

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 SPAIN

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WHO ARE THE SPANISH FARMERS INTERVIEWED?

In Spain, 44 equine farmers were interviewed.

LOCATION

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

FARM SIZE

- Utilised agricultural area from 0,5 to 2500 ha, average 29% is composed of permanent meadows
- From 2 to 400 horses per farm, the median is 39, average is 74
- From 2 to 180 births per year on farms, median is 8, average is 26

FARM WORKERS

- There is an average of 2 employees per farm
- 33% are women

ECONOMIC AND PERFORMANCE OBJECTIVES

- For 33% of farms, this is their main activity
- Economic objectives: 39% aim to achieve economical balance, 45% aim to make a profit, 14% have no economic objectives
- Economic performance (including salaries): 27% are in deficit, 18% break even, 48% make a profit



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

In Spain, more than 20 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

- Lack of support from the public administration
- Predation issues - Wild animals (e.g., wolves, bears, vultures)
- High bureaucratic burden
- Shorter stabling times
- Lack of subsidies for animal feeding

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY OF FARMS

- Lack of use of forest resources
- Deforestation
- Lack of training and information
- Deterioration of the ecosystem due to the massive plantation of nonnative species
- Lack of burning authorization

SOCIO-ECONOMIC PERFORMANCE AND RESILIENCE OF FARMS

- High bureaucratic burden
- Lack of generational change
- Low profitability of farms
- Problems accessing agricultural land
- Lack of training and information

MORE INFO

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