

## **Health and Disease Issues**

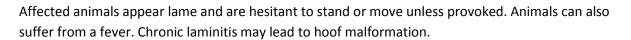
#### **Laminitis**

Laminitis is caused by the release of toxins within the bloodstream following consumption of excess dietary energy or protein. This causes a swelling of the sensitive part of the hoof, cutting off blood flow to the bone part of the hoof which then becomes soft and weak and easily bruised or damaged.

# **Predisposing Factors:**

- Excessive consumption of grain, lush grass or legumes
- Rapid changes in diet
- Excess protein in diet relative to forage.

## **Signs and Symptoms:**



### **Control and Prevention:**

Provide reasonable-quality roughage and/or remove affected animals

#### **Treatment:**

- Prolonged rest
- Painkillers
- Anti-inflammatory drugs
- Carefully balanced rations.

