



Love the skin they're in

www.gorgeousguineas.com

Bumblefoot

Bumblefoot (also known as Pododermatitis) is a swelling / ulceration of the foot pad that can be very painful for a guinea. The condition is often bacterial in origin but can also be fungal, and is difficult to treat. Vets often prescribe antibiotics such as Baytril, together with Rimadyl which helps with inflammation / pain relief. It can also be helpful to soak the affected foot in a dilute solution of Iodine each day. These work with varying degrees of success – it seems that there is no one easy answer to this problem and several options need to be tried.

We've now produced an ointment to try and help this condition – Happy Soles, available from www.gorgeousguineas.co.uk. So far the results have been very promising and the feet have been healing from the inside out. Given that skin takes around 28 days to renew itself, this is never going to be a "quick fix", so patience is required.

As with any skincare product or drug, this ointment does not work in all cases, but the majority of guineas that have tried it have shown an improvement within a week. Where older guineas have sore feet due to other problems such as poor mobility due to older age / Osteodystrophy / Arthritis or heart problems, they need to be helped in other ways too. To ensure that they are kept warm, dry and comfortable, Vet Bed can be used instead of normal bedding.

At the end of February 2008 we asked for some "little volunteers" to test out the new ointment – it is massaged in twice a day to the affected foot / feet, massaged in and left. Quick and easy.....

Polly is our current star and as you can see from the pictures, the improvement in her foot in just a few short days is nothing short of amazing! Polly is being looked after by Helen who commented: *"I didn't expect her to get better to be honest, her paw was so swollen she had no shape to it."*



Polly looking lovely after a GG bath!
She also has a fungal skin problem and is being treated for that.



27/02/2008
Looking angry, sore and swollen.



28/02/2008

Ointment applied for the first time and already an improvement can be seen.



29/02/2008



03/03/2008



04/03/2008



05/03/2008



06/03/2008



07/03/2008



08/03/2008



09/03/2008 - scab has come off!



11/03/2008



05/03/2008 both feet showing a clear difference between the normal foot and the sore foot.



Both feet 11/03/2008

Information contained in this article is for guidance only and is no substitute for proper Veterinary care.