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Anglo European Studbook Limited
New Barn Farm
Capel Road
Rusper, West Sussex
RH12 4PZ
www.angloeuropeanstudbook.co.uk



Important!: Legal Responsibilities for owners:

The owner of an equine (horse, pony or donkey) has specific legal responsibilities under the Horse Passport Regulations 2009. Failure to comply may mean that the local authority (usually Trading Standards) takes enforcement action. The maximum penalty for each offence is £5000.00

The responsibilities an owner (or main keeper) must comply with are outlined below:

Applying for a Passport:

It is an offence not to have a veterinarian microchip a foal prior to applying for a passport and is an offence to apply for a passport from an authorized Passport Issuing Organization (PIO) after the equine is 6 months old or after the 31st of December of the year of birth whichever is the later.

Keeping an equine:

A Trading Standards or Animal Health Officer may request a passport to be produced for inspection. Failure to present a passport for inspection is an offence

The passport should accompany the animal when it moves to shows, sales, competitions and when it is sold or goes to slaughter. Failure to do so is an offence.

Note the number & the PIO it was issued by. This makes obtaining a replacement more straight forward if the original is ever damaged or lost as the passport is valid for the life of the horse.

It is an offence to apply for a duplicate passport for an equine unless the original is lost or destroyed..

When a vet medicates or injects a horse, pony or donkey it must be recorded in the Administration of Veterinary Medicinal Products section of the passport if the equine has not been signed out of the human food chain.

In addition in the Administration of Veterinary Medicinal Products section, an owner, keeper or a veterinarian can sign an equine out of the food chain.

If an equine dies or has to be put to sleep then the passport must be returned to the issuing PIO within 30 days to have it invalidated. Failure to do so is an offence.

It is an offence to obstruct an inspector who is enforcing the Horse Passport Regulations 2009

Selling an equine:

When a horse, pony or donkey is sold the passport must be passed onto the new owner. Failure to do so is an offence.

Buying an equine:

When a horse, pony or donkey is purchased always obtain the passport & notify the PIO within 30 days of the new owner. Failure to do so is an offence.

This text as well as the 'Horse Passport Regulations 2009' can also be found on the AES website.

Mare & youngstock gradings

Have your breeding products inspected by our judges on location.









Please phone Steve Lamb to make an appointment or contact our office.

Steve Lamb +44 (0) 7798 6839 14 | steve@angloeuropeanstudbook.co.uk Office +44 (0) 1293 8717 01 | info@angloeuropeanstudbook.co.uk