



Members:

Belgische Confederatie Van Het Paard/Confédération Belge du Cheval
European Equestrian Federation
European Draught Horse Federation
European Federation of Thoroughbred Breeders' Associations
European and Mediterranean Horseracing Federation
European Pari-mutuel Association
European State Studs Association
European Trotting Union
International Equestrian Federation
International Federation of Icelandic Horse Associations
Swedish Horse Council Foundation
Pole Filiere Equine (Normandy - representing the Network of European Equestrian Regions)
World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses
World Horse Welfare

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The Horse in Europe

- 100 billion euros a year economic impact
- 400 000 full time jobs equivalent provided by the sector
- 6 million or more horses in Europe
- 6 million hectares of permanent grassland given over to horse grazing
- A growing sector: the number of horse riders growing by 5% a year

European Horse Network.

The EHN is a non-profit network of stakeholders acting at a World, European, National or Regional level within the European horse sector. Its purpose is to:

- Promote the development of the horse sector in Europe.
- To help members coordinate their activities in order to increase the visibility and impact of the horse sector.
- Act as a platform for the horse industry to communicate common issues with European institutions and media at the European level.



Environmental protection: in a number of European regions native ponies are being used to graze areas of environmental interest as they selectively graze while

protecting endangered flowers and plants.

Farming and Forestry: Draft horses are increasingly being used for logging in Europe on difficult sites, preserving fragile ecosystems and causing minimal damage. In Sweden, horses transport more than 1 million m³ of logs a year. The draught horse is being seriously re-evaluated as an energy source that is at the same time infinitely renewable and totally eco-friendly



and generates 43 million euros worth for the local economy and 2000 part-time jobs. This is just one race meeting of over 37,000 races held in the EU every year.

Economic clustering: R&D and innovative product development Basse-Normandie's economic horse cluster develops links between research and companies to develop innovative products and services. The area produces 20% of France's foals and more than 10,000 local jobs.



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International Sporting success: In the international rankings in Showjumping Europe has 16 of the top 20 riders, and all but one of the others have their base in Europe. In international dressage all but one of the top twenty riders are European.

Tourism and revenue for local economies: The Punchestown Racing Festival in Ireland attracts around 100,000 spectators a year



Social, health and educational benefits of horses: The horse's movements give the sensation of walking and can help build muscles in those who have trouble moving, such as children with cerebral palsy. Horses are successfully being used in dependency clinics, prisons, and relationship and family counselling.



Horse breeding: In terms of sports horse breeding Europe leads the world. The top thoroughbred racehorse in the world, Harbinger (GB) comes from

Europe. And in terms of other breeds, particularly European pony breeds such as the Icelandic, are being increasingly sought after and exported all over the world. World famous studs such as Babolna in Hungary which breeds arábians of world renown.



Culture and Heritage: The horse is inextricably linked with Europe's cultural heritage. Many of Europe's state studs are national monuments, for example, Marbach, Germany's oldest state stud farm.

Horses mean jobs Whether it is direct employment in caring for and training horses, or the thousands of indirect jobs such as veterinary surgeons, farriers, saddlers, the European horse sector is a growing market providing hundreds of thousands of jobs throughout Europe, many of these in rural areas with high unemployment. The horse sector is also supporting farmers by providing a market for hay and feed.

