

# EUnetHorse

HOW TO IMPROVE THE  
PERFORMANCE AND RESILIENCE  
OF EQUINE FARMS IN EUROPE?

RESULTS of the EUnetHorse EUROPEAN PROJECT  
PHASE 1: IDENTIFICATION of NEEDS in FRANCE

[www.eunethorse.eu](http://www.eunethorse.eu)

# WHO ARE THE FRANCH FARMERS INTERVIEWED?

In France, 39 equine farmers were interviewed.

## LOCATION

- 6 of the farms surveyed are close to a major city
- 4 are close to suburbs
- 27 are in rural areas, of which 7 are close to a village and 7 are isolated
- 18% are in sensitive areas

## FARM SIZE

- Utilised agricultural area from 1 to 300 ha, with a median of 40 ha
- From 6 to 200 horses per farm, the median is 27, average is 39
- From 1 to 17 births per year on farms, average is 4

## FARM WORKERS

- There is an average of 3 employees per farm
- 55% are woman

## ECONOMIC AND PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

- For 67,5% of farms, this is their main activity
- Economic objectives: 69% aim to achieve economical balance, 31% aim to make a profit
- Economic performance (including salaries): 26% are in deficit, 46% break even, 28% make a profit



# WHAT NEEDS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED AND PRIORITIZED TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE AND RESILIENCE IN FRANCE?

In France, more than 140 needs were identified through interviews and the national workshop. Here are the ones shared with the European partners during the first European Workshop:

## ANIMAL WELFARE AND HEALTH ON FARMS

- Practical solutions: application of well-being knowledge on my structure to guarantee it
- Parasitism and reasoned deworming (practical management)
- How to better characterize the nutritional needs of horses (obese, old horses, lactating mares, etc.)?
- How, in practice, to better prevent biosecurity risks?
- Pain management: what are the tools to recognize it and better take it into account?
- Genetics: how to improve access to genetic tools and solutions (characterization) and the robustness of horses?

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY OF FARMS

- How to improve water management?
- How to manage waste and negative contributions from your farm?
- How to adapt the management of meadows to climate change (toxic plants, weeds, fodder stock, adaptation of routes)?
- What are the positive contributions of the sector?
- How to adapt to climatic hazards and protect yourself from them?
- How to get more advice and information on photovoltaic energy?
- Biodiversity: how to identify good practices for controlling weeds and pests?

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND RESILIENCE OF FARMS

- How to improve the quality of life at work?
- How to control the expenses and costs?
- How to facilitate access to advice and support?
- How to improve agricultural skills and the visibility of training?
- How to improve the profitability of farms?
- How to deal with recruitment difficulties and the lack of attractiveness of jobs?
- How to facilitate access to land and improve the transparency of procedures?

## MORE INFO

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