

Horse slaughter is humane. Horse meat is safe, nutritious, affordable, and delicious.

The absence of a valuable use for otherwise unwanted horses results in immediate tragedy, increased suffering, loss of economic opportunity, environmental degradation, and unnecessary taxpayer burden. The answer is simple and obvious. Allow a properly regulated industry that protects the rights and choices of horse owners, while restoring a normal market that creates jobs, offers opportunity, and ends the unnecessary misery of horses.

Americans Eat Horses

*And the World is Hungry Enough to
Help Us Save Them*

International Equine Business Association



INTERNATIONAL
EQUINE
BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION

June, 2012

This comprehensive report is submitted as an informational tool to Congress and to USDA to serve as an accurate representation of the position of the majority of the horse industry, and to directly refute the claims and petitions of the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) and similar animal rights organizations in regards to the legal and humane processing of horse meat for human consumption.

A recent HSUS petition submitted to Secretary Vilsack seeks to demolish what is left of a beleaguered horse industry, and will only result in the increased suffering of horses. Worse, if the animal rights agenda prevails it will spell the eventual death knell to horses as a genetically diverse and viable domestic species. It is the position of the International Equine Business Association members and supporters that extremist animal rights organizations do not have a vested interest in either the welfare of horses, or the people who seek to make their livings with them, and as such, should have no standing in determining proper animal welfare, or the regulation of the horse business.

Respectfully submitted to the United States Congress, to the United States Department of Agriculture, and to the American people.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sue Wallis".

Sue Wallis
United States, Chair

America Eats Horses

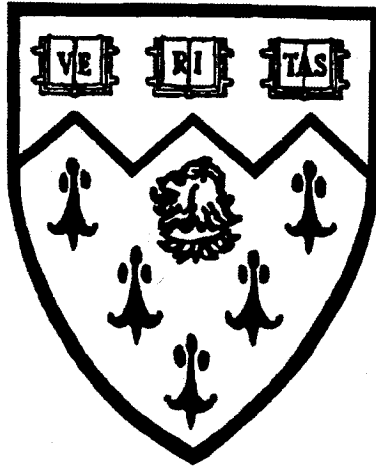
And the World is Hungry Enough to Help Us Save Them

Contents

Americans Eat Horses	6
Horse Slaughter is Humane, and Horse meat is Safe, Nutritious, Affordable, and Delicious.....	6
The Tragic Loss of Value.....	13
The Simple and Obvious Solution.....	16
Works Cited.....	18
Linked to Documents	21
International Equine Business Association	33
IEBA Overview.....	34
Equine Traceability and Drug Testing Protocols.....	37
Humane Handling for Horses at Processing.....	50
Slaughter Horse Transport.....	52
Background Information.....	53
The Fundamental Truth of Animal Agriculture:.....	54
Introduction	54
The Basics of Animal Agriculture	55
Horrrific Unintended Consequences.....	59
The Problem with Wild Horses	60
Valuable Asset to Expensive Liabilities	61
Abhorrence of Horse Meat is a Cultural Phenomenon.....	62
Criminalization of Horse Meat is a Radical Imposition on Liberty.....	63
Summary	64
Fundamental Legal Problem with Horse Slaughter Prevention Bills	67
There is a Thriving Worldwide Market for Horse Meat.....	68
Official report of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.....	69
Moral, Cultural, Food Quality, and Food Safety Concerns in Horse Meat.....	70
Citations	71

The Truth About Horses – A Brief History.....	72
Tribes.....	76
National Tribal Horse Coalition Letter	77
Yakama Letter	79
Tribal Horses	81
Policy Resolutions	84
National Congress of American Indians – Resolution	85
State Agriculture and Rural Leaders - Resolution on Reasonable Regulation of Equine Processing.....	87
National Association of Counties – Policy Platform.....	88
Policy Position of the American Association of Equine Practitioners in regards to Horse Processing ...	89
Facts and Answers to Frequently Asked Questions	90
FACTS Refuting Anti-agriculture, Anti-horse Slaughter Activist Rhetoric:.....	91
Unified Equine – Facts.....	97
Unified Equine - Frequently Asked Questions:	98
The Truth About Kaufman, Texas, and the Dallas Crown Horse Plant	103
Euthanasia Facts	104





*Faculty Club of Harvard University
Luncheon Menu*

Chef's Entrees

21. <i>Chef's Quiche and Garden Salad</i>	2.75
22. <i>Chopped Sirloin with cottage cheese and sliced tomatoes</i>	2.75
23. <i>Omelette with Garden Salad</i> <i>(Choice of ham, cheese, or mushrooms)</i>	3.75
24. <i>Fresh Fish of the Day (broiled or baked) with vegetable</i>	3.50
25. <i>Broiled Luncheon Filet Mignon or Sirloin Steak</i> <i>with mushroom sauce and french fries or vegetable</i>	5.75
26. <i>Hot Steak</i> <i>with mushroom sauce and vegetable</i>	3.50
<i>A la Carte potato or vegetable .75</i>	
<i>A la Carte salads 1.25</i>	

Menu circa late 1980s early 1990s

The World is Hungry Enough to Eat a Horse

And the Best Way to Save America's Horses is to Eat Them

Abstract: Horse slaughter is humane, and horse meat is safe, nutritious, affordable, and delicious. The absence of a valuable use for otherwise unwanted horses results in immediate tragedy, increased suffering, loss of economic opportunity, environmental degradation, and unnecessary taxpayer burden. The answer is simple and obvious. Allow a properly regulated industry that protects the rights and choices of horse owners, while restoring a normal market that creates jobs, offers opportunity, and ends the unnecessary misery of horses.

Americans Eat Horses

Horse Slaughter is Humane, and Horse meat is Safe, Nutritious, Affordable, and Delicious.

Americans eat horses. Some Americans eat horses today, and more would do so if it was available as it is in most of the world. For more than three-quarters of the cultures of the world, horse meat is just another culinary choice that is safe, nutritious, and delicious, right alongside the beef, pork, chicken, and fish in the meat counter. It is widely available in Canada and Mexico, and currently the majority of horses processed in both neighboring countries originate from the United States.

For the sake of the horses, and for the people who love them enough to want to make their living with them; imbue their beloved horseback culture with them; ensure their genetic diversity and the preservation of all of the multifarious breeds and purposes for them (1); and for those who want to raise their children and grandchildren with the joy of horses in their lives...the restoration of humane and regulated processing of horses and the consequential return of full value for all horses...cannot happen soon enough.

In a country where common gastronomic choices include everything from baby lambs and suckling pigs to grasshopper tacos and alligator tails, why can you not find the horse steak that was available on the menu of the Harvard dining room

"Isn't it funny how people who like lamb...are never accused of hating sheep?"

Rod McQueary, rancher and horseman

in the 1990s? When our Canadian neighbors are dining on delightful meals of Medallions of Cheval au Porto, where is the same lean, tender dish to tempt our palates? How can it be that south of our border Mexico is the second largest consumer of horse meat in the world, second only to China? And why, oh why, are so many good horses—many who under normal market conditions would be wanted and valuable for other purposes—either enduring long transportation to processing plants in other countries where we Americans have no jurisdiction whatsoever over how that is done, or starving to death because they don't have enough value to sell, while at the exact same time the so-called rescues are full of horses



These French horses are from one of nine rare heritage breeds of heavy horses that are preserved in France because they are used for food. (32)

they cannot "adopt out" (read "turn a profit on")? Why are so many thousands of horses suffering needlessly because their owners have fallen upon hard times, or just don't care? And why are so many horses now so worthless that they aren't even taken to a sale where they might be valuable enough to feed, be kept in good health, and at the very least processed into meat in a regulated and inspected facility designed for the purpose by trained professionals? Why are so many horses doomed to the prolonged misery and excruciating demise of slow starvation and disease, and why has this holocaust occurred in the last five years when it never did before?

The short answer is that there is no legitimate reason. Horses are simply a convenient and easy fundraising tool for extremist organizations seeking to drive an unhealthy, unnatural, political agenda.

Americans love horses. We always have and we always will. We can't stand the thought of any horse being abused, nor should we. Radical activists have learned that the shortest route from your checkbook to their six figure salaries and cushy benefit packages is to scream "bloody murder," even if it isn't true. For their purposes it doesn't have to be true, all it has to be is newsworthy. Create a gut-wrenching, catchy headline that will drive up ratings, and sell papers, and you have a winner. No one will check the facts, that is too boring...all you have to do is proclaim outrageous, preposterous claims with authority, pull a few images out of context, spin up a little double speak, and every horse loving gentle soul unknowledgeable about the inevitable cycles of life, the realities of livestock health and preservation, or the details of meat processing, are in your pocket. Literally. The media is an extremist's best friend, their blunt weapon of choice, in an all-out onslaught against anyone who would have the audacity to try and make a living with horses.

The problem with today's journalism is that it fails to deliver any real reason. It used to be that journalists were required to fact check, something akin to the scientific method, to corroborate a story. This meant a bit of work to consult multiple sources, and to make sure that what they were

From the Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics...

Seek Truth and Report It

Journalists should be honest, fair and courageous in gathering, reporting and interpreting information.

Journalists should:

- Test the accuracy of information from all sources and exercise care to avoid inadvertent error. Deliberate distortion is never permissible.
- Diligently seek out subjects of news stories to give them the opportunity to respond to allegations of wrongdoing.
- Identify sources whenever feasible. The public is entitled to as much information as possible on sources' reliability.
- Always question sources' motives before promising anonymity. Clarify conditions attached to any promise made in exchange for information. Keep promises.
- Make certain that headlines, news teases and promotional material, photos, video, audio, graphics, sound bites and quotations do not misrepresent. They should not oversimplify or highlight incidents out of context.
- Never distort the content of news photos or video. Image enhancement for technical clarity is always permissible. Label montages and photo illustrations.
- Avoid misleading re-enactments or staged news events. If re-enactment is necessary to tell a story, label it.
- Avoid undercover or other surreptitious methods of gathering information except when traditional open methods will not yield information vital to the public. Use of such methods should be explained as part of the story.
- Never plagiarize.
- Tell the story of the diversity and magnitude of the human experience boldly, even when it is unpopular to do so.
- Examine their own cultural values and avoid imposing those values on others.
- Avoid stereotyping by race, gender, age, religion, ethnicity, geography, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance or social status.
- Support the open exchange of views, even views they find repugnant.
- Give voice to the voiceless; official and unofficial sources of information can be equally valid.
- Distinguish between advocacy and news reporting. Analysis and commentary should be labeled and not misrepresent fact or context.
- Distinguish news from advertising and shun hybrids that blur the lines between the two.

relying about events or issues was based on reality—or they wouldn't run the story. But today, the best you can hope for is that a journalist will present "both sides" as if this were admirable. They don't even attempt to establish the truth or reality of either side.

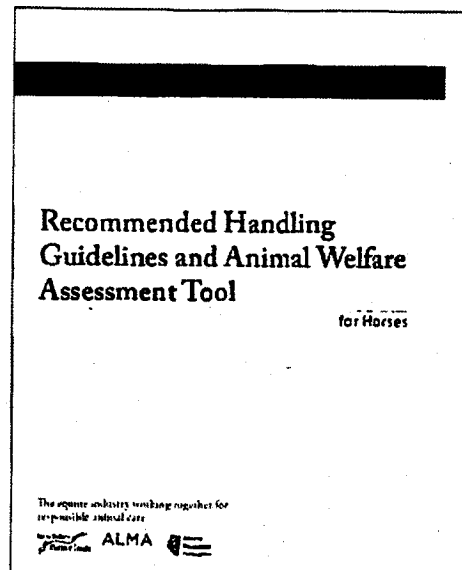
If one "side's" account is untrue and corroboration to determine which story is correct is not pursued, journalism becomes a meaningless relay of information without regard to reliability. Worse, it becomes the fuel for extremist views that we see so often in public dialogue today, especially surrounding issues like the use of horses for food. This tendency puts false and misleading innuendo in the headlines for its dramatic rate raising power, and never even attempts to verify whether or not the statements of extremists are based in any kind of reality. This polarizes every conversation, and gives far too much gravitas to radical notions with no basis in fact.

What is needed is the proverbial reality check. Herewith find factual information with sources and documentation that, at the very least, should have been noted by journalists with a strong public challenge to verify and corroborate statements to the contrary with something besides self-propagated, politically motivated, misinformation:

Horse slaughter is humane. Horses are, and always have been, regulated under the U.S. Humane Methods of Slaughter laws which have been on the books for many decades that require that all animals used for food are "handled with a minimum of stress and pain," and that all animals be dispatched at slaughter by a method that ensures "instantaneous insensibility." (2)

Government inspectors are required to inspect all horses before slaughter, to be present and verify insensibility before they are hung up to bleed out. As trained professionals both the inspectors and the plant employees know how to assess whether there is any feeling, any sensibility whatsoever, even though the carcass will be twitching with reflex movements. These inspectors are required to inspect horses in exactly the same manner as every other species of food animal. In the unlikely circumstance that these requirements were not being

met, citations would be issued. There is no credible evidence of citations for the systemic or habitual improper stunning of horses at slaughter. Processors have every incentive—economic, social, and ethical incentives—to ensure this critical step in the process of meat making is handled correctly because any animal that is in stress, or in pain, produces poor quality, unusable meat. The fact that their regulator has the power and the authority to shut down their plant for non-compliance is actually pretty low on the list of deterrents. It explains why the most highly paid positions on the processing line are the knock box operators, and why they are always instantly removed from that position if they miss.



The International Equine Business Association (IEBA) has adopted the humane handling systems developed by the Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada which are used in horse plants in the U.S. and Canada. (37) IEBA is also developing and implementing fail safe purchase protocols and testing to ensure the safety of all products.

Print postage online - Go to usps.com/p



PLEASE PRESS FIRMLY



Flat Rate Mailing Envelope For Domestic and International Use Visit us at usps.com

U.S. POSTS PAID NEWCASTLE, MD 20781 JUL 09 AMOUNT \$18.95 00012395-09

When used internationally affix customs declarations



EI 258275738 US



Tracking #: EI258275738US

USDA \ MRMD \ MSB EXECUTIVE

7/11/2012 7:12:01 AM

To: Vilsack, Tom Stop Room #: 116-a Mailstop: 3301 Agency: OSEC External Carrier:

1WHITT

Use new eco-friendly intelligent design For more information go to rmbcc.com/hqage

Please recycle



EPI3F

PI

1007

Mailing Label 14-B

Post Office To Address

DELIVERY (POSTAL USE ONLY) Delivery Attempt Time No. Day Delivery Attempt Time No. Day Delivery Date Time No. Day

CUSTOMER USE ONLY PAYMENT BY ACCOUNT Express Mail Corporate Acct. No. FEDERAL AGENCY ACCT. NO. OR POSTAL SERVICE ACCT. NO.

NO DELIVERY (checkbox) Signature

TO: (PLEASE PRINT) PHONE THE HONORABLE THOMAS S VILSACK SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE USDA 1400 INDEPENDENCE AVE S.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

ZIP + 4 U.S. ADDRESSES ONLY. DO NOT USE FOR FOREIGN POSTAL CODES!

20250+

FOR INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS, WRITE COUNTRY NAME BELOW.

ORIGIN (POSTAL SERVICE USE ONLY) PO ZIP Code 82701 Date Accepted 7/9/12 Time Accepted 3:57 PM Flat Rate or Weight 18.95 lbs. Postage \$ 18.95 Return Receipt Fee \$ Insurance Fee \$ Total Postage \$ 18.95

FROM: (PLEASE PRINT) PHONE 307 685 8248 INT'L EQUINE BUSINESS ASSN SUE WALLIS - U.S. CHAIR PO BOX 71 RECLUSE, WY 82725

FOR PICKUP OR TRACKING Visit www.usps.com Call 1-800-222-1811

PRESS HARD, YOU ARE MAKING 3 COPIES.

This packaging is the property of the U.S. Postal Service and is provided solely for use in sending Express Mail® shipments. Misuse may be a violation of Federal law. This packaging is not for resale. EPI3F © U.S. Postal Service, Oct. 2009. All rights reserved.