

Phytophthora dieback

Horse Riding Guidelines

What is *Phytophthora* dieback?

Phytophthora (pronounced fy-TOFF-thora) dieback is killing a wide variety of native and exotic plant species, fruits, vegetables and nuts and threatens the survival of animals depending on plants for food and shelter. *Phytophthora cinnamomi* is the most common and destructive species and requires immediate action to minimise its spread.

How does it spread?

Horse riders can spread the disease in moist soil and plant material that sticks to horses' hooves, boots, bandages, bandage or boot covers.

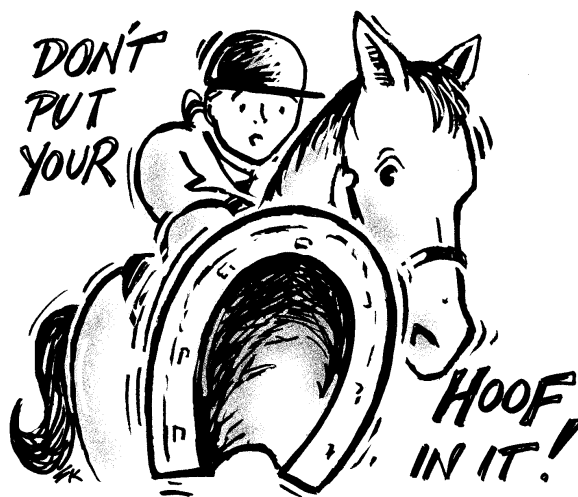
What can I do to minimise its spread?

You can help minimise the spread of *Phytophthora* dieback by following these guidelines:

- Contact Horse SA, your local Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources or ForestrySA office for information on suitable horse riding areas.
- Avoid riding when the soil is wet or muddy.
- Park your car and float in designated car parks or on sealed surfaces where possible.
- Start the ride with clean hooves and boots.
- Avoid using bandages unless covered with all-purpose bandage covers.



Bandage cover



Spread the word – not *Phytophthora* dieback

- Keep to designated horse riding trails at all times.
- Keep bandage covers and boots as clean as possible during the ride.
- Remove soil from your horse's hooves, bandage covers or boots, and disinfect them before leaving. Do not take them home to clean.
- Some horse trails or sections of national parks may be closed due to serious infestations or high risk of spread. **OBEY TRAIL CLOSED SIGNS** as penalties may apply.

How to clean your horse's hooves?

Horse riders are encouraged to carry a hygiene kit to clean their horse's hooves, bandage covers and boots. This hygiene kit can be kept in a float and used after a ride or carried with you on a ride.



A hygiene kit should contain:

- Hoof pick, with brush attached or a separate stiff brush
- Small spray bottle, and
- A bottle of disinfectant, such as methylated spirits (70-100% solution).



Cleaning procedure:

1. Select a hard and well-drained site, such as a road.
2. Remove your horse's bandage covers or boots. Place them near your horse for cleaning.
3. Clean the hoof using the hoof pick and brush.
4. Disinfect the entire hoof using the spray bottle containing disinfectant.
5. Allow the hoof to dry, and place the hoof on the ground. If possible, away from the soil cleaned out from the hoof.
6. Clean and disinfect the other hooves in the same way.
7. Remove all soil from the bandage covers and/or boot covers using the hoof pick and brush, and disinfect.
8. Disinfect the hoof pick and brush.



1. Clean your horse's hooves using the hoof pick and brush



2. Disinfect

Note: always start your ride with clean footwear. If you need to dismount during the ride in a *Phytophthora* infested area, then clean and disinfect your footwear using the hoof pick, brush and disinfectant.

For further information please contact:

- Horse SA – phone 0402 488 306.
- Your local Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources Office.
- ForestrySA – phone Kuitpo Office (08) 8391 8800 or Mount Crawford Office (08) 8521 1700.
- Refer to the brochure 'Phytophthora is killing our plants!' , which is available from the website through www.environment.sa.gov.au/biodiversity/plantsand.html

