

Voluntary Initiative on the Welfare of Equids

Update on Working Group activities

Visual materials for tourists

Drugs residues from horses in the food-chain

Equids in 're-wilding' projects

Equine Assisted Activities



PAW Independent Expert, VI Chair

17th June 2024

Current active members and observers

Member States

- Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Greece, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Ireland and Spain

Business and professional organisations

- Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE) via FEEVA, International Society for Equitation Science (ISES), European Horse Network (EHN)

Civil society organisations

- Animal's Angels, Eurogroup for Animals, World Horse Welfare, The Donkey Sanctuary

Academia/independent expert

- Chair - Ireland, University of Milano - Italy





Next steps for VI on Equidae

(Slide presented Dec 2022)

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- Review ToR in agreement with EC
 - Donkey Factsheets:
 - Translations
 - Dissemination in the field
 - Guidance re Working Equids in Tourism:
 - Dissemination
 - Develop visual material suitable for the users of tourism services – to be brought to a future Platform meeting for acknowledgement

Tourism Working Group

- Build upon the tourism guide: good vs. bad practice
- Produce a single sheet 'flyer', for use in the field
- Highly visual, minimal text, accessible to all!



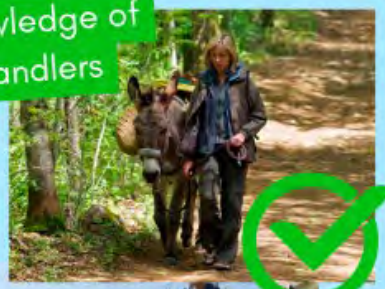
Feeding & watering



Fair price



Knowledge of handlers



WHAT TO CHECK before GOING ON A RIDE OR DRIVE



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 WG chair,
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 El Refugio del Burrito;

 Other members of the WG
 and VI.

Additional Working Groups

- Medicines residues from horses entering the food chain
 - DGSANTE-commissioned, Opera-run project
 - Submission made Dec 2023 – implications for equine welfare
 - A report is being finalised for presentation to DGSANTE
- Conservation & Rewilding
 - Janne Winther-Christensen, ISES, chair
 - Members from ES, GE, DK, UK
 - Focus on the role, health & welfare of equids in such projects
 - Early stages; first meeting held ...
- Equine Assisted Activities incl. at riding schools
 - Agreed next activity for the VI
 - To commence autumn 2024





Thank you for listening!