



FOAL SURVIVAL KIT



Simple yet effective

Helps prevent & treat hypothermia - retains natural 'body heat'

The MIRoTEC Foal Survival Kit is designed as an essential emergency pack for foals that are losing body heat under cold conditions, or are weak, sick or injured and developing hypothermia.

- MIRoTEC reflects from the inside of the rug the 'body's own heat' back into the skin. This improves blood circulation, which recycles the heat via the red blood cells deep into the muscles and gut to maintain vital core temperature.
- MIRoTEC Rugs are lightweight, moisture proof and designed to snugly fit a foal's body to insulate against heat loss and prevent heat exchange into the surrounding cold air.

The MIRoTEC FOAL SURVIVAL KIT contains:

- **MIRoTEC FOAL RUG** lined with the MIRoTEC "breathing" material, featuring micro-perforated holes that allows moisture to escape – preventing excessive sweating while softening the skin as the infra-red body heat is bounced back into the skin and returned quickly to the body core.
- **MIRoTEC Under-Rug** – lightweight cotton liner that is placed over the foal's body. Liner helps protect the MIRoTEC reflective foil against dirt, moisture and abrasion to prevent dulling, so that it maintains optimum effectiveness. Cotton liner can be washed between foals to maintain hygiene and prevent transfer of diseases.
- **Four MIRoTEC lined reflective leg wraps** to keep the legs/hooves warm and help reduce substantial heat loss from the lower limb.
 - A feature often overlooked when treating hypothermia in a foal
- **Clinical record sheet** to monitor activity, suckling and record temperatures every 30 minutes over a 24-hour period.

The MIRoTEC FOAL SURVIVAL KIT is an essential survival aid for sick, debilitated & cold foals.

Note: The MIRoTEC Foal Survival Kit is a heat reflective system designed to retain as much available infra-red body heat as possible in a hypothermic foal. However, other routine therapy measures such as tubing with warm colostrum for newborn foals & therapy to assist recovery must be carried out to maintain metabolic internal heat producing processes under cold conditions in weak, collapsed foals.

The MIRoTEC FOAL SURVIVAL KIT can be classed as an essential emergency kit for all horse breeders.

It is recommended that at least one MIRoTEC Survival Kit is kept for up to 15 foals, and multiple kits for studs with larger numbers of foals in case of adverse conditions, weakness, premature birth, failure to suck or injury.

FOAL SURVIVAL KIT - Each year, thousands of newly born foals suffer uncomfortable and stressful effects, resulting in excessive loss of body heat and inner core chilling under cold conditions.

It is estimated that up to 50% of newborn foals that are exposed to overnight environmental temperatures of less than 10°C are at risk of hypothermia resulting from loss of body core temperature due to their large surface area relative to size. Hypothermia causes loss of vitality, leading to decreased activity that would normally help generate heat from exercise, with debilitation, and in many cases, decreased metabolic function and death.

Rapid heat loss will occur when a wet, weak foal is exposed to the chill factor of cold, wet and windy conditions. Newly born foals are unable to shiver to generate muscle warmth, so outgoing heat directly reduces body core temperature.

'A COLD FOAL IS NOT A BOLD FOAL!' - Often cold foals fail to drink and therefore are unable to establish digestive and metabolic function and reduce expenditure of high-energy brown fat stores, but also are unable to take in vital immunoglobulins to establish immune defence against bacterial and other diseases. Even foals that are born in a stall

area or covered or sheltered foaling barn must be protected to limit body heat loss and maintain vital core temperature.

LIMITING BODY HEAT LOSS - Obviously, providing a warm, sheltered environment is paramount to maintaining optimum vitality and activity in all new born foals. However, exposure to very low ambient temperatures cannot always be prevented. Foals that are weak or unable to drink within the first 3 hours under early morning paddock conditions are particularly vulnerable to the risks of hypothermia. Foals that become separated from their mothers have a high risk of developing hypothermia under cold conditions.

Most horse owners who are aware of the debilitating effects of hypothermia attempt to reduce core heat loss by using heavy rugs. These are considered to provide insulation against heat loss and prevent chilling of the skin surface area, both of which can help limit heat loss. However, an already weak and debilitated foal is further burdened with the weight of a heavy rug, which slows down heat loss but does not directly restore vital body core temperature.

Care & Storage of MIRoTEC FOAL SURVIVAL KIT

Cotton Liner to be placed on foal before MIRoTEC Rug at all times. Careful handling & storage will ensure that the MIRoTEC Foal Survival Kit provides long service & is prepared ready for a hypothermic emergency.

- Always store Kit in a cool dry place in the storage bag provided.
- If MIRoTEC rug/wraps become wet or soiled during use:
 - sponge off with warm water & clean thoroughly
 - air-dry all products before returning them to the storage bag
- The under rug can be machine-washed after use, wash in warm water only:
 - take care to avoid damage to the straps fasteners
 - do not tumble dry any MIRoTEC products
 - cabinet or air-dry only
- Photocopy the Clinical Record Sheets to maintain your records.

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