



**European
Commission**

*Health and
Consumer Protection
Directorate-General*



Identification of Equidae in the European Union

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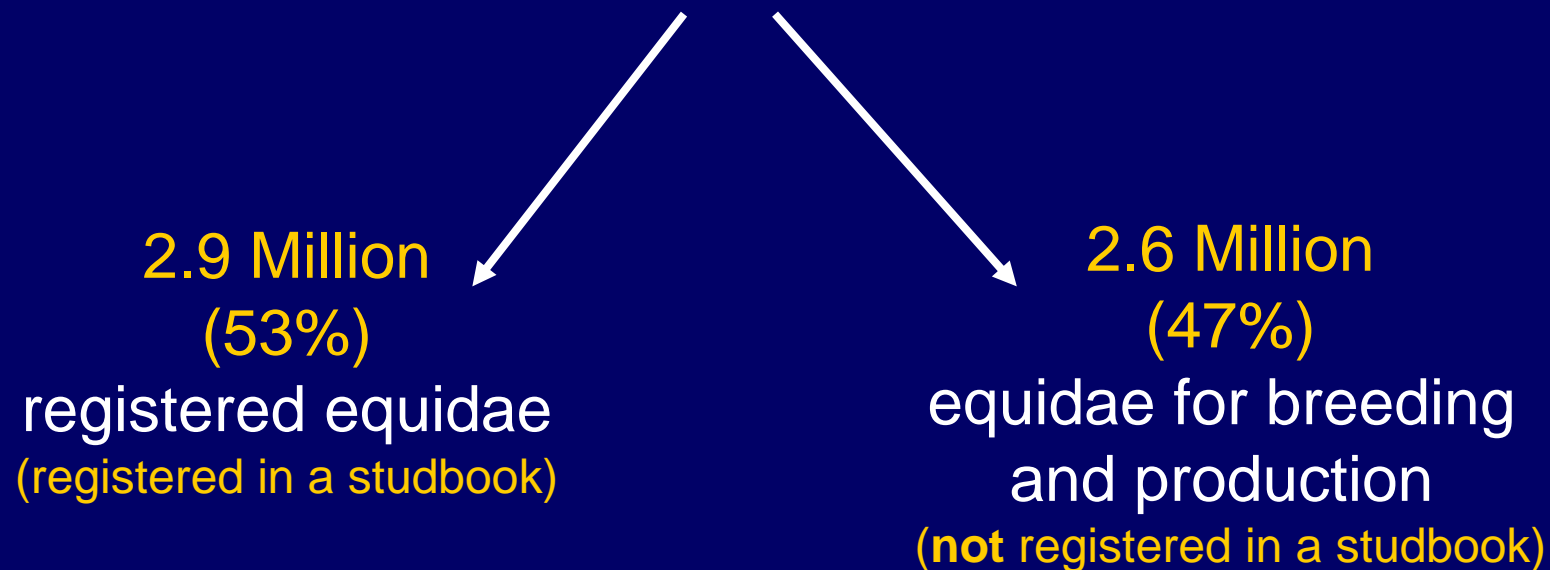
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Equidae

- the most mobile segment of EU livestock -

5.5 Million equidae (horses, donkeys etc.)

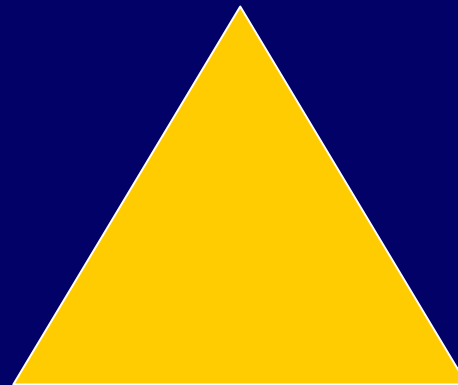




Identification of Equidae – legal framework

Animal Health
(movement, trade, imports)
Dir. 90/426/EEC

Zootechnics
(studbook)
Dir. 90/427/EEC



Competitions
(use)
Dir. 90/428/EEC



Identification of equidae at EU-level



primarily an animal health issue

- ✓ traceability during movement, trade and imports of animals with certified health status
- ✓ prerequisite for control measures in case of disease (Annex A to 90/426/EEC)



Current legal situation:

Since 1 July 2000 all equidae must be accompanied by an identification document whenever they are moved.

registered equidae

Dir. 90/426/EEC and 90/427/EEC
Dec. 93/623/EEC

Passport

equidae breeding & production

Dir. 90/426/EEC
Dec. 2000/68/EC

Identification Document



equidae for slaughter



Identification and certification

Category of equidae	Type of Movement	Identification	Certification
Registered equidae	on foot - national	Passport ¹	Not required
	Transport - national	Passport ¹	Not required
	Trade	Passport ¹	90/426/EEC Annex B
Equidae for breeding and production	on foot - national	ID-Document ²	Not required
	Transport - national	ID-Document ²	90/426/EEC Annex C
	Trade	ID-Document ²	90/426/EEC Annex C
Equidae for slaughter	Transport - national	Passport ¹ and/or ID-Document ²	90/426/EEC Annex C
	Trade	Passport ¹ and/or ID-Document ²	90/426/EEC Annex C
<p>1 Passport in accordance with Decision 93/623/EEC</p> <p>2 ID Document established by Decision 2000/68/EC</p>			



Identification of registered equidae

“registered equidae” are identified by an identification document (Dec. 93/623/EEC -passport) issued by...

- ✓ the authority / organisation which manages the studbook or
- ✓ any international association/ organisation which manages horses for competition or racing





The Studbook

- ✓ Studbooks are established or maintained by organisations approved in accordance with Decision 92/353/EEC
- ✓ The studbook of the origin of the breed lays down the principles of such studbook, including identification
- ✓ Studbooks have the privilege to issue passports in accordance with Decision 93/623/EEC
- ✓ Equidae are entered in the studbook in accordance with Decision 96/78/EEC



Equidae for breeding and production

equidae for breeding and production are during their movement identified by an identification document

(Dec. 2000/68/EEC) issued ...

according to the national provisions of the Member State



Conclusion

Several
organisations issue
identification documents

No active link
between
document and animal



more than one passport for the same horse
cannot be excluded



The public health aspect



- ✓ Status of equidae as food-producing animals has consequences for medicinal treatment (Reg. (EC) 2377/90)
- ✓ Specific derogation in Article 10 of Directive 2001/82/EC requires tight link between document and animal

RF-ID as practicable solution



proposed Regulation on equine identification key issues (1)

- ✓ No substantial changes to existing passports / ID-documents
- ✓ Movement-independent identification of animals
- ✓ Single lifetime ID-document
- ✓ Database records on issued ID-documents
- ✓ Document replacement procedures
- ✓ UELN compatible life number



proposed Regulation on equine identification key issues (2)

- ✓ active marking of foals with an electronic transponder
- ✓ specific regimes for equidae kept under feral or semi-feral conditions
- ✓ smart-card as option to replace paper documents for national movement other than for slaughter

