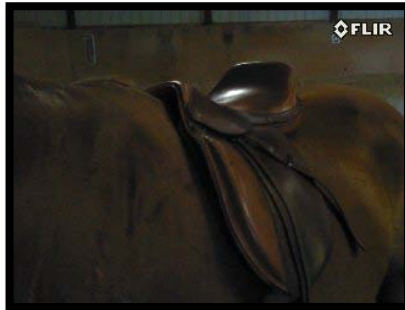
Saddle Fit Thermal Imaging Report Nigel



*Thermal Imaging completed by
a Certified Thermographer
Authorized with the EquineIR™
Network.*



*Interpretative results
completed by Licensed
Veterinarians in contract with
Integrated Equine Infrared.*



Equine BodyWorks Infrared Thermal Imaging Services

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Integrated Equine Infrared

Clinical Equine Thermal Imaging

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PATIENT: Nigel **THERMOGRAPHY DATE:** August 26, 2013 **TIME:** 8:30 AM

August 27, 2013

Carolyn Lorence
1711 Greenside Trail
Round Rock Texas 78665

Dear Ms. Lorence:

Equine BodyWorks LLC was recently requested to perform a thermal imaging Saddle-Fit scan of: **Nigel**

The following photo report was completed by your EquineIR™ Certified Thermographer and all interpretative results were channeled through interpretir.com and subsequently formulated and input by a licensed veterinary team member with Integrated Equine Infrared.

The interpretation is intended to aid your state-licensed veterinarian and/or your trainer in providing a diagnostic or treatment protocol. Any follow-up veterinary testing and treatments should be conducted and administered by your primary veterinarian. The interpretation provided is based solely on the conditions at the time of survey and the thermal images included in this report. Thermography is a diagnostic tool that measures heat emitted from the surface of the patient. The thermal imaging camera converts infrared energy into a visible image. Emitted heat is related to circulation; as such, the thermal camera can help detect areas of inflammation as well as decreased circulation. Thermal symmetry is key, so we compare one anatomic area with the same area on the other side. The EquineIR™ report is prepared in this manner. It should be understood that correct patient preparation and environment are vital to a successful survey. Your EquineIR™ technician is also a Certified Infrared Thermographer and has been trained in the proper use and the proven techniques of thermal imaging as it is used with horses. However there are certain situations which may reduce the quality of the survey including the improper preparation of the horse prior to technician's arrival. The interpreting veterinarians who review the imagery base their findings and recommendations on information provided, so it is critical that proper care be taken in the preparation process to ensure success.

Thermal imaging is a physiologic modality and should not be relied upon as the sole diagnostic tool. While this report relates to a saddle fit assessment, to the extent issues relating to horse wellness are identified herein, a complete clinical examination by your licensed veterinarian is always recommended for the best diagnosis and follow-up treatment. This Report is not a definitive diagnosis of any illness or disease. It is intended for use only by licensed veterinary professionals to evaluate patient health, diagnose medical conditions, and provide treatment. It is not to be used by individuals for self-diagnosis or self-evaluation, nor for the diagnosis or evaluation of other non-qualified personnel. This report does not replace, nor is it intended to replace a complete clinical evaluation by your licensed veterinarian. Under no circumstances will EquineIR™, Integrated Equine Infrared or its affiliates be held responsible for illness, injury, or death to the patient as a result of the information contained herein. This report does not replace, nor is it intended to replace a complete clinical evaluation.

Your EquineIR™ Technician looks forward to working with you in the future. If you would like to set up an ongoing maintenance imaging program for your horse, we can arrange this at discounted rates along with multiple horse discounts. Please call our office with any questions as we would love to assist you in your success.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Tenges

*Certified Equine Thermographer,
Certified Infrared Thermographer*

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EQUINE CLIENT INFORMATION

CLIENT NAME: Carolyn Lorence
MAILING ADDRESS: 1711 Greenside Trail, Round Rock Texas 78665
CLIENT EMAIL: clorence@austin.rr.com
CLIENT PHONE: 414-916-7937

HORSE AGE: 11
HORSE BREED: Paint
HORSE PRIMARY USE: Dressage, Hunter, Trail

SURVEY INFORMATION

THERMOGRAPHER: Rebecca Tenges
INFRARED CAMERA MODEL: Flir T420 **CAMERA SERIAL NUMBER:** 62102950
NUMBER OF THERMAL IMAGES SUBMITTED: 8

WEATHER: Partly Cloudy, Hot, Humid **APPROXIMATE TEMPERATURE:** 74 °F **IMAGING LOCATION:** Barn aisle

EXERCISED: Ridden by trainer, owner not available **HOW LONG:** 8-10 minutes **WHEN:** After pre-imaging
FLYSPRAY OR LINIMENTS APPLIED WITHIN 24 HOURS: Yes

REASON FOR SCAN or HISTORY RECEIVED: Client is seeking assistance in determining the cause of teeth grinding on the bit while under saddle, as well as possible causes of perceived crookedness and hind quarter muscle weakness under saddle.

TYPE OF SADDLE: Hunter Close Contact Excel **BRAND:** Crosby
SERIAL NUMBER: S10535 **COLOR:** Brown & Darker Brown **SIZE:** 17.5 M **FLOCKING:** Foam **TYPE OF SADDLE PAD:** Dressage w Withers Relief

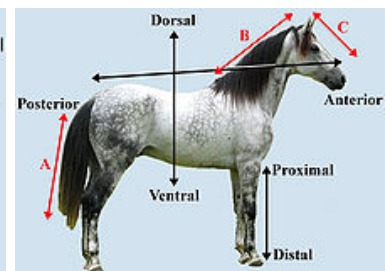
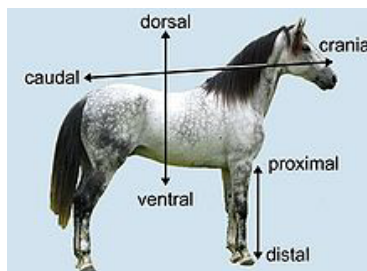
SADDLE-FIT INFORMATION: Thermography identifies areas of increased or decreased circulation or perfusion. As such, pressure points or hollow areas from ill-fitting saddles, pressure from uneven riders, and wither or back problems in horses, may be positively identified. However, thermal imaging is not a replacement for a complete veterinary physical examination, or a saddle-fitting evaluation from a Certified Master Saddler.

INTERPRETATION INFORMATION (Completed by Veterinarian)

INTERPRETATION TYPE: Saddle Fit Evaluation

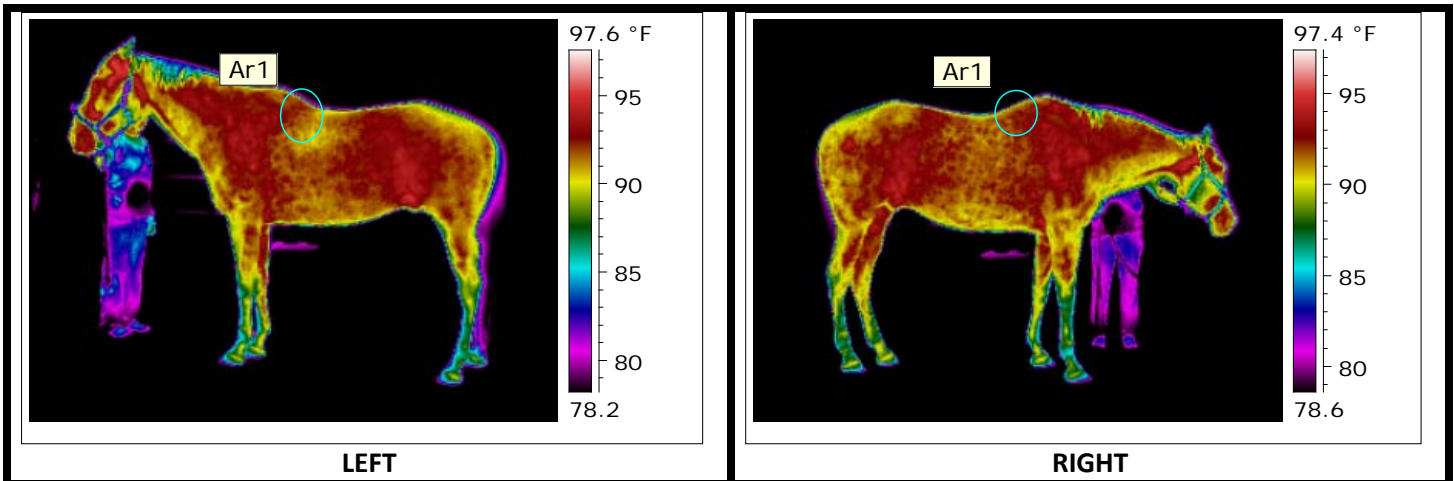
DATE OF INTERPRETATION: 8/27/2013

REVIEWING VETERINARIAN: Joanna Robson, DVM, CIT

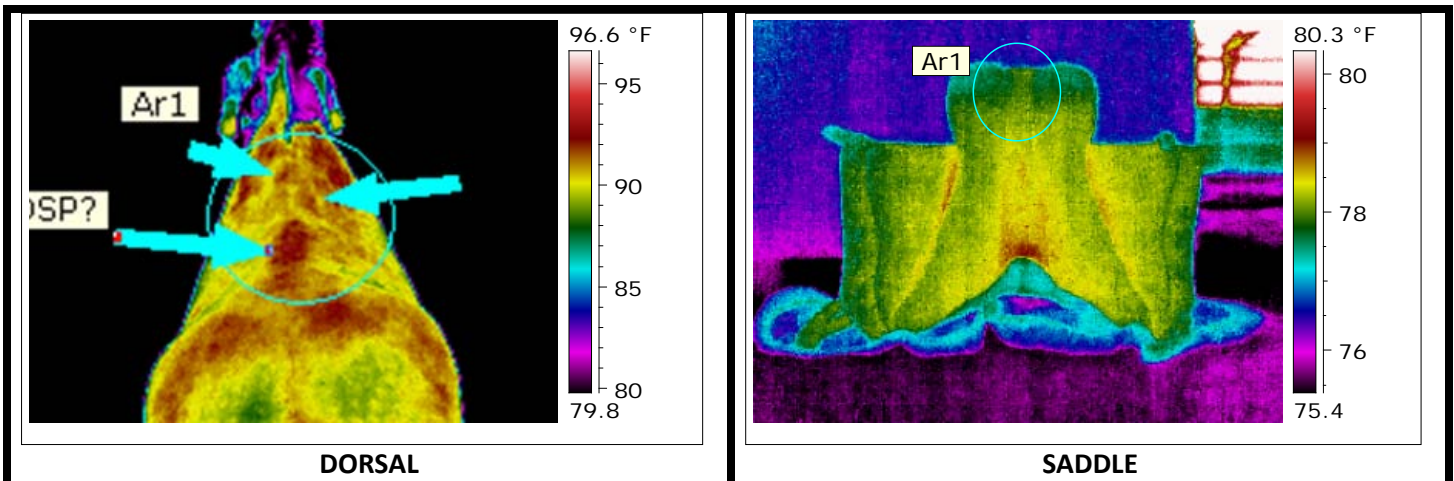


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BEFORE EXERCISE



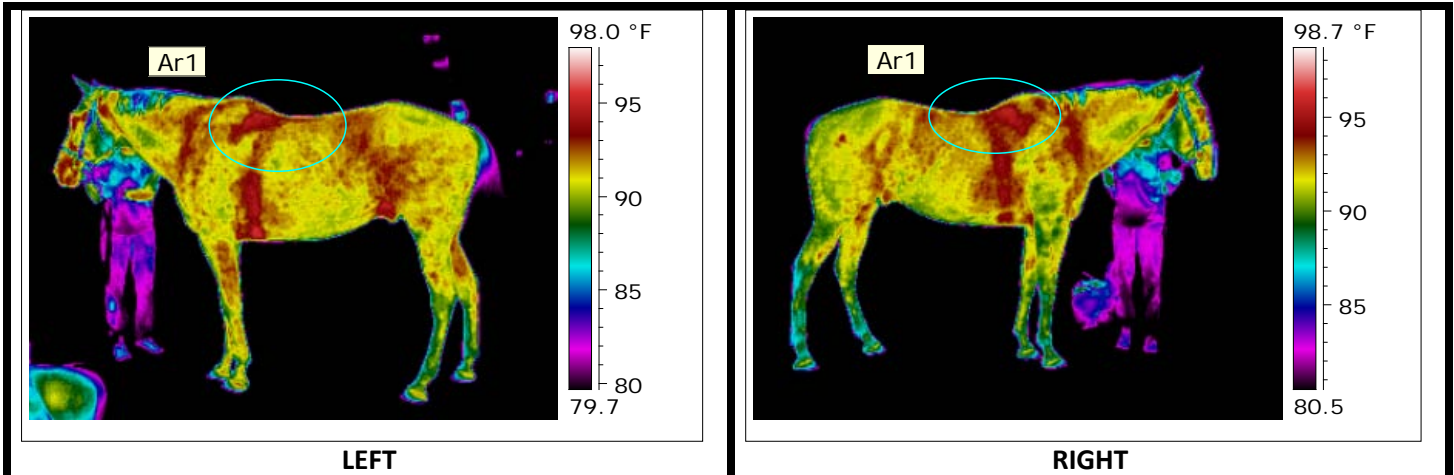
Residual inflammation noted at the left and right trapezius muscles, suggesting ongoing saddle-fit problems. Hooves show a possible imbalance at the front, though are not the focus of this scan.



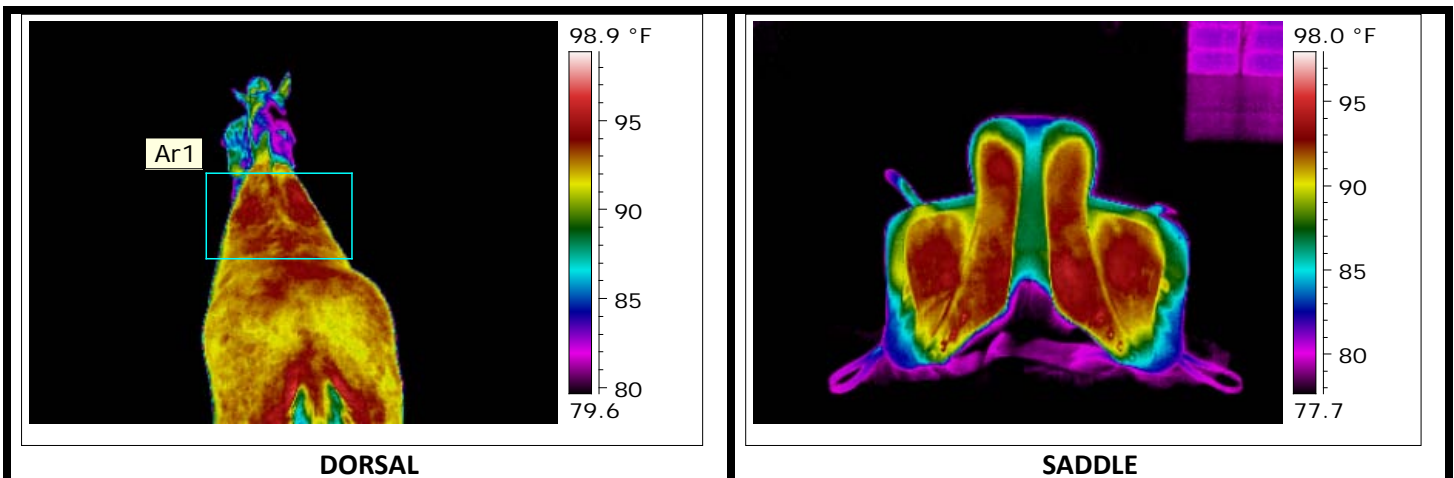
Patient's back shows ongoing chronic inflammation at the backs of the shoulder blades, left upper withers, right wither base, and through the low thoracics and upper lumbar, consistent with a too-narrow channel impinging on his dorsal spinous processes. Based on this patterning, the saddle would also be suspicious for falling left to right and sitting too low in front. Pre-image shows a saddle that dovetails in the channel. Chiropractic issues are likely in the DSPs and kissing spine cannot be ruled out based on this patterning, though further imaging would not be suggested until a rest and rehab protocol was performed.

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AFTER EXERCISE



Ouch! Post riding views confirm significant fitting problems, with complete impingement on the trapezius muscles behind the shoulders, placement either too far forward or sliding forward, lack of space for shoulder ROM, and heat too close to the patient's midline (narrow channel). This patterning will inhibit the shoulders and muscle development, and impinge on the nerves behind the scapulae creating developmental, training, and behavioral problems.



Significant patterning over the patient's topline related to improper fit. The saddle shows patterning consistent with bridging (incomplete contact and probably from old foam), uneven pressure distribution throughout the panels, and far too much pressure at the front of the vertical panels, consistent with the saddle sitting too low on the horse and putting too much pressure over the shoulders and trapezius muscles. There is increased patterning on the right side, also seen in other views, and consistent with the saddle twisting or falling to the right side.



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SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

A foam-flocked saddle has a life of approximately 7 years, and in this case, the same saddle has been used on a horse from 2 to 11 years old. Horses change significantly in their development from 2-8 years of age, and while this saddle may have fit this horse appropriately at some point in time, the images confirm it does not currently fit, nor can it be adjusted to fit. This saddle should not be used on this horse and fitting problems are likely responsible for the behavioral issues reported in the history.

The patient shows residual patterning in his pre-ride images which confirms ongoing active inflammation and may require extended rest, additional bodywork, equine chiropractic, stretches, and certainly will require a properly fitted saddle. He shows a lack of topline development shown by a dip in front of the withers, and no muscle development behind the shoulders, typical of a horse being pinched over the nerves behind the shoulders. Careful belly lifts, carrot stretches, hip tucks, and proper lunging long and low to lift the core would be very useful. There also appears to be some imbalance in the feet, though the focus here is the saddle-fit scan. I wonder if this horse has ever been treated for stomach ulcers as part of his work-up and treatment.

The saddle is a traditional older close contact, and as such was made with a dovetail in the channel. This has the effect of impinging on the horse's spine, creating pain and behavioral issues. This horse requires a channel that is approximately 4-5 fingers' wide from front to back. Twisting left to right is readily visible in the digital images and further confirms the problems occurring in the patient's TL junction as the saddle shifts against the DSP's. Patterning is not overtly clear for kissing spine at the approximately T18-L1 region, but could be re-imaged or radiographed after appropriate rest and return to work in a correctly fitted saddle if he remains painful or if his behavior continues.

The IR imaging confirms that the saddle sits too low (tree is too narrow at the top and too wide at the bottom, hence the angle is too wide) and does not provide any clearance for the shoulders to go through a normal range of motion. This also inhibits correct muscle development, and chronic irritation of the nerves is likely based on this patterning.

The technician mentioned a second saddle was available – a Schleese dressage saddle. This saddle may prove a useful temporary fix until a proper jump saddle can be acquired, but a proper saddle-fit evaluation is needed for that saddle as well prior to use. Ideally, this patient should have rest with nothing on his back until any pain and inflammation subsides, and then re-introduction to riding with a properly fitted saddle. The teeth grinding noted in the history is a typical sign of pain and is often seen in cases of ill-fitting saddles, especially when no other cause of lameness can be located.



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Thank You!

Reviewing Veterinarian: Joanna Robson, DVM, CVSMT, CMP, CVA, CSFT, CIT

