

IMPROVE THE TRACEABILITY OF EQUINES

Eurogroup for Animals believes that robust equine traceability measures must be at the heart of good equine welfare and health. Without proper identification and registration, equines cannot be linked to a person responsible for their welfare.

Background

The failure of the European equine passporting system over the past 20 years has led to overpopulation crises in many countries, to irresponsible ownership, illegal trade, food fraud and poor breeding practices.

Despite forthcoming improvements to the system by way of a new Equine Passport Regulation (Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/262), challenges will remain regarding enforcement and the ability of Member States to limit the issuing of equine passports to a single Passport Issuing Office (PIO). Single PIOs remain as the final component in ensuring effective traceability of equines.

Our Objectives

Member States are expecting the new Equine Passport Regulation to be replaced with a new act following the adoption of the proposed Animal Health Law, which will allow for a single Passport Issuing Office in each Member State.

Eurogroup's challenge is to maintain pressure on the Commission via MEPs, along with Member States, to replace the Equine Passport Regulation with a revised act as soon as is possible, which allows for single PIOs.