

## **Laminitis Screening – MAY 2010 OFFER:**

There is recent research evidence that the majority of recurrent laminitis is triggered by the development of **Insulin Resistance** in horses, and particularly British native breed ponies, that are either obese, have been obese in the past and have **Equine Metabolic Syndrome** or have **Pituitary Pars Intermedia Dysfunction** (PPID), otherwise known as Cushings Disease. The latter condition is seen in horses and ponies greater than 15-20 years old.

Further information can be found in the article “**Unravelling Laminitis**” on this website, which also gives advise on assessing your horses and ponies weight and fat levels. We also have DVD’s available, produced by World Horse Welfare.

Blood tests are used to diagnose Cushings disease or Equine Metabolic Syndrome, and the measurement of the blood Insulin level is thought to be useful to screen for horses and ponies at high risk of laminitis.

This is used to be a very specialised test but is now more widely available at veterinary diagnostic laboratories from a simple single blood sample in most cases. A few borderline cases require a more complex “dynamic” test to be performed.

**To encourage owners to test their horses and ponies, and help to prevent the often crippling disease Laminitis, Ledston Equine Clinic is offering a 20% discount on the cost of Insulin tests for May 2010.**

If you are interested in this please telephone the clinic on **01977 668777** to arrange an appointment.