



ESSA courier

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The President's Editorial

Dear friends,

The period of the European holidays is not like spring the highest breeding season, but for some of the most visited studs a time of high activity: organising events, welcoming tourist, taking care of traditional heritage as usual.... For ESSA we salute the publication of the new brochure about the visitor offers of some of our partner institutions. I hope that all members will translate and help us to publish in their own language (and our official language English). I also hope that the studs which are not yet well organised to receive visitors (and are not mentioned in the first issue of the booklet) will send us the information to be included in a next version.

Promoting your site and some other European ones could be a good opportunity to get some subsidies from your authorities or your partners. We have started the application to ask the EU services of the cultural field for a grant, our chances to get some help are not high, but we are sure that if we don't apply, we will not get any! That's why every member stud could also take this opportunity to ask it's state or ministry, or region for a joint help, to promote their stud in conjunction with the European partners, as Marbach did to allow us to be represented in Brussels.

Our aim is also to help the studs of the countries where changes in the stud management are connected to political changes. ESSA is not supposed to interfere with internal affairs in any way, but we can give advice on technical matters and especially on heritage questions, as soon as it is a risk to lose some part of material or immaterial heritage if the changes are not taking account of the history and the tradition of our sites.

You will find as usual a lot of information in this ESSA newsletter, and the dates when we will meet sooner or later!

With my very best regards,

Bernard Maurel



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EUROCHEVAL review: Summer days under the ESSA flag

The European horse fair EUROCHEVAL was a huge success for the European state studs. The mounted Euroquadrille on warmblood stallions in traditional stud uniforms opened the daily show programme. In addition, the National Studs Rosières-aux-Salines (France), Avenches (Switzerland) and Marbach State Stud (Baden-Württemberg, Germany) demonstrated historic driving culture with a tandem quadrille. Stallions of the breeds Comtois, Freiburger and Black Forest Coldbloods represented endangered breeds, which owe their survival largely to the national studs. The ESSA information stand was well visited at all times and the new brochure of visitor offers of our partner institutions was high in demand. We hope that many people find their way to the studs.

Since 1976 the EUROCHEVAL is considered to be the largest horse fair in southern Germany. Every second year a horse enthusiastic audience meets at Offenburg, close to the borders of France and Switzerland. This year, almost 400 international exhibitors presented their products and services from July 25th to 29th. 43.400 visitors enjoyed the summer atmosphere with performances, shopping and the diversity of horses. For the first time the number of international visitors reached more than 30%.

You find images of the fair on the ESSA website www.europeanstatestuds.org and on facebook

EU-project meeting at Offenburg

One day before the start of the EUROCHEVAL the ESSA EU-project group met at the Offenburg fair premises to discuss about the possible activities and funding opportunities for the planned project proposal. So far, 12 partner institutions from 10 countries have expressed interest to participate in the intended image campaign for the European state studs.

Following the meeting all member institutions were informed about the outcome and are encouraged to join the initiative by submitting the documents required for cooperation until the end of August. The application deadline of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) for cooperation projects is October 3rd.



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ESSA tourism brochure offers a journey through the European state studs

Horse lovers can discover a lot in the European state studs. Noble horses, splendid stables, precious carriage collections and much more turn a stud visit into an unforgettable experience. Magnificent premises invite for walks where during spring and summer time mares and foals can be observed. All year round breeding-, sport- and show-events attract a horse enthusiastic audience. Visitor offers range from guided and carriage tours to performances, riding opportunities, educational programmes and special offers for children. Visitor centers and museums offer additional information. Hotels, restaurants and cafés full of atmosphere spoil their guests with regional specialties.

For the first time a brochure with the visitor offers of the leading national studs now offers a journey through the European horse world. It is available on the ESSA website www.europeanstatestuds.org. The first issue of printed copies was very well received at the EUROCHEVAL fair. As with the ESSA posters and leaflets, the partner institutions are requested to print the brochure in the required amount at their local printing companies.

Results of the bachelor-thesis: Problems, requirements and possibilities of the European state studs at the scope of research at horses

During the last months, a bachelor-thesis was implemented in collaboration with the school of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences (HAFL) in Zollikofen/Switzerland, the Institut Suisse de Médecine Equine (ALP-Haras and University of Berne) and ESSA. The purpose of the thesis was to collect problems, requirements and possibilities of the European state studs concerning research and transfer of knowledge and to create a concept for networking, involving institutions and organisations of the scope.

Nearly 93% of the responding studs are interested in collaboration with institutions of the scope. In case of the institutions the demand of a collaboration with the state studs is at 78%. In case of collaboration, the expected counter performances of the state studs affect especially the exchange of know-how, education and veterinary checks of the horses. This is in accord with the counter



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performances that the institutions are willing to offer. 64.3% of the studs can imagine participating in a project of networking to search and to facilitate collaboration with institutions of the scope. In the case of the answering institutions, 56% can imagine participating in such a project and another 22% can imagine participating under certain circumstances.

The networking project shall be realised as a platform which is available online. Interested studs and institutions can register as a user and expose information about their companies directly on the platform. In case of the studs this concerns mainly the existing infrastructure, population and special interests on specific research studies. Partners for collaboration could be found quicker and potential win-win-situations could be developed, by using the platform. An added benefit could be generated by presenting the results of the realised research studies online.

It can be said, that state studs and institutions of the scope are interested in a network project. Due to the gathered data it could be determined that concerning infrastructure, counter performances and also the other gathered data, consensus between studs and institutions dominates, so that collaboration through the network project should be possible to realise. An increased collaboration between institutions and state studs shall promote research and facilitate the transfer of knowledge, which could create a benefit for the horse industry and the involved parties.

Veronika Linsmayer

Changes at National Stud Kladruby

The director of the Czech National Stud Kladruby nad Labem, Mr. Jan Höck, was recently freed of his duties. It is the third director change at Kladruby since 2009. So far ESSA didn't receive information regarding the new person in position and the actual situation at the stud. We will keep you informed as soon as we know more.

Changes at the National Forest Administration Romsilva

Shortly after the well organised and fruitful ESSA General Assembly 2012, which was hosted by the equestrian department of the National Forest Administration Romsilva in Romania, the director



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general, Mr. Valerian Solovestru and the head of the horse breeding department Dr. Robert Bartha lost their positions. Romsilva manages all 12 national stud farms and 4 national stallion depots of Romania. As far as we have been informed it is not intended to appoint a new director for the horse department.

EHN news: MEPs focus on the unique opportunities within equestrian sport

On July 10th, 2012 the third meeting of the European Parliament Horse Group led by European Member Julie Girling was held at the European Parliament in Brussels. The meeting focused on sport and horses in advance of the opening of the London Olympics later this month. “Equestrian sport is one of the most dynamic sport disciplines in Europe”, said Julie Girling in her opening comments. “But to date it has not had the exposure it deserves in the European policy making arena.” The meeting heard from British European Member Emma McClarkin that sport is now a European policy. The Parliament has already debated a number of related issues such as financing, governance and integrity and will continue to do this within the Sports Intergroup headed by the French European Member Sophie Auconie. Hanfried Haring, Chairman of European Equestrian Federation (EEF), highlighted how unlike in many other sports, there is not a wide gap between performance and grass-root sport. Equestrian sport is the only sport where male and female athletes compete against each other on equal terms. It also provides wonderful opportunities for people with disabilities, as will be showcased at the London Paralympic Games next month. Bo Helander, chair of the Permanent EU Committee of the EEF, outlined the challenges posed by EU competition law with a sports federation that is a monopoly, as required by the International Olympic Committee. Such a model needs to be recognised by EU institutions in order to be able to continue the promotion of horse sport across all Member States. Julie Girling brought the meeting to a close by stressing that today, despite the perception; equestrian sport is enjoyed by people from all strata of society. “We need to constantly promote this reality if we are to encourage even more people to take up the sport at a grassroots level.”

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Information on EHN: www.europeanhorsenetwork.eu or contact info@europeanhorsenetwork.eu*

The EHN position paper on sport issues is available in the member area of the ESSA website.



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National Finnhorse Breeders' Competition at Ypäjä

The Ypäjä Equine College proudly presents the yearly highlight of Finnhorse, section riding, the National Finnhorse Breeders' Competition 2012 at Ypäjä Stud from August 30th to September 2nd.

The event includes

- Quality tests for young horses, final - classes: 3 years, 4 years, 5 years
- Championship for 6 year old in Dressage and Jumping
- Finnhorse National Dressage Championship 2012
- "Samuli Puissance"
- Stallion Show with top sires.

All ESSA partners and friends of the diversity of European horse breeding and are warmly welcome!

FEI World Driving Championship Pairs 2013 at the Slovakian National Stud Topolčianky

The FEI has made the decision. The medals for the Pairs will be given in 2013 in Topolčianky, Slovakia. Stud director and OC president Ing. Michal Horný: *„It is a great honour and pleasure for Slovakia, to welcome the driving sport world for the FEI World Championship Pairs 2013 at the National Stud in Topolčianky from August 28th to September 1st, 2013. It is a great task and challenge, which we handle with the consciousness, that we have a high responsibility towards the driving sport. Additionally we do everything we can to honour the trust the FEI put into us as we were awarded with the organisation of the Championship in Topolčianky. The project 'Pairs WC 2013' is the absolute high point of a pairs-focussed development programme. This programme is designed to support the breeding activities with focus on Lipizzaners, as well as the driving sport and our associated facilities. We are working for this for years.“*

The wider area of the stud will be further optimised ahead of the Championship. Another new marathon obstacle, designed by the FEI-O Course Designer Gábor Fintha, is in preparation. A cordial welcome in Topolčianky!

Source: <http://hippoevent.at>



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EQUUS conference postponed

Unfortunately, the European Horse Network's EQUUS conference in Warsaw in September cannot be organised as the local lottery did not agree on the funding. Therefore, EHN is now trying to organise a small EQUUS conference in 2013 in Dublin and a large event during the World Equestrian Games in Caen in August 2014.

ESSA dates 2012

August 27th to 31st EAAP annual congress at BRATISLAVA, Slovakia

ESSA dates 2013

March 16th to 24th EQUITANA fair at ESSEN, Germany

April 15th to 17th General Assembly 2013 at National Stud BÁBOLNA, Hungary

August 28th to September 1st FEI World Driving Championship Pairs at TOPOL'ČIANKY, Slovakia