

scrotum; in their downward course, they pass through a slit or small opening at the back part of the muscles of the belly, where they are attached to the under part of the hip bones. These slits or openings are known as the inguinal rings, these rings can be felt in the horse by pressing the fingers well up into the groins. The descent of the testicle is an important point to be remembered for, if it does not come down into the scrotum he is then called what is known as a rig or ridgeling horse, in this case the testicle is not found in the scrotum. At the front part of the testicle is found a small ridge called the globus major, and at the back of it is found another small ridge called the globus minor. Passing between these two ridges there is another well marked ridge called the epididymis, these points can be easily seen upon examining the testicle after the animal is altered or castrated. The substance of the testicle is made up of small glands and fine tubes, these tubes, as they pass towards the back of the testicle, form into larger tubes and finally unite to form one tube, which is used to carry the semen up the back part of the spermatic cord, which these glands in the testicle secrete.

Spermatic Cords, or the cords of the testicles, are attached above to the inguinal rings or openings mentioned before, they are about five or six inches long and have the testicles attached to them below. In each cord is found a small muscle which goes by the name of the spermatic muscle, the rest of the cord is made up of the spermatic artery, veins and nerves. Running up at the back of these cords is found a tube about the size of a straw, which upon examination is found to be hard and has a small opening passing up through the centre where the semen passes up through it. This tube is called the vas deferens. Around the spermatic cords and testicles is a serous membrane, one layer being attached to the testicle and cord, while the other is closely attached around the inside of the scrotum or bag. In this membrane are small glands which secrete an oily fluid to lubricate the parts, so as not to cause friction when they are jolted around in the scrotum, this fluid will be noticed to fly out as soon as the scrotum is cut. This is an important point to remember, because sometimes from a slight injury the glands will secrete a large amount of this fluid mentioned, which causes the scrotum to look large and swollen, this disease is known as hydrocele or water in scrotum or bag.