



## PROJECT EUnetHorse - EUROPEAN WORKSHOP

October 28, 2025

### EUnetHorse project: Fifth European Workshop Held in Spain to Assess Solutions and Good Practices for the Equine Sector

The [EUnetHorse](#) project—the first European initiative dedicated exclusively to the equine sector—is currently in its third phase: Evaluation of Solutions. This phase aims to assess whether the solutions and best practices identified within the project framework meet the diverse needs of equine farmers across Europe and help them to improve the performance and resilience of their farm. As part of this effort, project partners gathered in Luanco, Spain, from October 21–23, 2025, to review and discuss solutions previously assessed at the national level regarding two priorities: Land access and Profitability.

**Evaluating Solutions to Strengthen Equine Farm Resilience across Europe:** Since July 2024, the evaluation of solutions has been active in nine participating countries: Belgium, France, Finland, Germany, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, and Switzerland. Each country evaluated approximately **40 mature solutions**—those ready for on-farm implementation—using a multi-criteria evaluation grid developed within the project. This framework considers **cost-benefit analysis, performance, and resilience** (see resource: <https://eunethorse.eu/resources/D3.1>).

**Sharing National Insights at the European Level:** The fifth European workshop brought together **15 partner organizations**, including universities, research institutes, breeders' associations, chambers of agriculture, and technical centers, alongside equine farmers and experts. Discussions focused on two key priorities: **Land Access** and **Profitability**. Following in-depth review and debate, **7–9 top solutions per priority** were selected for further development.

- **Land access:** Equine environmental services • Access to communal grazing areas • Set up projects using participatory investment: patronage • Set up equine projects with landowners • Using grazing banks • Support with administrative process for allocation of land • Building dialogue among farmers.
- **Profitability:** Sharing resources and cooperation • Carry out a fodder assessment
  - Analyze the cost: Calculate your production costs • Analysis and control of feeds
  - New branches diversification • Sales strategy: Early detection of future capabilities
  - Set up a business plan • Use of leasing and rentals • Build a strong identity.

These selected solutions will be showcased during **on-farm demonstration and training days** across all partner countries in **March 2026**. They are expected to contribute significantly to building resilient equine farms, aligned with the project's thematic areas: **socio-economic performance, animal welfare and health and environmental sustainability**, while also addressing key cross-cutting issues.

**Showcasing Spanish Excellence in Equine Farming:** On **October 22**, participants visited two exemplary Spanish equine farms, gaining firsthand insight into successful practices already in place:

**(A) Casa Bartuelo:**

A family-run Casería recognized for its strong brand and generational continuity. The farm's diversified model includes high-quality vegetables, crops, and livestock. Key products include **Hispano-Bretón horses for meat production, Asturiana de los Valles beef, and local faba beans**. Horses are pasture-fed and relocated seasonally when forage is scarce. The farm also produces its own silage to support equine and bovine nutrition during winter. <http://www.casabartuelo.es/>

**(B) Cuadra Casa Capellán:**

One of Asturias' most prestigious estates for **sport horse breeding**, with a focus on **show jumping**. The farm excels in **grassland management**, offering pasture-based care supplemented with daily concentrates. Its layout—including pasture plot distribution, water systems, hay feeding, and walking paths—is considered exemplary. <https://www.cuadracasacapellan.com/>

These field visits encourage **peer-to-peer learning** and facilitate **dialogue between farmers and experts**. By demonstrating successful and practical solutions, they pave the way for wider adoption and innovation across Europe's equine sector.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## ABOUT THE EUnetHorse PROJECT

*The EUnetHorse project is the first European agricultural research project dedicated to the equine sector, bringing together 9 countries and 15 partners. It focuses on the knowledge transfer through the identification, evaluation, and dissemination of solutions to improve the performance and resilience of equine farms in Europe to face the challenges of tomorrow. To do this, it focuses on 3 thematic areas: the socio-economic performance of farms, the health and well-being of equines and the environmental sustainability of farms.*