



By PATRICIA COUPET

# Doping Watch Out



*"The Greek Diomedes was feeding his horses with human flesh to make them unbeatable. Punished by Heracles he ended up being devoured by his own mares!!"*

Since horses have been ridden, much has been tempted to enhance their performances. Doping is a burning topic, so it became a necessity to eradicate a practice which denatures the animal health and sports ethics.

If the use of **amphetamine**, **corticoid**, **anabolic steroids** and other doping substances doesn't leave any doubt about the fraudulent intentions, in equestrian matter it is largely dominated by non intentional cases.

## ***"A treated horse is a doped horse" .....***

By law, any presence of a forbidden substance in the blood or urine of a horse is considered doping. So riders competing have to be vigilant in two ways:

- By choosing the food given to their horses such as food complements, treats which can be pollutant
- By knowing that even an ordinary treatment could place you outlaw.

At the present time an experienced veterinarian cannot positively determine the lasting effect a substance may have on a horse.

**Above all considerations**, a rider should never deny medical treatment needed for his horse for the sake of a trophy. The equation "**care + competition**" is very seldom possible, at the end it is your choice, but knowing that all positive controls are strictly sanctioned, the try indicates for sure a certain irresponsibility.

### ***A few prohibited products and practices***

**Amphetamines**  
**Boldon**  
**Phenylbutazon**  
**Cortisone**  
**Isoxuprine**  
**Domoso**

**Lasix**  
**Salysilic Acid**  
**Ventopalamine**  
**Coramine**  
**Androgens**  
**Valium**