Feather Care

Wadworth Brewery Top Tips for Sparkling White Feathers

To help keep your Shire Horse's feathers supple and white regularly oil with white oil known as pig oil. Pig oil also helps create a barrier against damp on the skin, helping to prevent mud fever and other skin related problems. Rub the oil well into the heels and feather. Apply using a sponge, paintbrush or empty washing up bottle to make application easier. It is recommended you wear rubber gloves when applying the oil.

Wadworth Brewery Shire Horses

www.wadworth.co.uk

Washing Feathers

Some of the washing products that are used are Washing Up Liquid, Soft Soap and Soap Flakes. Damp the feather well and work soap up to a lather, paying special attention to in and around the heels. Once feathers are free of dirt and grease, rinse well and towel dry first to remove excess water, then use white sawdust or wood flour to dry legs after rinsing. Stand the horse on a sheet or place one hoof at a time in a large tub and work the wood flour thoroughly into the heels and feathers, using your fingers to fluff up the feather until it is dry. Tip the left over wood flour back into your tub for using next time. Wood flour also helps keep feathers white.

Use Talc to finish for brilliant show ring white feathers.

The Shire Horse Society is the only charity dedicated to the protection, promotion and improvement of the Shire Horse. Follow us on Twitter and Facebook.