1. **CLEAN THE FOOT THOROUGHLY:** if the foot is infected this is best done by ‘tubbing’ the foot. Fill a rubber bucket with hand hot water to the level of the horse’s coronary band. Add a handful of table or Epsom salt. Stand the horse’s foot in the water for about ten minutes. This will soak off all the mud and debris and help to draw out the pus. If necessary use a brush to clean away the dirt.
2. **APPLY THE POULTICE:**
   1. Apply a square of Animalintex, soaked preferably in hot water, to the hole in the foot with the plastic layer on the outside.
   2. If the horse is weight bearing put a double layer of Gamgee over the whole of the bottom of the foot.
   3. Fix the dressing in place with a cohesive bandage such as Vetwrap or Coflex.
   4. Apply strips of duct or silage tape to the bottom of the foot in a crossing over pattern and fix up the sides. If necessary apply a single strip of tape around the top of the dressing to keep it all in place. Alternatively make up a three layered square pad of duct tape, three times wider than the foot and apply it to the foot as a diamond, ie. a point going up the back and one up the front.
3. **CHANGE THE POULTICE EVERY 12 HOURS (TWICE A DAY) UNTIL:**
   1. The horse is walking comfortably.
   2. There is no discharge coming out on the dressing.

This is usually after about 48 hours. It is useful to repeat the tubbing of the foot at each poultice change.

1. **AFTER REMOVING THE LAST POULTICE APPLY A DRY DRESSING:**

This is the same as the poultice except that it is dry and the Animalintex is not necessary. Frequently the frog will have become very soft whilst it has been poulticed and it may be useful to apply some antibiotic spray or iodine to the frog before applying the dry dressing.

This dressing only needs to be changed every 2-3 days but *must* stay on for at least 5 days or until the horse is shod.