HOOF TRIMMING (additional technique)

SOLES;

• Start by trimming the soles leaving 5-7mm step at the toe. The heels should be spared as the animal needs to walk on these. The sole is trimmed flat from front to back and a sole thickness of 0.25 inches is left.

• It is important to note the claw length and sole thickness are directly correlated and thickness should be measured at the tip of the toe where the cut was made. The ideal depth is 0.25 inches.

CLAWS;

• Flatten walking surface of the toe which is demarcated by the white line and blend in the lateral area of the sole over the white line.

•The other claw is modelled to the first trimmed claw and the heels are balanced ensuring to not over trim.

HEEL DEPTH;

• This is measured from the coronary band to the bottom of the sole and ideal length lies below 1.5inches. Necessary adjustments should be made to reach this length.

CLAW AND HEEL BALANCE

• Open the toes by trimming away sole near the interdigital space of the heel. Achieve a flat weight bearing surface between the inner and outer claws.

DISH OUT ULCERS SITE

• This transfers weight from center of the sole onto the wall and reduces the occurrences of ulcers, as this is the predilection site.

**N.B.** It is important to note that these methods can be done with power tools or with hoof knives, with the former being less physically tasking. In the lab we did one hoof with hoof knives and the other with power tools, but with accurate workmanship the hoof trimming job can be done with either.