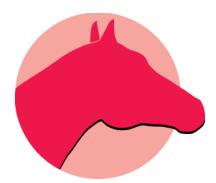


Identification of Riding Crops



Dr. Christie Mahaffey Research Director Racing Surfaces Testing Laboratory





Testing Crop Impact Load using a Biomechanical Simulator

Evaluation of the need and potential for a simplified on-track test system

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Rule based on dimensions rather than performance





- Padded crop rule was passed that included only size and weight dimensions.
 - 1. Maximum weight of 6 oz.
 - 2. Maximum length, including flap, of 28 inches.
 - 3. Minimum diameter of 0.4 inch.



Motivation



 Some crops meet the size and weight specifications, but may have high peak loads

Wear of the shaft and padding will affect the mechanical properties of a crop



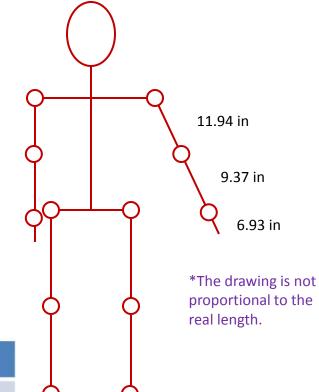
Testing Laboratory



Anthropometric parameters

 The proportionality constants of the arm replicate the size of the average jockey

Segment	Upper Arm	Forearm	Hand
Length (in)	11.94	9.37	6.93
Mass (lb)	3.45	2.00	0.73
M/L ratio (lb/in)	0.29	0.21	

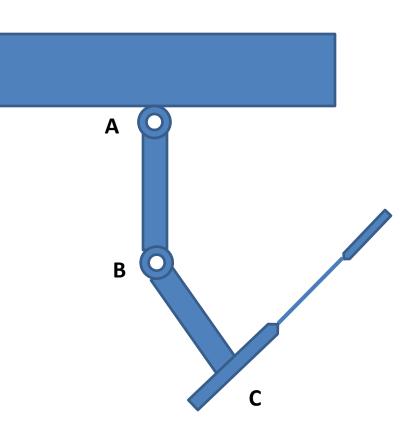






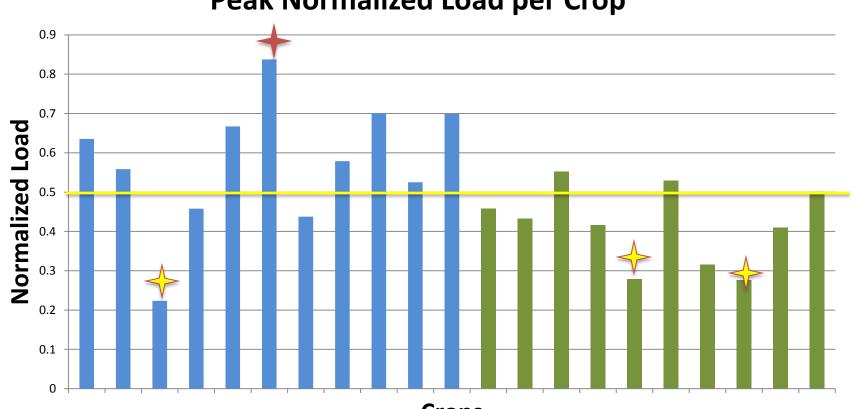
Simulator design

- Design a 2-link open kinematic chain system to replicate motion of the jockey's arm
- The impact load is recorded using a dynamic load cell at position D
- Speed of the arm is matched to jockey at joints a and b









Peak Normalized Load per Crop

Crops

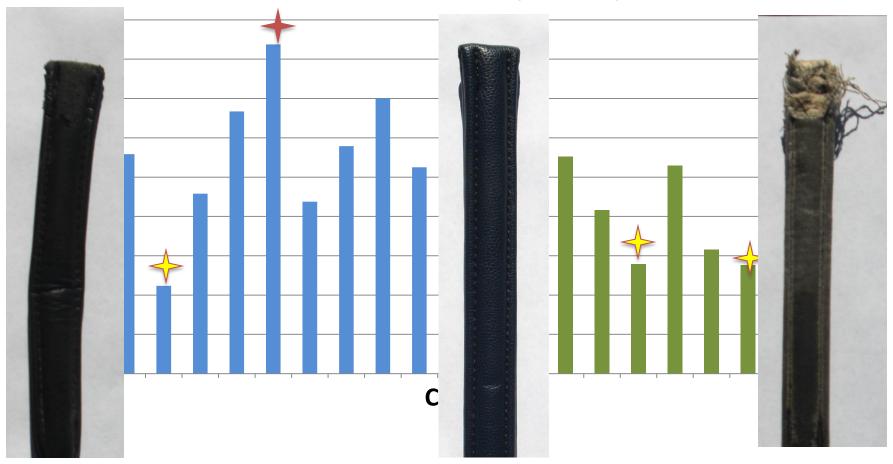


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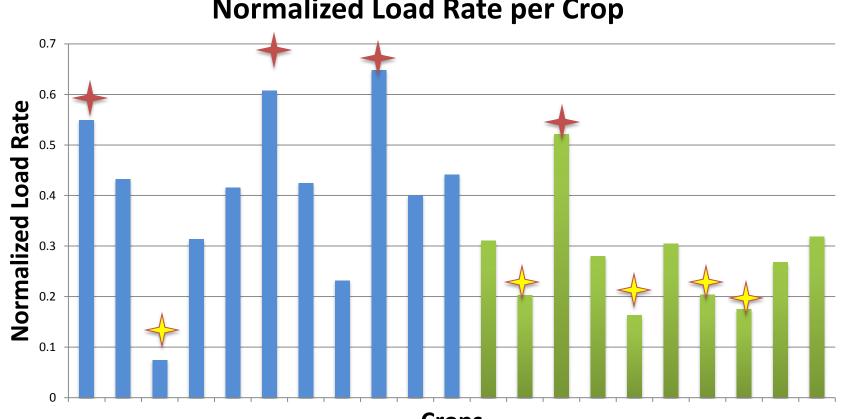


Peak Normalized Load per Crop









Normalized Load Rate per Crop

Crops





1 0.9 0.8 **Normalized Load** 0.7 Pass 0.6 • Pass, Broken 0.5 🔺 Fail 0.4 **A** Fail, Broken 0.3 —Linear (Pass) 0.2 Linear (Fail) 0.1 0 24 26 28 30 32 34

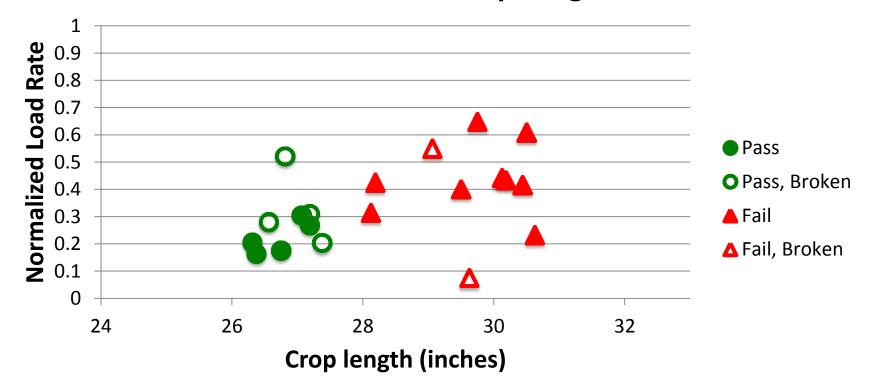
Crop Length is a Primary Factor for the Peak Load

Crop length (inches)





Normalized Load Rate is Influenced by more than the Crop Length



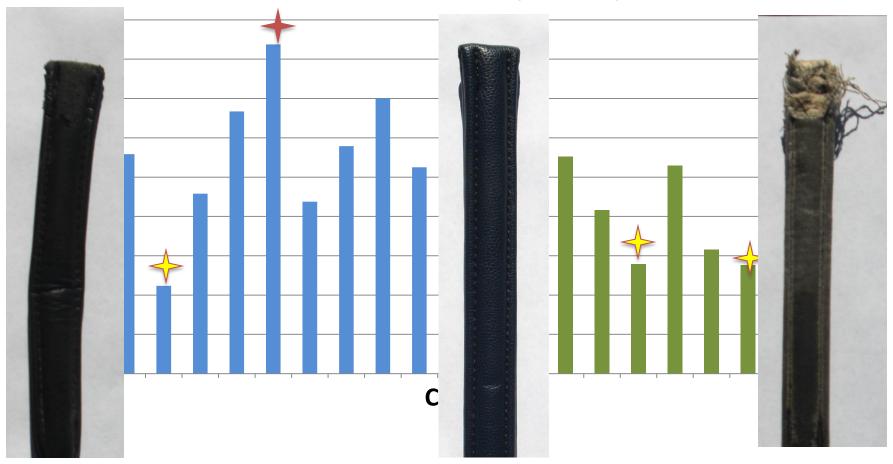


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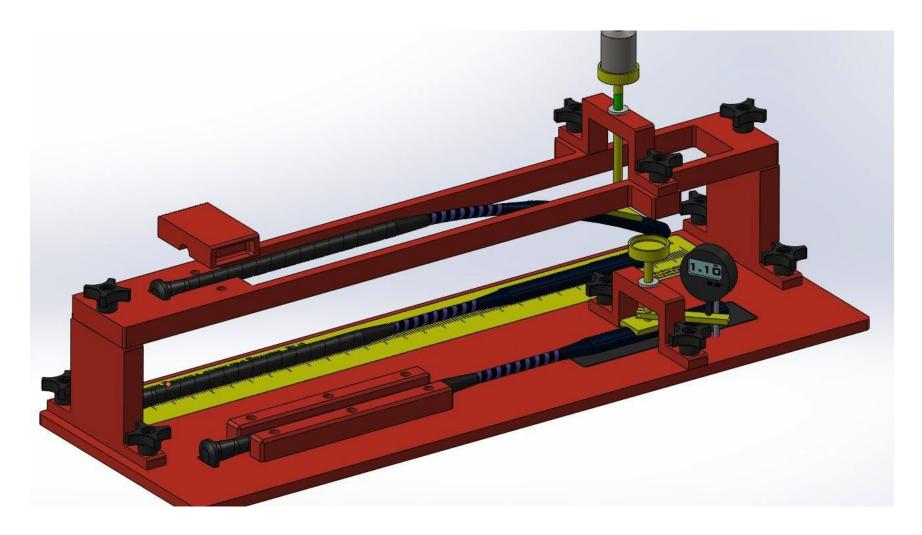
Peak Normalized Load per Crop





Crop tester: Shaft Length, Bending and Padding

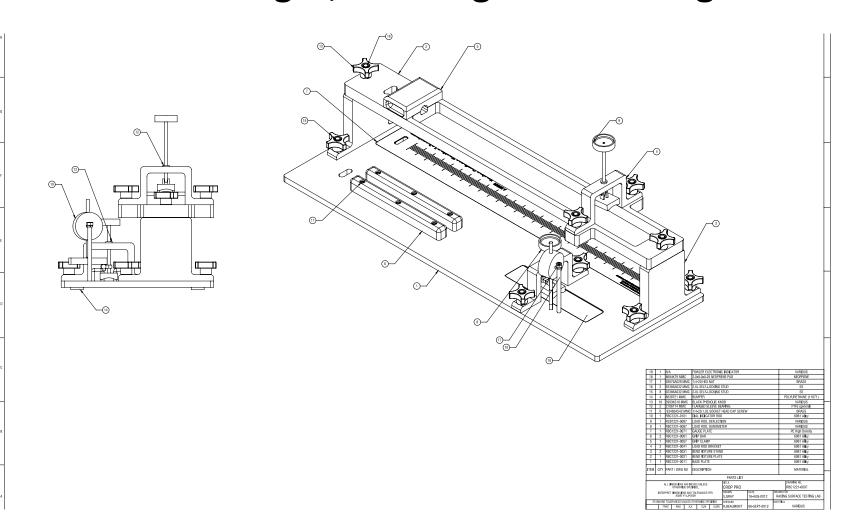






Crop tester: Shaft Length, Bending and Padding











- Crop length is a primary factor.
- Crops should also be tested by performance -Dimensions are not enough.
- Crop use is critical human aspect









 Funding by The Jockey Club Thoroughbred Safety Committee, NTRA, TOBA and the Jockey's Guild







CHOROUGHBRED OWNERS AND BREEDERS ASSOCIATION



Acknowledgements









