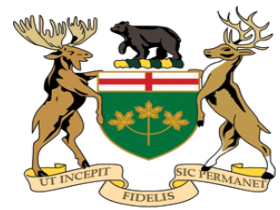




2150 Meadowvale Blvd.  
Mississauga, ON L5N 6R6



## APPLICATION FOR ONTARIO APPRENTICE TRAINER

This application must be completed by Ontario residents applying for an "A" or "F" trainer licence for the first time or by those applying for an upgrade from an "F" to an "A" trainer licence OR those who have failed to renew their trainer licence in the prior year. Please note that licensing fees are prorated in accordance with the Standardbred Canada birth date renewal system relative to the date the licence is approved to the applicant's birth date.

<b>Part A: Eligibility Requirements</b>			
<p>"A" Trainer licence will permit you to operate a public stable at all extended and non-extended meetings. The first time applicant for an "A" licence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. must have attained 16 years of age;</li> <li>2. must have been licensed as a groom by the Ontario Racing Commission for two full years;</li> <li>3. must file a recommendation from the panel of regional judges to write the examination;</li> <li>4. must achieve a passing grade of 75% on the written trainer examination;</li> <li>5. must provide a written contract agreement with a licensed Ontario trainer in good standing;</li> <li>6. must complete six (6) months apprenticeship program with licensed trainer;</li> <li>7. have a minimum of four (4) favourable responses to confidential reference letters from currently licensed "A" trainers or drivers;</li> <li>8. must submit a satisfactory physical and eye examination;</li> <li>9. must provide duly completed and signed <i>Trainer Apprenticeship Certificate</i> no sooner than three months after the commencement of this apprenticeship program;</li> <li>10. must achieve a passing grade of at least 90% on the Standardbred Canada practical examination.</li> </ol>	<p>"F" Trainer licence will permit you to train horses, wholly owned by yourself or an immediate family member, at extended and non extended meetings. The first time applicant for an "F" licence:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. must have attained 16 years of age;</li> <li>2. must file a recommendation from the panel of regional judges to sit the written examination;</li> <li>3. must achieve a passing grade of 75% on the written trainer examination;</li> <li>4. must submit a satisfactory physical and eye examination;</li> <li>5. must achieve a passing grade of at least 90% on the Standardbred Canada practical examination.</li> </ol>		
<b>Part B: Personal Information (Please Print)</b>			
Last Name	First Name	ORC/SC Member #	
Address	City/Town	Province	Postal Code
Date of Birth <i>Day / Month / Year</i>	Have you held a USTA membership? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		USTA Member #
Are you the owner of a registered standardbred horse? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Names some horses you own:	
Have you been licensed as a groom for two years? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Part-time?	Full time?
<b>Part C: Horse Racing and/or Industry Experience for the past five (5) years</b>			
Employer Name	Contact Number	Duties	From (date) to (date)
<b>Part D: Interview and Recommendation</b>			
To which panel of regional judges do you wish your file directed?		<i>Track Name</i>	
<b>Part E: Notice of Consent</b>			
<p>I hereby certify that all information provided on this application is true and that any false answers or statements made by me can be considered grounds for denial revocation or downgrade of my licence. I agree to abide at all times to the Rules of Standardbred Racing of the <b>Ontario Racing Commission</b>. I agree and consent to the terms of the Privacy Agreement of Standardbred Canada, a copy of which is published on Standardbred Canada's website and available to me in print on request. I understand that I must give my consent to the release by Standardbred Canada of my contact information including address and telephone number when such disclosure is not related to Standardbred Canada's objects and mandate. I hereby consent ( <input type="checkbox"/> ) OR do not consent ( <input type="checkbox"/> ).</p>			
<p>_____</p> <p>Signature</p>		<p>_____</p> <p>Date</p>	

## Employment Contract

This employment contract dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

### **BETWEEN:**

Licensed trainer name and address  
(hereinafter referred to as the **Trainer "A"**)

### **OF THE FIRST PART**

**-AND-**

Apprentice trainer name and address  
(hereinafter referred to as the **"Apprentice"**)

### **OF THE SECOND PART**

### **BACKGROUND:**

- A. The Trainer "A" accepts that the Apprentice seeks the necessary qualifications, experience and abilities to assist and benefit the Trainer "A" in his business.
- B. The Trainer "A" desires to employ the Apprentice and the Apprentice has agreed to accept and enter such employment upon the terms and conditions set out in this Agreement.

**IN CONSIDERATION OF** the matters described above and of the mutual benefits and obligations set forth in this Agreement, the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree hereto that the six (6) months period of this agreement is conditional in the following respects:

### **Duration of Employment**

- 1. Trainer "A" shall have the opportunity to assess performance, attitude, skills and other employment related attributes and characteristics of the Apprentice;
- 2. Apprentice shall have the opportunity to learn first hand about the position of a trainer licensed to train a public stable;
- 3. Either party may terminate relationship at any time during the six (6) months period without advance notice or justifiable reason, in which case there will be no continued obligation of the parties to each other, financial or other. Standardbred Canada must be advised immediately upon termination of agreement.

### **Compensation and Benefits**

In consideration of the services to be provided the Apprentice, during the term of employment, shall be paid an amount agreed upon by both parties, less applicable statutory deductions in accordance with the Trainer's standard benefit package.

**Duties and Responsibilities**

The Apprentice shall be employed in the capacity of Apprentice trainer, and the Trainer "A" agrees to mentor the Apprentice in the duties and responsibilities in the areas as set out in **Schedule A** annexed hereto and forming part of this agreement. These duties and responsibilities may be amended from time to time at the sole discretion of the Trainer "A", subject to formal notification of same being provided to the Apprentice and Standardbred Canada.

The parties hereto have caused this agreement to be executed as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2011.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Trainer "A"

\_\_\_\_\_  
ORC/SC Member #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Apprentice

\_\_\_\_\_  
ORC/SC Member #

## **Schedule “A” of Apprentice Trainer Contract**

### **Feeding practices**

- Acquire knowledge of feeding requirements according to horse’s activity
- Learn about feeds and have them identified in terms of meeting nutritional requirements

### **Training Program**

- Maintain a routine training program and learn its affects on horse’s body (joints, heart, lungs)
- Learn to identify poor performance due to injury, lameness, etc
- Learn to maintain records of worming, vaccinations, injury, illness, treatments, medication, feeding program, shoeing

### **Safety practices**

- Must be comfortable with horse
- Must always have full control of horse at all times
- Must always be properly equipped to be handling horse (i.e. proper footwear, safety vest, helmet)

### **Harnessing a Horse**

- Horse is always groomed prior to being harnessed
- Approach and safety precautions are always taken
- Harness equipment is always secure and comfortable to the horse
- Horse can always be led and restrained according to directions
- Acquires ability to properly harness a horse using various boots, bits and other equipment

### **Rate a satisfactory Mile**

- Equipment is rechecked
- Control of the horse is maintained at all times
- Horse is warmed up
- Apprentice must rate a satisfactory mile in a specified time

### **After training mile**

- Equipment is always removed and cleaned
- Horse is washed and cooled
- Horse is released



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Mississauga, ON L5N 6R6



## ONTARIO TRAINER APPRENTICESHIP CERTIFICATION

The Accreditation Program goals are to:

- Develop a **curriculum** to encourage the highest standards of professionalism and to build a solid foundation for new trainers
- Develop a **program** that fosters integrity, commitment and reliability

**Please Print.**

<b>Part A:</b>		
1. Name	2. ORC/SC Member No:	
	3. Address:	
<b>Part B: Accreditation</b>		
4. Have you read the Canadian Guide for Standardbred Trainers from Standardbred Canada and the Ontario Racing Commission Rules of Racing and are you familiar with the Canadian Pari-Mutuel Agency "Schedule of Drugs"		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
5. Name the horses you have been responsible for during the course of your apprenticeship program?		
_____		
_____		
_____		
6. At which track do you anticipate doing your practical trainer examination?		
I guarantee that this form is accurate.		
_____		_____
Signature of Apprentice Trainer		Date
<b>Part C: To be completed by the Mentoring Trainer</b>		
7. Has the apprentice trainer been in your employ for a minimum of six (6) consecutive months? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Please complete commencement date of employment below.
8. Do you believe that this candidate requires more training in a specific area? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No   If you have answered "yes" please provide details.		
_____		
_____		
_____		
9. I guarantee that <b>Section C</b> is accurate.		
_____	_____	_____
Mentoring Trainer Name	Mentoring Trainer Signature	Date



**Ontario  
Racing  
Commission**

Suite 400  
10 Carlson Court  
Toronto, Ontario  
M9W 6L2  
(416)213-0520

# 20

## Application for Standardbred Licence (Individual)

**HEAD OFFICE USE ONLY  
ORC-SC No.**

--	--	--	--	--	--

Fingerprinted

Expires  
Month                      Year

--	--	--	--	--	--

**STATUS (X)**

- NEW 20\_\_\_\_  
 RENEWAL of \_\_\_\_\_

**Application must be taken to track for appropriate pricing.**  
Applicants must be active participants in standardbred racing or be actively engaged in their occupation or profession at a Standardbred race track. False answers given hereon may lead to refusal or cancellation of your licence.

**TO BE LICENSED AS - check (X) box under appropriate Class.**

Owner	Stable or Corporate Manager	Trainer	Driver	Groom	Spouse	Tradesperson	Veterinarian	Occupational	Pari-mutuel	Claiming Certificate	Finger Print Fee	Authorized Agent	Commission Official	Association Official
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Last Name	First Name	Name Normally Used	Middle Initial	Date of Birth Day    Month    Year
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Permanent Address (number and street, rural route, P.O. Box, apt. number)		Area Code/Telephone Number	Sex (X) M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/>	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
City, town or village	Area Code/Fax Number	Area Code/Business Telephone Number		
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>		
Province or State	Postal Code	SC or USTA #	Car Driver's Licence or other form of I.D.	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	
E-mail Address <input type="text"/>				

Type of employment at Track	Employer at Track	If Groom, name of principal horse groomed
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Type of employment off Track	Employer off Track
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Contact in case of emergency	Telephone Number
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Address

Have you ever been found guilty or convicted of an offence in any jurisdiction? (This includes offences where a conditional or absolute discharge has been granted)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Have you ever had a licence or registration certificate of any kind refused, denied, suspended or revoked in any jurisdiction?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have any charges pending in any jurisdiction?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If no, give details of each conviction and/or ruling.	
If your answer is YES, TO ANY of the questions above, is it recorded on file with the O.R.C.?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

DAY	MONTH	YEAR	Place	Nature of Ruling/Conviction	Disposition of Ruling/Conviction

**TO BE ANSWERED BY ALL OWNERS, DRIVERS AND TRAINERS**

Owners: Name of horse owned or leased presently racing or which has raced within the preceding 6 months.	Drivers and Trainers: Name of principal horse(s) trained or driven.
Name of your Trainer	
If applicant is a shareholder or partner in a stable, what name will the horse be racing under.	
If horse is racing under lease, name the lessor(s).	

**Note:** No horse will be accepted for entry at tracks under the jurisdiction of the Ontario Racing Commission unless all persons are licensed pursuant to the Rules.

**DECLARATION**

I hereby agree to abide by the Rules of Racing of the Ontario Racing Commission (the "Commission") and to accept and abide by the rulings and decisions of the Commission, the Judges and Racing Officials, as the case may be, and I consent to the publication of such decisions and rulings to the press and to the public. And I further agree upon the request of the Commission or the Judges, to be fingerprinted by the duly authorized official of the Commission or the Judges and that my fingerprints may be used and transmitted for identification, investigative and record purposes by the Commission and custodians of fingerprint records. I do fully understand that further investigation may be conducted by the Commission and that the Commission reserves the right to revoke any licence issued on notice.

**Notice and Consent** - as required by the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act  
In conformity with the Racing Commission Act, in order to complete or verify the information provided on this form and to determine eligibility for licensing, it may be necessary for the Ontario Racing Commission (the "Commission") to collect and receive additional information from some or all of the following domestic and foreign sources: federal, provincial, state or municipal licensing bodies and police services, other law enforcement agencies, sheriff's offices, the Registrar of Bankruptcy, credit bureau, trust companies, banks, professional and industry associations, former and current employers, and any government Ministry or Agency. The Commission is required under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act to protect the confidentiality of such information in its possession and control and to use the information only for purposes for which it is collected or for consistent purposes. A public official who can answer questions about the collection and disclosure of information is the Director of the Commission, at the address above.

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
day                      month                      year

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

**EMPLOYERS OF GROOMS, OCCUPATIONALS OR PARI MUTUELS**

If the applicant is not self-employed at the race track the following certificate must be signed by the employer. Failure to comply could result in action against the employer.

The applicant, \_\_\_\_\_  
is gainfully employed by me at \_\_\_\_\_ Raceway.

Upon the employee's termination, I shall notify the Commission Agent as to when and why the employee left my employ. I shall also withhold all monies due to the employee until he/she surrenders his/her standardbred licence to me, which I will promptly deliver to the Commission Agent.

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
day                      month                      year

Name of Employer at Race Track (please print) \_\_\_\_\_ ORC-SC No. \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Employer \_\_\_\_\_

<b>FOR COMMISSION USE ONLY</b>	Date Received Day    Month    Year	Track	Amount	Receipt No.	Agent's Initials
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>



2150 Meadowvale Blvd.  
Mississauga, Ontario  
L5N 6R6

### APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORIZED AGENT

TAKE NOTICE that I/We \_\_\_\_\_ Owner(s)

holder of a licence from Standardbred Canada hereby appoint \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Address)

to act on my / our behalf until written revocation of this Appointment, or until \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

in matters pertaining to the standardbred racing.

Specifically, this person is authorized to conduct the following business on my / our behalf:

- 1) the claiming of horses,
- 2) the signing of a claiming race authorization,
- 3) the signing of documentation related to officially transferring horses,
- 4) Other:

(Initial all terms added or deleted)

#### BOTH PARTIES TO THE AGREEMENT MUST SIGN BELOW

Owner(s) (if more than one, all must sign)

Authorized Agent

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Declared before \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Place \_\_\_\_\_ SC009

**The benefits of  
Standardbred Canada  
Accident  
Insurance for...**



**...Drivers  
Trainers  
Grooms  
Officials**

Standardbred Canada

**THREE KINDS OF INSURANCE FOR HORSE-RELATED  
ACCIDENTS**

**1 WEEKLY ACCIDENT INDEMNITY**

The Weekly Amount

Drivers	\$220.00
Trainers	200.00
Grooms	165.00
Officials & Field Reps	200.00

The Benefit

The weekly benefit is payable from the 14th day of accidental injury for up to 104 weeks.

Successive periods of disability are considered the same period of disability unless separated by either two complete consecutive weeks of active, full-time work or by one full day of work and due to wholly different causes.

Some Limitations

- You must be under the care of a physician during the entire period of disability.
- Your Weekly Indemnity amount will be reduced by income received from US Social Security, C/QPP, Workers' Compensation, wages or any other disability benefits from your employer which exceeds 75% of your pre-disability earnings.

**2 ACCIDENTAL MEDICAL/DENTAL**

The Amount

Up to \$3,000 for medical expenses and up to 3,000 for dental expenses per calendar year.

The Benefit

Reimbursement of reasonable and customary charges for:

- treatment by a physician, surgeon, dentist or oral surgeon,
- services and supplies including hospital, nursing and ambulance which are incurred as the result of any one accident and within one year after the date of the accident, provided the first expense is incurred within 26 weeks after the date of the accident.

Coordination with Medicare

For Canadian residents: Benefits under this plan are in excess of the provincial medical or hospital plan benefits payable in your province of residence.

For all other members: Benefits are in excess of any benefits which would have been payable under the Ontario Health Insurance Plan.

**3 ACCIDENTAL DEATH & DISMEMBERMENT**

The Amount (Principal Sum)

Drivers	\$30,000	The Principal Sum doubles if the accident occurs as a direct result of horse-driving on a member track during a scheduled event.
Trainers	30,000	
Grooms	20,000	
Officials &		
Field Reps	15,000	

If you become totally and permanently disabled because of the accident, the plan will pay up to the Principal Sum, less any loss benefits payable.

Table of Losses

For a loss which occurs within 365 days after the accident (or, in the case of loss of use, for which the loss is continuous for at least 365 days) the plan will pay up to :

For loss of:

Life	The Principal Sum
Both Hands or Both Feet or Sight of Both Eyes	The Principal Sum
One Hand and One Foot	The Principal Sum
One Hand or One Foot and Sight of One Eye	The Principal Sum
Speech and Hearing in Both Ears	The Principal Sum
One Arm or One Leg	3/4 Principal Sum
One Hand or One Foot or Sight of One Eye	2/3 Principal Sum
Speech or Hearing in Both Ears	2/3 Principal Sum
Thumb and Index Finger or at least 4 Fingers of One Hand	1/3 Principal Sum



All Toes of One Foot 1/4 Principal Sum

**For loss of use of:**

Both Legs or Both Arms

or Both Hands

The Principal Sum

One Leg or One Arm

3/4 Principal Sum

One Hand

2/3 Principal Sum

One Foot

2/3 Principal Sum

**The Principal Sum is the maximum amount that would be paid for all injuries to any one person resulting from any one accident.**

"Loss" means complete loss for 12 consecutive months by severance except that in the case of loss of sight, speech or hearing, it means loss beyond remedy by surgical or other means.

"Loss of use" means total loss of ability to perform every action and service the arm, hand or leg was able to perform before the accident.

**Answers to questions you may have**

*Q. How do I become eligible for these benefits?*

**A.** If you are a Driver, Trainer, Groom or Official, under age 70, you are eligible for these benefits when you become a paid-up member of Standardbred Canada. Participation in the plan is mandatory and the cost will be reflected in your annual membership renewal.

*Q. What happens if I change classification (e.g. from Groom to Trainer)?*

**A.** You will automatically become insured for the amount in your new classification on the date your classification changes, provided you are actively at work on that day; otherwise on the day you return to work.

*Q. What, exactly, is a "horse-related" accident?*

**A.** A horse-related accident is one which occurs at a public or private racetrack or stable (within the jurisdiction of Standardbred Canada) while you are engaged in one of these duties:

- driving, exercising, training, feeding or handling trotting or pacing horses,
- handling sulkies, carts or other racing gear,
- maintaining or preparing track surfaces (including snow removal), or
- while handling horses, sulkies, carts, feed or other racing gear when transporting them to or from a public or private track or stable.

*Q. Where am I covered for these benefits?*

**A.** If you are a Canadian resident, you are covered while racing at any public or private racetrack within the jurisdiction of or approved by Standardbred Canada.

If you are not a Canadian Resident, you are covered only while racing in Canada.

*Q. Who is considered a Canadian resident?*

**A.** Any member who maintains his/her permanent residence in Canada and who resides here for at least 183 days in any year is considered a Canadian resident for purposes of this insurance.

*Q. Are any accidents or injuries not covered?*

**A.** No benefit will be payable if the accident is not "horse-related" as described previously (e.g. which happens while you are walking from the stable to your car), or any accident which occurs away from the track, except as noted in the description of "horse-related".

*Q. Are there any other limitations?*

**A.** No Weekly Indemnity benefits are payable if injury results from any medical condition that is not directly related to the current accident, or was in any manner or degree associated with or occasioned by suicide or self-inflicted injury while sane or insane; war, declared or undeclared; air travel; active full-time service in the armed forces of any country.

No Death & Dismemberment benefits will be paid for injury or death resulting from intentional self-mutilation or suicide; viral infection, bacterial infection, any form of disease or illness or physical or mental infirmity, medical or surgical treatment; participation in a riot, war or any act of war, insurrection; service in the armed forces of any country; air travel serving as a crew member, air travel in aircraft owned, leased or rented by your employer, or air travel where the aircraft is not properly licenced or the pilot is not properly certified to operate the aircraft.

*Q. How long does my coverage remain in effect?*

**A.** As long as you continue to be a paid-up member of Standardbred Canada, your coverage will remain in effect until your 70th birthday.

This brochure is only an outline of the plan. Terms and conditions of your Group Policy No. 33337GH will prevail.

**Arranged by:**

**SEABURY & SMITH**

Insurance Program Management

11 King St. West, Suite 1800, Toronto, Ontario, M5H 4C7

**Underwritten by:**

**THE  
Great-West Life**  
ASSURANCE COMPANY  
A MEMBER OF THE POWER FINANCIAL CORPORATION GROUP OF COMPANIES

C.P. 6000, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 3A5

*For more information, call your Standardbred Canada office at (905) 858-3060*

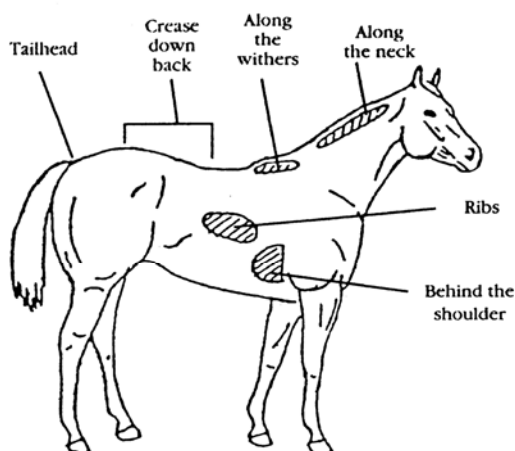
02-1101.1 Standardbred Canada 1199



## BODY CONDITION SCORING OF HORSES

B. Wright, G. Rietveld, and P. Lawlis

Body Condition Scoring (BCS) is an objective system of evaluating a horse's level of body condition (amount of stored fat) and assessing a numeric score to facilitate comparisons between horses. Many owners fail to recognize significant variations in the weight of horses or variations due to age and breed types. This often results in overfeeding or underfeeding.



**FIGURE 1. Diagram of Areas Emphasized in Condition Score** (Adapted from Henneke et.al. 1981, Texas A&M)

Body condition scoring involves the palpation and visual assessment of the degrees of fatness of various areas of the horse, such as: over the ribs, tailhead area, neck and withers, and behind the shoulders. (See *Figure 1.*) Fat reserves in these areas depend on the balance between energy intake and energy loss, for various activities.

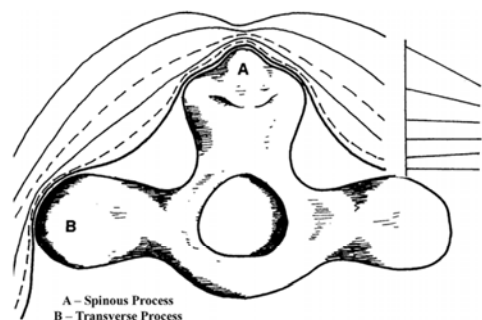
If there is a negative energy balance (energy loss greater than energy intake), then weight, and subsequent body condition, will be lost. This energy balance depends on such factors as: availability of food and water, weather (e.g., ambient temperature and wind chill), reproductive activity (e.g., pregnancy, lactation) and physical activity demands for growth and health status. A positive energy balance (energy expenditure less than energy intake) will result in a horse adding fat and muscle and improving body condition.

### BODY CONDITION SCORING

The body condition score system described here is mainly based on the system described by Carroll and Huntington (1988).<sup>1</sup> Palpation and visual inspection of the ribs, tailhead area, neck and withers, and behind the shoulders, facilitates the comparison of horses with differing amounts of stored body fat, independent of body size or breed of horse.

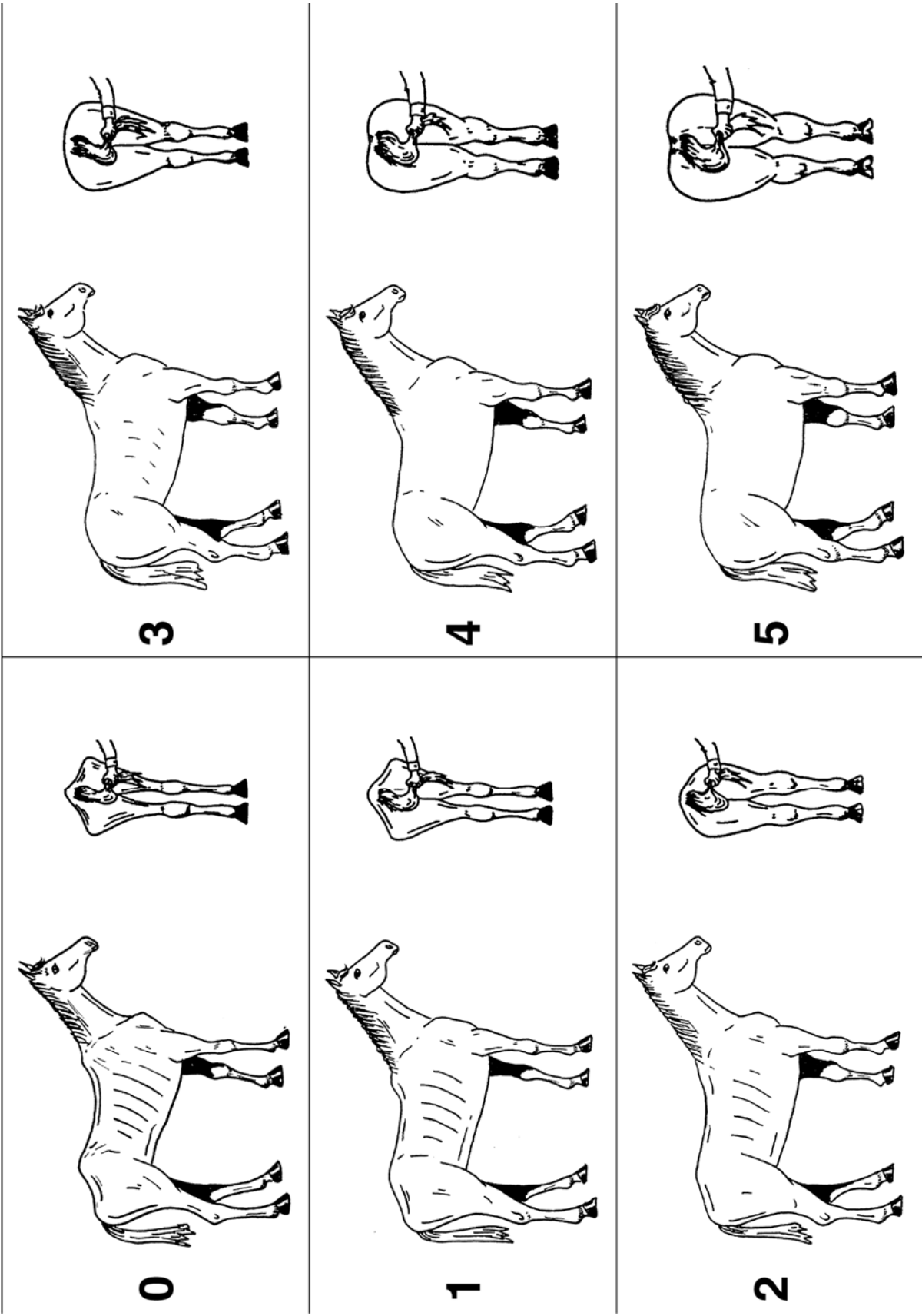
*Figure 2* shows the profile lines for the various body condition scores. The profile of BCS 0 and 1 follow the anatomical skeleton and describe stages of emaciation and extremely thin respectively. A score of 3 has a smooth appearance to the skeletal structure and represents a horse in optimum body condition for maintenance and is neither gaining nor losing weight. Horses scoring 3+ to 4 have a rounded appearance to their skeletal structure. They are in above average flesh but this should not impair their reproductive ability, especially if they are being maintained in outdoor housing during the winter.

A long hair coat can be misleading. Some conformational differences make it difficult to apply certain criteria to a specific animal. For example, animals with prominent withers, or flat across the back and mares heavy in foal (weight of the foal pulls skin taut over the ribs) may cause body condition scores to be lower than they actually are. However, when properly applied, the scoring system is independent of size or conformation of the horse.



**FIGURE 2. Lumbar Vertebra-Anterior View Indicating Profile Lines for Each Body Condition Score**

FIGURE 3. Body Condition Scoring (adapted from Carroll C. L. and Huntington P.J., *Body Condition Scoring and Weight Estimation of Horses*)



When evaluating animals, there will be an animal-to-animal variation; thus the use of the terms “easy-keeper” and “hard-keeper”. Easy-keepers include any of the individuals of the draft breeds, ponies and quarter horses. They also include the dominant animals in a herd situation. Hard-keepers include many of the individuals of the

following breeds: Arabian, thoroughbred and gaited horses. Hard-keepers will also include the shy individuals who are lower on the pecking order in a herd situation. *Table 1* summarizes the various body condition scores, while *Figure 3* depicts the changes in body appearance.

**TABLE 1. Descriptions of Anatomical Differences Between Body Condition Scores**

Condition	Neck	Withers	Back & Loin	Ribs	Hind Quarters
<b>0 Very thin</b>	bone structure easily felt — no muscle shelf where neck meets shoulder	bone structure easily felt	3 points of vertebrae easily felt (see <i>Figure 2</i> )	each rib can be easily felt	tailhead and hip bones projecting
<b>1 Thin</b>	can feel bone structure — slight shelf where neck meets shoulder	can feel bone structure	spinous process can be easily felt — transverse processes have slight fat covering	slight fat covering, but can still be felt	can feel hip bones
<b>2 Fair</b>	fat covering over bone structure	fat deposits over withers — dependent on conformation	fat over spinous processes	can't see ribs, but ribs can still be felt	hip bones covered with fat
<b>3 Good</b>	neck flows smoothly into shoulder	neck rounds out withers	back is level	layer of fat over ribs	can't feel hip bones
<b>4 Fat</b>	fat deposited along neck	fat padded around withers	positive crease along back	fat spongy over and between ribs	can't feel hip bones
<b>5 Very fat</b>	bulging fat	bulging fat	deep positive crease	pockets of fat	pockets of fat

As a guide to learning the scoring system and interpreting the results, examples of "typical" condition scores are listed below. There will be a range of condition within each score so it is sometimes convenient to assign +'s and -'s or half point scores as in 2.5 or 3.5.

<b>Score 0</b>	<b>Emaciated</b>	– with sunken rump and deep cavity under tail, skin tight over ribs; e.g., severely debilitated older horses with abnormal teeth occlusion, starvation.
<b>Score 1.0</b>	<b>Poor</b>	– very thin with prominent pelvis and croup, ribs visible.
<b>Score 2.0</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	– thin with flat rump, croup well defined, some fat; e.g., mare that has been severely dragged down by milking while on poor pasture.
<b>Score 2.5</b>		– e.g., racing condition or endurance horse.
<b>Score 3.0</b>	<b>Good</b>	– ribs and pelvis covered with fat and rounded; e.g., a halter horse in prime show condition.
<b>Score 3.5</b>		– e.g., mature mare in mid-gestation.
<b>Score 4.0</b>	<b>Fat</b>	– fat covering ribs and pelvis requiring firm pressure to feel; e.g., an easy-keeping, mature horse on pasture with little or no work.
<b>Score 5.0</b>	<b>Very Fat</b>	– severe over condition with ribs and pelvis that cannot be felt, deep gutter in back; e.g., a fat pony prone to founder (laminitis).

#### HERD EVALUATION WITH BODY CONDITION SCORING

The BCS system is often used when evaluating individual animals. However, when dealing with a group of horses, changes in the body condition from month to month as a result of changes in total feed being fed, or feed quality and utilization, can be evaluated. Follow the instructions and evaluate a group or herd of horses throughout a winter feeding period or throughout the year.

1. Body condition score each horse in the herd. (The example uses a herd of 22 horses.) Record the results in a table like *Table 2*.
2. Create a blank chart similar to *Figure 4*, where Number of Horses is on the vertical-axis and BCS is recorded on the horizontal-axis. Place an “X” on the graph at the intersection of the number of horses in each group and the BCS.
3. Join the markings, creating a line graph. Use a different colour for each month.

- Do this consecutively on a monthly basis. Observe any changes to the shape of the graph or movement of the curve either left or right

**TABLE 2. Evaluation of Herd**

Body Condition Score	Number of Horses in Each Score		
	Sept.	Dec.	Mar.
0	2	0	0
1	3	0	0
2, 2 ½	10	8	2
3, 3 ½	5	12	13
4	2	2	5
5	0	0	2

Figure 4 shows the change in body condition for the herd of horses. Movement of the curve to the right shows that the herd is in a positive energy balance while movement to the left shows a negative energy balance.

The individuals who need extra care and energy are those whose body condition scores are 2 or less. These individuals usually include: older horses with poor teeth; young and shy horses that are competing for food; aged mares in foal; or mares that have been dragged down by lactation. Horses with a body condition score of 3.5 and above are usually the “easy-keepers”, the dominant individuals, and ponies.

Nutrition was improved for the herd, especially those with body scores of less than 2. By the end of December, their body scores had improved and, by March, they were all greatly improved.

## SUMMARY

A consistent method of body condition scoring is a useful management tool. It will improve communication between stable employees, owners and veterinarians by providing a descriptive method, which is affected by changes in nutrition, physiological level of activity, or environmental conditions. It promotes a better awareness of feed utilization and allows for changes to feeding regimes based on individual and/or herd responses.

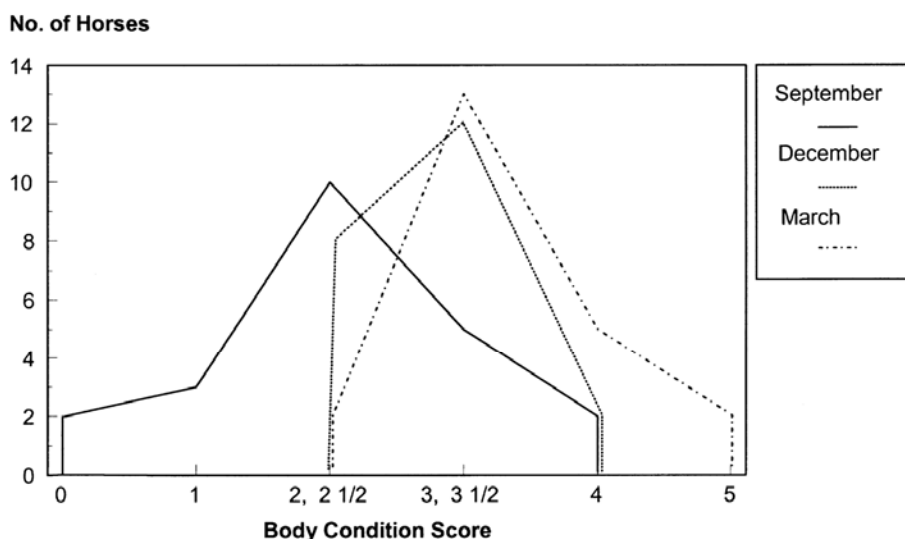
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- Henneke D. R., Potter G.D., Kreider J. L. and Yeates B. F., *Relationship Between Condition Score, Physical Measurements and Body Fat Percentage in Mares*, Equine Veterinary Journal (1983) 15 (4), 371 – 372.

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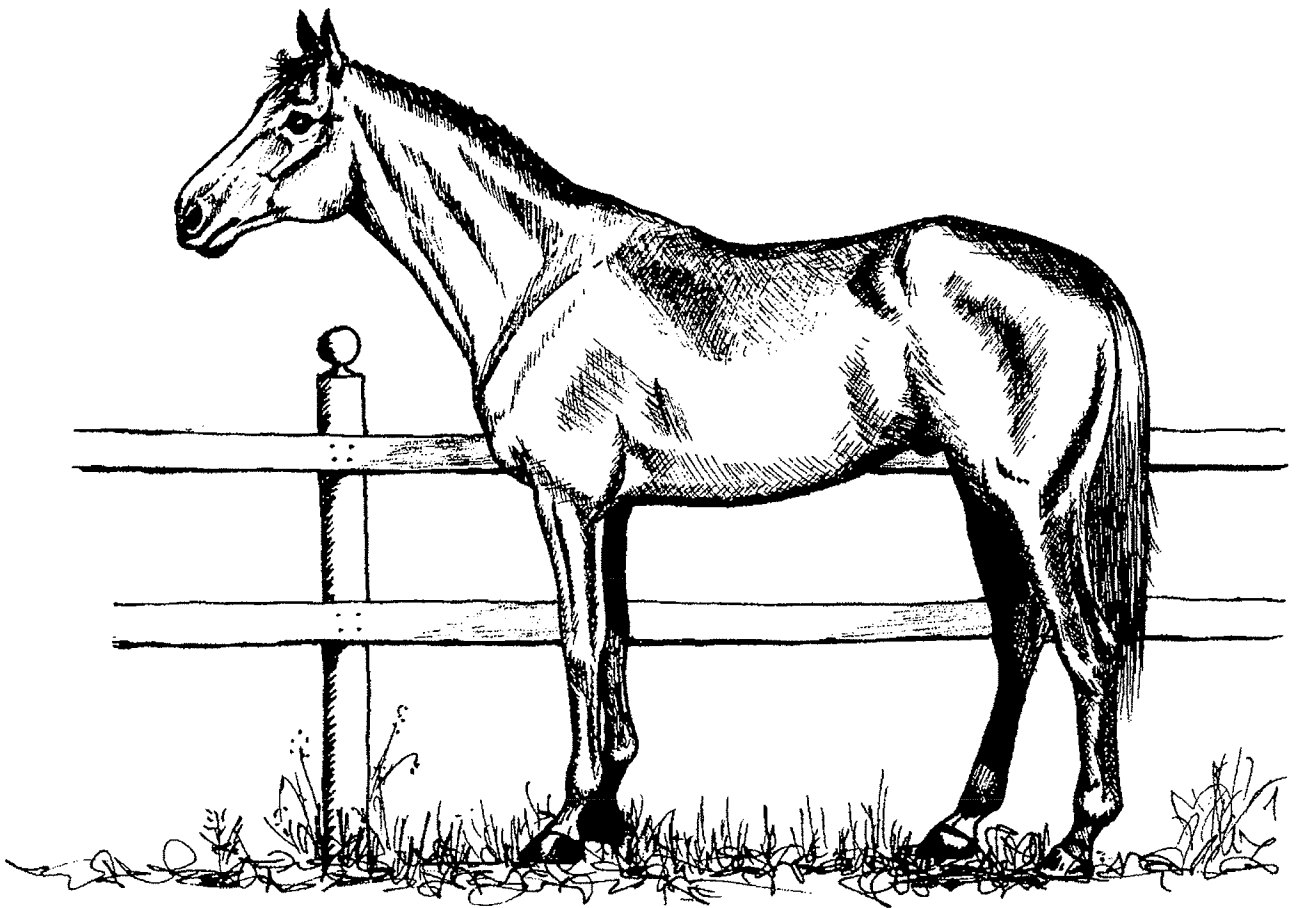
[www.gov.on.ca/omafra](http://www.gov.on.ca/omafra)

**FIGURE 4. Change in Body Condition for the Herd of Horses**



Recommended Code of Practice for  
the Care and Handling of Farm Animals

# Horses



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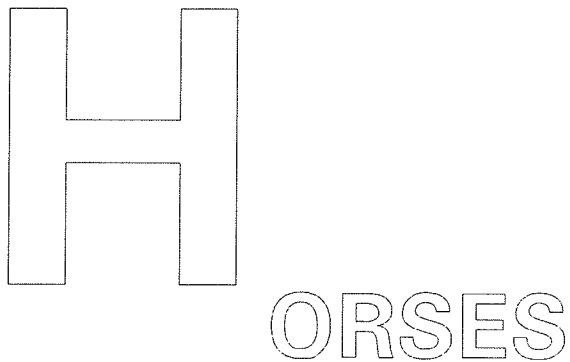
Available from

National and Provincial Organizations as listed in Appendix 9.

*For information on the process for the development of a Code, please write to*  
Canadian Agri-Food Research Council  
Heritage House, Building 60  
Central Experimental Farm  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0C6

*Also available in french*

Recommended code of practice for  
the care and handling of farm animals



*Coordinated by*

Canadian Agri-Food Research Council (CARC)  
CARC Canada Committee on Animals  
CARC Expert Committee on Farm Animal Welfare and Behaviour  
Canadian Federation of Humane Societies

*Review committee*

Participants are listed in Appendix 10

*Financial Contributions*

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*Cover illustration*

Courtesy of G. Rietveld



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# Acknowledgments

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# Preface

The Codes of Practice are nationally developed guidelines for the care and handling of different species of farm animals. The Codes contain recommended housing and management practices for farm animals as well as transportation and processing.

The Codes of Practice are voluntary and are intended for use as an educational tool by promoting sound management and welfare practices. The Codes contain recommendations to assist farmers and others in the agriculture and food sector to compare and improve their management practices.

In 1980, the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies began coordinating the process of development of draft Codes of Practice for all farm species with the introduction of a **Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Poultry from Hatchery to Slaughterhouse**. The federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food (AAFC) provided financial support for the undertaking at that time.

All Codes of Practice are presently developed by a review committee with representatives from farm groups, animal welfare groups, veterinarians, animal scientists, federal and provincial governments, related agricultural sectors and interested individuals.

In 1993, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada asked the Canadian Agri-Food Research Council (CARC), its Canada Committee on Animals and the Expert Committee on Farm Animal Welfare and Behaviour to take the lead in co-operation with the Canadian Federation of Humane Societies in updating existing Codes and developing new Codes. CARC officially agreed to take on this responsibility in February 1995, upon confirmation of funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

In 1996, CARC with the support of the provincial governments began producing four page factsheets in both English and French for such uses as teaching agriculture in the classroom, agricultural fairs and exhibitions.

Codes developed to date:

Species	Original	Revision
Poultry	1983	1989
Pigs	1984	1993
Veal calves	1988	1998
Ranched mink	1988	-
Ranched fox	1989	-
Dairy cattle	1990	-
Beef cattle	1991	-
Sheep	1995	-
Farmed deer	1996	-
Horses	1998	-
Transport	(being developed)	-

Further information on the process of Code development can be obtained from the Canadian Agri-Food Research Council (CARC), Heritage House, Building 60, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C6. Requests for copies of the Codes can be addressed to the national commodity group and/or specific provincial organization.

The CARC Home Page is [www.carc-crac.ca](http://www.carc-crac.ca) for further information.

**Disclaimer**

Information contained in this publication is subject to periodic review in light of changing horse management practices, government requirements and regulations. No subscriber or reader should act on the basis of any such information without referring to applicable laws and regulations and/or without seeking appropriate professional advice. Although every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, the review committee shall not be held responsible for loss or damage caused by errors, omissions, misprints or misinterpretation of the contents hereof. Furthermore, the review committee expressly disclaims all and any liability to any person, whether the purchaser of this publication or not, in respect of anything done, or omitted, by any such person in reliance on the contents of this publication.

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# Introduction

Horses have been domesticated for thousands of years. Throughout the world, horses are kept in a wide variety of situations. Many breeds exist, adapted to a broad range of environmental conditions. This is true within Canada, where the commercial and private horse industries are large and extremely diverse.

This Code does not claim to be comprehensive for all situations, but endeavours to define high standards for the basic principles of horse management to be used in commercial, research, education, recreational, sporting and other farm operations. Most sporting and competitive activities involving horses are conducted under rules set out by their respective governing bodies. Please refer to the governing body of the particular activity for information as to rules, regulations and codes of conduct (Appendix 9).

Animal welfare considerations are important for the keeping and raising of animals. High standards of animal welfare are important legally, have direct economic benefit and ensure that the Canadian horse industry has a place in the international market.

Providing competent handling and an environment that allows horses to fulfil their basic needs are crucial elements in putting this Code into practice. The basic elements of responsible animal care include:

- Comfort and shelter
- Readily accessible potable water and a diet to maintain animals in full health and vigour
- Opportunity for reasonable movement
- Company of other animals, particularly of like

kind

- Opportunity to exhibit most normal patterns of behaviour
- Prevention, or rapid diagnosis and treatment, of abnormal behaviour, injury and disease
- Emergency procedures to cover outbreaks of fire, the breakdown of essential mechanical services and the disruption of supplies.

This Code of Practice is voluntary. Provincial and federal acts and their regulations must always take precedence. When the word “must” is used, it emphasizes the importance of a specific practice.

The Pregnant Mare Urine (PMU) industry is a unique segment of the horse industry. The PMU industry is guided by its **Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Horses in PMU Operations**. This PMU Code is an integral part of the Horse Code; information concerning the PMU Code is included in Appendix 1 of this document.

The recommendations in this Code of Practice are based on the best knowledge currently available. We recognize that research into, and evaluation of, various management and welfare issues, such as the amount of exercise a horse requires, humane transportation and the most humane method for stunning at slaughter, must be supported. As scientific and technological knowledge advances, management procedures will evolve. We encourage the pursuit of such knowledge and the adoption of viable handling and management procedures that ensure animal welfare.

# Section 1 Management Skills and Responsibilities

The purpose of this Code of Practice is to promote the welfare of horses. Those involved in the horse industry must make an effort to inform themselves and others in the proper care and handling of horses. This Code of Practice provides a guideline for the care necessary to promote the health and welfare of horses. Detailed information can be found by contacting provincial agriculture ministries, universities, veterinarians and successful horse owners/breeders.

## 1.1 General

1.1.1 People working with horses must have due regard for their welfare.

1.1.2 People involved in the horse industry should be aware of the welfare of horses under their care or the care of others. This may involve reporting cases of cruelty or neglect to the proper authorities, who have the authority to lay charges under federal and provincial regulations.

1.1.3 People involved in the horse industry must be aware of and comply with existing regulations governing the use of horses.

1.1.4 It is the responsibility of people working with horses to be knowledgeable of the proper care and handling of horses. Ignorance is not acceptable as an excuse for cruelty and neglect.

1.1.5 Management practices should accommodate the natural behaviour of horses, such as their need to graze and to socialize.

1.1.6 Horses should receive as much exercise and rest as is necessary for their welfare.

1.1.7 Tack and harness should be properly fitted to each horse to prevent any injury or irritation.

and accept responsibility for the welfare of horses in their care. Employers have an obligation to train employees with respect to humane handling and animal care.

1.2.2 Prior to assignment of duties, personnel must be adequately instructed in the basic needs of horses in their care. A working knowledge of the behaviour of horses combined with adequate facilities are necessary to ensure safe handling. Procedures must be reviewed and practiced to ensure competency and safety.

1.2.3 People working with horses should be able to identify the early signs of distress or disease.

1.2.4 The manager of a horse operation should design a contingency plan for situations (such as fire, mechanical failures, floods or shortage of personnel) that might endanger the lives or health of the horses on the premises. Everyone on the premises should be familiar with the plan and be able to take the proper action in the event of an emergency.

1.2.5 People working with horses should always avoid sudden actions or noise that may startle or frighten horses.

1.2.6 People working with horses should always be aware of the potential danger when working with horses and should take precautions to ensure their own safety and that of others.

## 1.2 Personnel

1.2.1 People working with horses must understand



## Section 2 Shelter and Horse Facilities

The purpose of this section is to provide information on the basic principles of shelter for horses. Management practices for all sectors of the Canadian horse industry have been developed in response to Canada's diverse climatic and geographic conditions. It is beyond the scope of this Code to describe all shelter and housing facilities used for horse care and production. Individuals requiring further information should refer to local sources, such as universities, provincial agricultural ministries, veterinarians and successful horse owners/breeders.

### 2.1 Shelter

2.1.1 The design and use of shelter facilities should promote the health, well-being and good performance of horses throughout all stages of their lives. Natural or constructed shelter areas must offer adequate protection from adverse weather conditions. All shelter areas should be structurally safe for horses and personnel. Shelter design should facilitate easy and safe handling. Advice on aspects of welfare should be sought when new buildings are to be constructed or existing ones modified.

2.1.2 Shelter areas should be located to avoid adverse effects of predictable natural occurrences, such as flooding.

2.1.3 Pastures, paddocks and feedlots used during cold seasons must have adequate windbreaks to reduce the effects of wind chill.

### 2.2 Stables

2.2.1 Housing facilities should be designed and constructed to provide for the horse's welfare.

2.2.2 Horses should be provided with a clean, dry area for lying down. In all types of housing systems, horses should be free to stand up or lie down comfortably at all times.

2.2.3 Alleyways and box stalls should be constructed to permit easy access for both horses and attendants. Horses and attendants should be able to move about safely.

2.2.4 Stall size should be calculated in relation to the size and weight of the animal (Appendix 2 gives space requirements for a 500kg/1100

lb. horse).

2.2.5 Ceilings and support beams in all facilities used to house horses should be high enough to permit horses to have a full range of head and neck motion without touching the ceiling when standing with four feet on the floor.

2.2.6 Floors in a horse stable should be properly designed, constructed and maintained to provide good traction, proper drainage, comfort and prevent injury.

2.2.7 The design of housing facilities and the materials used in their construction should permit thorough cleaning.

2.2.8 Wiring and electrical panels should not be accessible to horses and must be installed in accordance with applicable electrical codes.

### 2.3 Stable Maintenance

2.3.1 Stalls should be cleaned frequently and thoroughly to keep the stable clean, dry and free from noxious odors i.e. ammonia. Adequate amounts of suitable bedding material should be provided.

2.3.2 When a deep litter system (see Glossary) is used, the manure pack should be well drained and enough bedding should be added regularly to ensure a dry lying area. The deep litter system is not recommended for enclosed barns.

2.3.3 Manure should be handled and stored with a minimal negative impact on the environment.

2.3.4 Equipment and services, including feeding utensils, waterers, ventilating fans, heating and lighting units, fire extinguishers and

alarm systems should be cleaned and inspected regularly to ensure that they are working properly.

- 2.3.5 Proper storage facilities should be provided for all equipment so as not to obstruct or endanger horses.

## 2.4 Lighting and Ventilation

- 2.4.1 Horse stables/housing should be lit to permit the effective observation of all horses. Alleyways and work areas should be uniformly illuminated.

- 2.4.2 Natural light sources should be utilized as much as possible in the design of the facility.

- 2.4.3 Ventilation systems in horse stables/housing should be capable of maintaining an air change rate to prevent excessive heat and moisture levels and to remove major dust and gas contaminants that can be damaging to the respiratory system of horses and humans.

- 2.4.4 Mechanically ventilated stables should be equipped to introduce and uniformly distribute fresh air and/or to exhaust foul, moisture-laden air. Stables may be adequately ventilated through the use of air intakes and exhaust openings and/or in combination with the use of window and door openings to give reasonable air exchange without creating drafts.

- 2.4.5 Air movement should not cause discomfort to horses in the stable.

## 2.5 Safety

- 2.5.1 All stables/housing should have emergency

evacuation capabilities, including more than one available exit. Stalls should be equipped with quick release fasteners or some other means of easily releasing horses. A halter and lead rope for each horse should be available.

- 2.5.2 Emergency procedures should be posted and updated regularly and should include:

- a) evacuation procedures for people and horses;
- b) a list of emergency telephone numbers; and
- c) emergency transportation and housing arrangements.

- 2.5.3 Emergency equipment should be installed and should include:

- a) an effective smoke and fire detection system;
- b) fire extinguishers rated at least 2A by the Underwriters Laboratories of Canada; and
- c) emergency lighting systems.

- 2.5.4 Stable owners should consult with their local fire departments and request a site visit to review their emergency preparedness.

- 2.5.5 Electrical equipment (e.g. heated water bowls) should be regularly checked for stray or tingle voltage (see Glossary).

- 2.5.6 Hay and bedding should be stored in a separate building, away from horses. When haylofts are built above horse stalls, the loft floor should be constructed with a fire rating of not less than 45 minutes.

- 2.5.7 Horse owners/handlers should be aware that horses may ingest materials other than normal feed stuffs. Horses must not be allowed access to potentially toxic materials such as agricultural chemicals, lead batteries, petroleum products and paints.

# Section 3 Feed and Water

## 3.1 Feed

- 3.1.1 Horses should receive a daily diet that is

adequate for maintaining health. Horses should be fed on a regular schedule.

- 3.1.2 Diets for all horses should be formulated in accordance with the current recommendations of the National Research Council's (NRC) *Nutrient Requirements of Horses* (Appendix 3).
  - 3.1.3 Commercial feeds must comply with the *Feed Regulations* as provided by the *Feeds Act* of Canada.
  - 3.1.4 When horses are fed high-grain (high-energy) diets, attention should be paid to avoid nutrition-related health problems such as grain overload, laminitis or obesity. Abrupt changes in diet should be avoided.
  - 3.1.5 All feed components used in the diet should be free of spoilage. Dusts and molds are harmful to horses.
  - 3.1.6 When horses are fed in groups, enough manger space or feeding points should be available to minimize competition for feed (Appendix 2). All horses should have simultaneous access to feeders so that all can eat at one time, unless self-feeding is being practiced.
  - 3.1.7 Horses should have access to a source of salt and appropriate minerals. These may be incorporated in their diet or fed free-choice.
  - 3.1.8 All feeds and supplements should be properly labelled to avoid misuse. Feeds designed for other species, particularly medicated feeds and those containing urea, are not suitable for horses.
  - 3.1.9 Feed troughs and buckets should be cleaned regularly.
- 3.2 Water**
- 3.2.1 Every horse must have access to a sufficient supply of potable water to meet its individual maintenance and activity needs. Many factors influence water consumption, including air temperature and humidity, water temperature, body weight, level of activity, diet and health and physiological status (e.g. pregnant, lactating or growing). Table 1 gives water requirements for horses.
  - 3.2.2 Water troughs/buckets should be located so that they are protected from fouling and freezing. Water troughs, buckets and automatic waterers must be kept clean. Automatic watering systems must be checked daily to ensure that they are dispensing water properly.

**TABLE 1: WATER REQUIREMENTS OF HORSES**

Body weight	Water Requirements - litres		
	MINIMUM	AVERAGE	MAXIMUM
410 kg (900 lbs)	13.5 (3.0 gal)	20 (4.5 gal)	27 (6 gal)
545 kg (1200 lbs)	18 (4.0 gal)	27 (6.0 gal)	36 (8 gal)
680 kg (1500 lbs)	22.5 (5.0 gal)	36 (8.0 gal)	45 (10 gal)

Adapted from: *Nutrient Requirement of Horses*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, National Research Council 1989.

## Section 4 Pastures/Yards

- 4.1 **Pastures**
  - 4.1.1 Horses on pasture/range should have access to sufficient quantities of good quality feed and potable water.
  - 4.1.2 Salt and minerals should be available at all times (Appendix 3).
  - 4.1.3 Properly maintained pastures may provide all or most of the nutrient requirements of

horses. Supplements should be provided, when necessary, to offset shortfalls in pasture quality and quantity. Pasture grazing has behavioural benefits.

- 4.1.4 To prevent digestive and health problems, horses should be gradually introduced to pasture, especially in springtime.
- 4.1.5 Horses on pasture should be inspected regularly, paying particular attention during high-risk periods (e.g. seasonal change, foaling, introduction of new animals to the herd).
- 4.1.6 Application of fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides and farm manure to pastures must be timed and conducted to prevent any risk to grazing animals and the environment. Pastures and yards should be inspected regularly for poisonous plants. Environmental conditions, including flooding and air pollution, can contaminate pastures.
- 4.1.7 Horses on pasture should have access to a well-drained resting area and to a natural or constructed shelter for protection from adverse weather conditions.
- 4.1.8 Pastures, paddocks and yards should be free of equipment, machinery, debris and refuse of all kinds.
- 4.1.9 Fly and insect populations should be regularly monitored and appropriate control measures applied as needed.

#### **4.2 Fencing/Safety**

- 4.2.1 Yards and pastures should be properly fenced to safely confine horses. The suitability of fencing varies according to the disposition of

the horses, as well as stocking density and paddock/pasture size. Fences should form both a physical and a visible barrier to minimize the potential for injuries.

- 4.2.2 Fences should be maintained in good repair. Fences and gates should be maintained to prevent horses from gaining access to roadways; perimeter gates should be kept closed.
- 4.2.3 Barbed wire and narrow gauge high tensile steel wire, because of their cutting, non-stretching and non-breaking properties, can cause severe injury to horses. These materials may be used for fencing in extensive, pasture grazing situations. In closely-confined paddock situations they should be avoided.
- 4.2.4 Horses should be introduced to unfamiliar fenced areas during daylight hours to reduce the risk of injury.

#### **4.3 Electric Fencing**

- 4.3.1 Electric fencing units must be CSA approved and must be installed and maintained according to the manufacturer's specification.
- 4.3.2 All power units for electric fences must be effectively grounded to prevent short circuits and/or electricity being conducted to unwanted places, i.e., gates and water troughs.
- 4.3.3 Horses should be supervised when first introduced to electric fencing.

## **Section 5** **Handling**

### **5.1 General**

- 5.1.1 Horses should be handled quietly, with care and patience, to avoid injury, pain or distress.
- 5.1.2 Handling and restraining devices must be used humanely and with regard to the horse's natural movement, temperament and physical

capabilities.

- 5.1.3 A properly equipped handling area should be available to facilitate the treatment of horses.
- 5.1.4 All tack and equipment should be maintained in good operating condition.

5.1.5 All halters, leads and lariats and other materials used to restrain or handle horses must be equipped with a method of quick release in case a horse becomes entangled in the equipment. Chutes used to restrain horses should have break out walls to assist horses that go down during handling.

## 5.2 Tethering

5.2.1 Tethering and hobbling for the purpose of grazing is a practice which has a high risk of injury to horses. It is not recommended and is strongly discouraged.

# Section 6 Health Management

## 6.1 General

6.1.1 Horses should be inspected frequently to ensure that they are healthy. Table 2 gives vital signs for an adult, 545 kg (1200 lb) horse at rest at 15° C. These will vary according to age, physical fitness and environmental conditions. Younger horses tend to be at the higher end of the range.

6.1.2 Horses on pasture or range should be inspected regularly, paying particular attention during high-risk periods (e.g., seasonal change, foaling period, introduction of new animals).

**TABLE 2: VITAL SIGNS FOR A 545 KG (1200 LB) HORSE AT REST AT 15° C**

Vital Sign	Normal Range	Average
Rectal temperature	37.5-38.5 C (99.5-101.3 F)	38.0 C (100 F)
Pulse	23-70 beats/minute	44 beats/minute
Respiration rate	10-14 breaths/minute	12 breaths/minute

Reference: Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Horses - New Zealand 1993

- 6.1.3 In consultation with a veterinarian, people working with horses should develop a sound health care program, appropriate to the facilities and management system being followed. Increased horse population density requires greater attention to disease prevention.
- 6.1.4 A parasite control program should be established in consultation with a veterinarian. This will include administration of anthelmintics (dewormers) and manure and pasture management.
- 6.1.5 Hooves should be trimmed as often as is necessary to maintain the health of the foot. The frequency of hoof trimming will depend on such factors as age, season, nutrition, management and injury. When a horse is shod, shoes should be properly fitted and maintained.
- 6.1.6 Horses' teeth should be examined at least annually. Uneven wear and abnormalities of teeth should not be allowed to interfere with normal eating habits. Dental care will depend on such factors as age, nutrition and management system. Dental care should be performed by a veterinarian or under veterinary supervision.
- 6.1.7 When horses require medication, it must be administered as directed by the veterinarian or manufacturer. Treated horses should be properly identified. Only medications approved for use in horses should be administered. Strict attention must be paid to dosage levels and withdrawal times, either as indicated by the label information or as recommended by a veterinarian.
- 6.1.8 Medication must be administered by competent and knowledgeable personnel.
- 6.1.9 A health record, including any treatment or medication, should be kept for each horse.
- 6.1.10 Surgical procedures must be conducted only by licensed veterinarians or properly trained animal health technicians using accepted surgical techniques, in accordance with provincial and federal veterinary acts and regulations.
- 6.1.11 Horses may be susceptible to transportation stress and disease after transport. On arrival, new horses should be isolated to prevent the possible spread of disease. Handlers should carefully monitor recently transported horses for several days after long-distance transport.
- 6.1.12 Distressed horses should be dealt with humanely, effectively and promptly to prevent suffering. Sick or injured horses must receive veterinary treatment immediately.
- 6.1.13 Under no circumstances should severely sick, injured, blind or disabled horses be transported to a livestock auction. They may be moved directly to a medical facility, after consultation with a veterinarian, or, with veterinary approval, moved directly to a slaughterhouse.
- 6.1.14 Severely disabled horses (downers) must not be dragged. A veterinarian should be consulted prior to any attempt to move a downed horse.
- 6.1.15 Dead horses must be removed and disposed of in an appropriate manner according to municipal, provincial and federal regulations.
- 6.1.16 Suspicion of a reportable disease as defined by the *Health of Animals Act* (Canadian Food Inspection Agency) must immediately be brought to the attention of a veterinarian (Appendix 4).
- 6.1.17 Tail docking of horses for cosmetic reasons is unacceptable.

## Section 7 Identification

## 7.1 General

7.1.1 Permanent identification is an essential aspect of the horse industry. It serves as legal proof of ownership and is necessary to maintain adequate health records.

7.1.2 For registered horses, the breed registry will determine the acceptable method of identification.

7.1.3 Horse owners should use the least invasive method of identification that is effective.

7.1.4 The non-invasive identification system most widely used is a physical description, using colour, markings, breed and position of hair whorls and scars. Chestnut fingerprinting is possible but not currently in general use. Halter tagging, back tagging and neck chains are other non-invasive methods of temporary identification.

7.1.5 Invasive identification techniques include:

a) lip tattooing as described in breed registries;

b) micro chips (transponders) - these are implanted under the skin using a needle. Implantation of this foreign material is not allowed in horses to be used for human consumption;

c) plastic ear tags - can be used for temporary identification; and

d) hoof branding - may be used for temporary identification.

7.1.6 Hot and freeze branding of horses produces a permanent mark on the skin. Hot branding causes a scar where the hair re-grows in a different pattern than on the surrounding skin. In freeze branding, the hair re-grows in a lighter colour. Horse organizations are encouraged to move away from this type of identification.

7.1.7 Horses should never be rebranded. Governments and industry are encouraged to develop a more humane identification system for verifying ownership.

## Section 8 Reproductive Management

### 8.1 General

8.1.1 Reproductive management should be based on several factors, including size, age, health, previous performance and genetic potential.

8.1.2 Pasture breeding is an acceptable method of reproductive management.

8.1.3 Where artificial insemination or hand breeding is practiced, proper heat checking and restraining devices should be available to facilitate easy and effective heat detection, veterinary inspection and/or insemination.

8.1.4 Facilities used for hand breeding should ensure the safety of both horses and handlers. This includes secure footing and adequate ceiling

height indoors and a safe environment outdoors.

8.1.5 In natural breeding, the body weight and size of the stallion must be appropriate to the size and physical development of the mare.

8.1.6 The collection of semen and artificial insemination should be performed only by trained personnel. It is recommended that a phantom mare be used as a mount for semen collection. When a mare must be used as a mount for semen collection, she must be

protected from injury.

## **8.2 Stallion Management**

8.2.1 Stallions should be provided with a nutritionally balanced diet, balanced diet, based on body size and activity (Appendix 3).

8.2.2 Stallions should be exercised and given the opportunity to safely see other horses.

## **8.3 Mare Management**

8.3.1 Mares must be provided with a nutritionally balanced diet prior to breeding, throughout gestation and during lactation (Appendix 3).

8.3.2 Mares to be bred/inseminated should be handled as quietly as possible.

8.3.3 Pregnant mares should be allowed to exercise. The amount of exercise during pregnancy should reflect the activity level prior to pregnancy and should in no way threaten the health of the mare and/or fetus.

8.3.4 Mares should be managed so that they are in suitable body condition at the time of breeding and foaling. A body condition score of 5 or better on the 1-9 scale (Appendix 5) is recommended.

8.3.5 Mares should be routinely monitored for health status throughout the gestation period. A health program should be designed in consultation with a veterinarian. This health program should include prefoaling instructions for attendants. Any mare requiring veterinary care during pregnancy must receive such care.

## **8.4 Foaling**

8.4.1 Where a foaling stall or paddock is used, it should safely confine both mare and foal. It is recommended that the mare be given the opportunity to become familiar with the stall, foaling area or paddock several days before foaling.

8.4.2 Mares foaling on pasture should be provided with a clean, hazard free area. Sheltered foaling areas should be provided when foaling may coincide with adverse weather conditions.

8.4.3 Foaling attendants should be familiar with all the signs of impending parturition (foaling) and the three stages of parturition (see Glossary). To reduce stress to the mare, only one person should be responsible for observing the mare.

8.4.4 Mares generally foal without complications. Before administering assistance to a mare, attendants should be familiar with the signs of a normal delivery. Mares having difficulty foaling should be assisted immediately, preferably by a licensed veterinarian.

8.4.5 After delivery, the umbilical cord should be allowed to sever on its own.

8.4.6 The use of navel disinfectants should be on the advice of a veterinarian.

## **8.5 Care of the Neonate**

8.5.1 Newborn foals must ingest adequate amounts of colostrum as soon as possible after birth, preferably by nursing within the first six hours of life. Previously frozen colostrum should be available in the event that foals are unable to nurse, or the mare's colostrum is unavailable or of poor quality. The newborn foal should consume 250 ml (8oz) of colostrum per hour for the first twelve hours. Feeding colostrum after 24 hours is of limited value.

8.5.2 Foals should be observed regularly (preferably daily) during the first month of life to ensure that they are adequately nourished and healthy. If abnormalities are observed, a licensed veterinarian should be consulted.



8.5.3 Orphaned foals need specialized care. The best option is to foster the foal onto a nurse mare as soon as possible.

If a nurse mare is not available, ensure that the foal receives adequate colostrum as outlined in section 8.5.1. The foal should then be fed a foal milk replacer containing 15-18% fat and 18-22% crude protein made from milk products. For days 2 and 3, the foal should be fed a daily volume equal to 10-15% its body weight, at a rate of 250-500 mls (8-16 ounces) every 1-2 hours around the clock. Starting on day 4, increase the volume to 20% of body weight and adjust the feeding interval to every 3-4 hours. Free choice nipple or bucket feeding is recommended to achieve this level of intake.

By two weeks of age, the foal should be provided with a commercial foal ration and a high quality hay. Free choice water should be available at all times.

8.5.4 Foals should be kept in a warm, dry, well-bedded area.

## 8.6 Foal Care

8.6.1 A high quality forage and commercial foal ration may be made available on a free-choice basis by 7-10 days of age to promote normal growth and development. After 60 days, mare's milk is not sufficient to meet the nutrient requirements of the foal.

8.6.2 Foals should be raised outdoors, where possible. If mares and foals are kept indoors, the opportunity for regular exercise should be provided for normal development.

8.6.3 Foals may be weaned from 3-6 months of age, depending on the health status of both the mare and the foal. Weaning is stressful for mare and foal; strategies should be employed to minimize this stress.

## Section 9 Feedlots

### 9.1 General

9.1.1 Feedlots should be designed with the comfort and safety of the horses in mind. The feedlot should be clean, dry and protected from the elements.

9.1.2 Feedlots should be properly drained, with particular attention to feeding and watering areas. Excessive build up of wet manure must be avoided, in keeping with good animal husbandry practices. Dust control measures may also be required.

9.1.3 Horses in feedlots should be provided with adequate shelter. Adequate shelter may be an open-fronted shed or wind-break fencing (20% porosity) to protect horses from prevailing winds.

9.1.4 A dry, sheltered, elevated resting area should be available at all times.

9.1.5 An adequate supply of clean, dry bedding should be available at all times.

9.1.6 A feedlot facility should have properly designed and maintained unloading and loading facilities.

9.1.7 The space allowance for horses housed in groups should be calculated in relation to the whole environment, i.e. the size of the group, age, sex, weight and behaviour of the horses.

### 9.2 Feedlot Management

9.2.1 Horses should be segregated into groups according to age, sex and size. Segregation into small groups may reduce competition and disease.

- 9.2.2 New arrivals at the feedlot should:
- a) be identified using an acceptable method;
  - b) initially be isolated from other horses in a clean, dry, well-bedded area, protected from the elements;
  - c) have access to a supply of potable water. This supply should be easily identifiable as many new arrivals may be familiar with natural water sources only;
  - d) have free access to good quality hay;
  - e) be gradually introduced to the feedlot ration; and
  - f) be closely monitored for health status and for food and water intake.
- 9.2.3 Adequate feeder space should be provided to reduce competition for feed. Less space is required if horses are on a self-feeding program.
- 9.2.4 Water must be available at all times. Automatic, heated waterers are recommended to ensure a constant source of water. Waterers must be checked daily.
- 9.3 Health**
- 9.3.1 Any horse requiring medical treatment must be identified, treated and a record of the treatment kept.
- 9.3.2 When horses are treated, strict attention must be paid to dosage levels and withdrawal times either as indicated by label information or as recommended by a veterinarian.
- 9.3.3 A parasite control program must be established in consultation with a veterinarian because most anthelmintics (dewormers) are not licensed for use in horses intended for human consumption. This may include manure and pasture management. Strict attention must be paid to the dosage and withdrawal times of dewormers, either as indicated by label information or as recommended by a veterinarian.
- 9.3.4 Isolation pens should be available to accommodate sick horses safely and effectively.
- 9.3.5 Communicable disease may be a problem amongst feedlot horses. Veterinary consultation is recommended to design a health program that addresses prevention, as well as diagnosis and treatment.
- 9.4 Feeding**
- 9.4.1 Feedlot horses should be gradually introduced to the feedlot ration over a period of 7-21 days. Overfeeding grain without proper adjustment can cause enterotoxemia, colic, diarrhea, laminitis or death.
- 9.4.2 Horses can be fed a ration that includes 60 - 70% grain. At least three weeks of gradual increments is required to bring horses up to full feed. Self-feeding can be used after this time if adequate quality forage is provided. To avoid the risk of enterotoxemia, it is best to feed the horses a total mixed ration.
- 9.4.3 Grain may be fed whole, flaked or rolled. Finely-ground grain is not recommended.
- 9.4.4 Good quality, non-moldy, dust free hay should be available free choice at all times or fed as part of the total mixed ration. Good quality silage can be used in a total mixed ration.
- 9.4.5 Salt, minerals and vitamins are normally incorporated into the concentrate portion of the diet. Salt and minerals may be provided free choice. The total ration should be balanced in accordance with NRC requirements (Appendix 3).

# Section 10 Transportation

## 10.1 General

10.1.1 Each person involved in the preparation of horses for transport and in the transporting of horses by any mode should be knowledgeable about horse behaviour, adhere to the principles of animal welfare and comply with appropriate regulations.

10.1.2 The handler should have easy access to each horse.

10.1.3 The driver is responsible for the continued care and welfare of the horses during transport.

10.1.4 Drivers should start, drive and stop their vehicles as smoothly as possible. They should practice defensive driving to avoid sudden stops. Drivers should negotiate turns in the smoothest possible manner.

10.1.5 The transportation of horses from point of origin to a final destination should be completed as safely and as quickly as possible.

10.1.6 Each load should be checked before departure and periodically during transportation. During roadside inspection, the driver should evaluate all animals for signs of discomfort. When the welfare of horses is likely to be compromised due to further transport, the situation must be promptly corrected.

10.1.7 Transportation is recognized as a potential stress to horses. Horses stressed by transport should be closely observed for several days for signs of ill health.

## 10.2 Vehicles, Trailers and Equipment

10.2.1 Vehicles used to transport horses should provide for the safety of horses and personnel during transport.

10.2.2 Vehicles should:

- a) permit easy loading and unloading;
- b) be properly constructed and maintained, with proper cover to protect against extreme weather conditions;
- c) be free from insecure fittings or the presence of bolt heads, angles or other projections;
- d) be properly ventilated. A method must be available to adjust the ventilation from outside the loaded trailer to accommodate a change in weather or unplanned delay in unloading; and
- e) be free from engine exhaust fumes entering the trailer or container.

10.2.3 Vehicles should be cleaned and sanitized regularly to prevent the spread of disease and allow for regular evaluation of floor integrity.

10.2.4 Provisions must be made for drainage or absorption of urine. Horses transported in excess of 12 hours must be bedded with straw, wood shavings or other absorbent bedding material. Bedding should be used to enhance and ensure the security of footing during transportation. Vehicle floors must provide for secure footing.

10.2.5 Vehicle doors and internal gates should be wide enough to permit horses to pass through easily and without risk of injury.

10.2.6 Vehicles used to pull trailers or to carry horses must be appropriate for the safe movement of the load. Vehicles used to pull trailers must have sufficient power to smoothly accelerate the unit and sufficient braking ability to stop safely.

## 10.3 Loading Density and Headroom

10.3.1 Horses must be provided with enough floor space in a vehicle or container to ensure that

they are not crowded in a way that is likely to cause injury or discomfort (Appendix 6). Evaluation of the trailer for sufficient space must be made prior to loading horses.

10.3.2 When the vehicle is not full, horses should be safely partitioned into smaller areas to provide stability for the horses and the vehicle.

10.3.3 Each animal must be able to assume a natural stance standing with four feet on the floor and have a full range of head and neck motion without touching the deck or roof of the vehicle or container. As a guide, it is recommended that there be at least 2.5 cm (1 in) of clearance for each hand of horse height at the withers.

10.3.4 Halters and shanks must be removed from horses immediately if they restrict breathing or otherwise cause discomfort.

10.3.5 Handlers must pay special attention to prevent horses' heads from coming into contact with the deck while moving from the upper to the lower deck of a possum belly trailer, and while exiting the trailer.

#### **10.4 Segregation**

10.4.1 Different species and animals of significantly different age or weight must be partitioned separately from each other when transported. Small or young horses must be partitioned separately from mature horses.

10.4.2 Suckling foals must be transported in the same compartment as their dams and must be separated from other animals.

10.4.3 Mature stallions, aggressive horses and animals incompatible by nature must be partitioned separately from other horses.

#### **10.5 Loading and Unloading**

10.5.1 Horses should not be rushed during loading and unloading. In a new situation or location, all normal, healthy horses are alert and investigative. Consequently, every change or

disturbance in surroundings, such as noises, breezes, sudden movement of objects and/or flashes of light, should be avoided. Abrupt movements by drivers and loaders should also be avoided.

10.5.2 The loading/unloading surface should be level with the vehicle floor. Self-aligning docks are recommended if the loading surface and the vehicle surface are not level. A loose horse should not be required to step forward up or down a step of more than 25 cm (10 in). If backing a loose horse out into an unfamiliar environment or unloading area, the horse should not be required to step up a step of any height nor down a step of more than 15 cm (6 in).

10.5.3 Horses familiar with trailering can safely negotiate a single step of 38 cm (15 in).

10.5.4 No gap should exist between the ramp, its sides, and the stationary vehicle to be loaded.

10.5.5 If a handler leads a horse into a vehicle, there must be an avenue of escape for the handler.

10.5.6 The use of electric prods for handling horses is not acceptable.

10.5.7 All alleys and ramps should be properly illuminated. Harsh contrast in lighting should be avoided.

#### **10.6 Holding Facilities**

10.6.1 All places where horses are temporarily assembled for sale, show, transport, feed, water and rest, slaughter, or for any other reason must have sufficient facilities for the safe loading, unloading and holding of horses (refer to Section 2, Shelter and Horse Facilities).

10.6.2 In all places where horses are housed and handled, the walls and doors must be free of projections and the floors must have suitable traction. Horses must have protection from inclement weather.

10.6.3 Areas where horses are housed must have

sufficient illumination during normal operations to allow the animals to be easily inspected.

## 10.7 Feed, Water and Rest

10.7.1 Horses destined for long trips (more than 24 hours) must be fed, watered and rested for not less than five hours prior to starting their journey. Resting horses, when compatible by nature, should be able to move freely in a well bedded, protected environment. Horses resting must be put in a facility with access to suitable feed and potable water.

10.7.2 During transport, horses (excluding weanling foals) should not be without feed and water for longer than 24 hours. This time may only be exceeded if they will reach their final destination without being confined longer than 30 hours. (It is acknowledged that this is more restrictive than the regulations made under the *Health of Animals Act*, a federal statute.)

10.7.3 During transport, weanling foals should not be without feed and water for longer than 8 hours.

10.7.4 Any person transporting horses is obliged to plan long-distance trips taking into consideration the availability and location of facilities where horses may be unloaded, fed, watered, and cared for in a humane manner. Facilities must provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

10.7.5 Nursing foals with dams should be allowed an opportunity to nurse undisturbed at least every eight hours. Mares with nursing foals should be provided with appropriate feed and water every 12-18 hours during transportation.

10.7.6 Prior to reloading a vehicle, the interior of the vehicle should be inspected, bedding added and other corrective measures taken to assure continued safe transportation.

## 10.8 Injured, Sick and Disabled Horses

10.8.1 Only horses fit to travel should be considered for transportation, unless special precautions are taken to ensure that they do not suffer.

10.8.2 Animals identified in distress or injured or

disabled during transport must be attended to at the first opportunity.

10.8.3 Injured, sick and disabled horses should be unloaded in a way that causes them the least amount of suffering.

10.8.4 In the case of a vehicle accident or roadside emergency, immediate action should be taken to minimize suffering of animals (Appendix 7).

10.8.5 Severely disabled horses (downers) must not be dragged. A veterinarian must be consulted prior to any attempt to move a downed horse. In conditions where there is little hope of recovery, horses should be euthanised on the vehicle or, with veterinary approval, taken immediately for slaughter.

10.8.6 Pregnant mares must not be transported if they are likely to give birth during the journey.

10.8.7 Blind horses should be haltered, handled individually and transported only with familiar pen mates or with a compatible horse.

## 10.9 Precautions in Extreme Weather

10.9.1 Horses must be protected from exposure to severe weather conditions during transportation.

10.9.2 In extreme or rapidly changing weather, horses should be inspected frequently for signs of discomfort or distress from exposure.

10.9.3 In the event of vehicle breakdowns, traffic accidents or other delays during transportation, appropriate action is required to ensure the welfare of horses (Appendix 7).

10.9.4 During winter travel:

a) increasing stocking density and bedding is not an alternative to proper protection from the external environment;

b) all horses must be protected from wind

- during transportation to prevent wind chill and freezing; and
- c) precautions should be taken to protect foals. They must be kept dry and provided with an adequate supply of bedding.

10.9.5 During hot and humid weather, precautions must be taken to avoid stress or death caused by the combination of high temperature and high humidity. For transportation during hot/humid weather:

- a) sufficient ventilation must be available because horses maintain body temperature under heat stress by evaporative cooling;
- b) horses must not be transported wearing blankets and/or hoods;
- c) whenever possible, journeys during hot, humid periods should be avoided;
- d) necessary movements should be scheduled at night and/or prior to the heat of the day;
- e) periods of intense traffic congestion should be avoided;
- f) vehicles containing horses should not be parked in direct sunlight. When it is necessary to stop, the duration of the stop should be minimized to prevent the build up of heat inside the vehicle;
- g) loading density for loose horses should be reduced (Appendix 6);
- h) the journey should begin immediately after horses have been loaded; and
- i) unloading of horses should be accomplished promptly, on arrival at their destination.

## 10.10 Commercial Operators

10.10.1 Shippers and consignors are responsible for:

- a) hiring only qualified transporters, who are knowledgeable of the proper care and handling of horses during transportation and have appropriate equipment;
- b) ensuring that all individual horses tendered for transport are fit to be transported;

- c) ensuring proper loading and unloading techniques are used;
- d) ensuring the assembled load is c o m p a t i b l e with the intended vehicle; and
- e) providing the driver with a method to contact them in the event of an emergency.

10.10.2 Particular care should be exercised when using possum belly trailers for horse transport. This style of livestock trailer prohibits easy access to individual animals if they become injured or disabled during transport.

10.10.3 When using possum belly trailers:

- a) strict adherence to headroom and recommended loading densities is required;
- b) each animal must be observed prior to loading to assure soundness and general health necessary to complete the intended trip;
- c) rail (trailer decking material) not in current use must be securely stowed, preferably external to the animal holding compartments;
- d) handlers must pay special attention to prevent horses' heads from coming into contact with the deck while moving into or out of the upper or lower decks; and
- e) internal ramps should have solid sides continuous to the floor to prevent slipping off the side of the ramp.

## 10.11 Transportation of Horses by Air

10.11.1 Information on the shipment of horses by air is contained in the International Air Transport Association's (IATA), *Live Animals Regulations*. Copies can be subscribed from the Customer Services Representative, International Air Transport Association, 2000 Peel Street, Montreal, Quebec, H3A 2R4.

# Section 11 Auction Markets and Sales

## 11.1 General

11.1.1 All provincial and federal acts and regulations governing all aspects of auction markets must always take precedence. Personnel working with horses should be instructed in acceptable, humane handling techniques. Educational material should be developed to ensure that employees are aware of existing legislation. Horses should be moved through facilities with patience and as quietly as possible to reduce stress and minimize the risk of injury.

## 11.2 Loading and Unloading

11.2.1 Facilities should be routinely inspected to remove hazards, such as holes in flooring, broken boards and bars, protruding pieces of angle iron, nails or long bolts around the chute and corrals.

11.2.2 Horses generally move toward light. To encourage the safe and efficient movement of horses, adequate and appropriate lighting is required around alleys, loading ramps and the entrance to transport vehicles. Lamps should not be shone directly into horses' eyes. Diffused lighting should be used. Harsh contrasts in lighting should be avoided.

11.2.3 One way gates that prevent horses from reversing direction are recommended.

11.2.4 Secure footing for all horses must be maintained.

11.2.5 Drive-through loading/unloading (see Glossary) facilities are recommended.

11.2.6 Loading ramps, chutes and other holding facilities should be constructed of solid materials which can be easily cleaned and should be well maintained.

11.2.7 Ramps (permanent and portable) should:

- a) be strong and solid;
- b) provide safe footing; and
- c) have sides high enough to prevent horses from falling or jumping off.

11.2.8 Chutes or ramps should be about 76 cm (30 in) wide to allow horses to move in single file. Movement of loose horses is more easily accomplished if the alleys and ramps have no sharp turns that could impede movement or cause injury. Chute design should allow for a gradual curve with no more than a 15° bend. The walls of chutes and ramps should be solid. The inside wall should be made slightly lower so that the animals can see the tops of the heads of horses in front of them.

11.2.9 Concrete ramps should be stairstep design with adequate grooving in the concrete.

11.2.10 Wooden ramps require square cleats 3.8-5.0 cm (1.5-2 in) attached to the ramp every 20 cm (8 in). Hardwood or square steel tubing should be used for cleats.

11.2.11 Angles of elevation of loading and unloading docks should not exceed 25° and must not exceed 45°. Elevated loading and unloading docks should be at least 1.5 m (5 ft) wide and the top of the dock should be level with the vehicle floor.

- 11.2.12 During loading or unloading of vehicles, loading docks must always be aligned. Small gaps can catch or trip horses, resulting in injury (refer to section 10.5.2).
- 11.2.13 If loose horses are backed off a vehicle, the down ramp should remain a constant width until the horse achieves level footing. Horses backing down a ramp should not be allowed to attempt to turn around on an incline.
- 11.2.14 Loose horses should not be unloaded directly into long alleyways. The animals unloaded first will move to the end of the alley and horses unloaded later will have a tendency to bolt to rejoin the previously unloaded group. Every effort should be made to control the speed of horses being unloaded.
- 11.2.15 Drains should be installed outside the alley way. Horses may balk and refuse to walk over drain grates in the middle of the floor or alleys.
- 11.2.16 All commercial unloading facilities must provide an appropriate area suitably equipped for cleaning vehicles during all seasons. In winter, wet bedding can freeze to form an uneven, dangerous surface. Wet bedding should be removed from the vehicle after each winter trip.
- 11.3 Feed, Water and Rest**
- 11.3.1 Potable water must be provided from the time of arrival. Horses must receive feed if they are to remain longer than 5 hours. Foals must have access to feed and water at all times.
- 11.3.2 Horses held for more than 24 hours must be provided with adequate feed and water which cannot become contaminated. The facility must have sufficient bedded floor space for all horses to lie down at the same time.
- 11.4 Housing**
- 11.4.1 Facilities should be routinely inspected to remove hazards such as holes in flooring, broken boards and bars, protruding pieces of angle iron, nails or long bolts.
- 11.4.2 All handling/holding facilities should be cleaned regularly and supplied with fresh bedding.
- 11.4.3 Floors of all pens should be paved or concrete and should be properly scored or treated to prevent slipping. Floors must be graded gently to provide drainage and to allow proper cleaning. The slope of the floor in individual holding units should be between 2° and 4°. Drainage grates, where required, should be at the side of the pens.
- 11.4.4 Adequate protection from adverse weather must be provided for all horses, especially foals.
- 11.4.5 Overcrowding should be avoided.
- 11.4.6 A range of pen sizes should be available to minimize the need to mix various types and sizes of horses. In larger pens, adjustable dividing gates should be used to reduce mixing of horses.
- 11.4.7 Every horse that is a potential danger to other horses should be segregated immediately.
- 11.5 Injured, Sick and Disabled Horses**
- 11.5.1 All horses should be inspected on arrival at the auction market. Any signs of abuse, neglect or injury should be reported to the appropriate authority.
- 11.5.2 Non-ambulatory horses (downers) must not be unloaded until examined by a veterinarian. Downers must not be dragged. In conditions where there is little hope of recovery, non-ambulatory horses should be euthanised on the trailer or, with veterinary approval, taken directly for slaughter.
- 11.5.3 Distressed and injured horses should be held separately in appropriate pens and must receive veterinary attention.
- 11.6 Foals**
- 11.6.1 Foals less than 3 months old must not be accepted for sale, unless accompanied by their dams.



11.6.2 Foals must have access to feed and water at all times.

11.6.3 Foals must have adequate protection from adverse weather conditions at all times.

## Section 12 Slaughter

### 12.1 General

12.1.1 No food animal shall be handled in a manner that subjects the animal to avoidable distress or pain (*Meat Inspection Act*).

12.1.2 All personnel working with horses should be instructed in acceptable, humane handling techniques. The selection and training of the personnel are the most important factors in ensuring humane slaughter.

12.1.3 Operators of slaughter facilities are responsible for humane preslaughter handling and for the humane stunning and slaughter of horses on their premises.

12.1.4 It is the responsibility of federal and provincial inspectors to monitor the humane handling and slaughter of horses.

12.1.5 Violations of humane handling and transportation regulations, such as overcrowding, careless exposure to inclement weather or other circumstances that result in suffering, should be reported immediately to plant management, inspectors and other authorities.

12.1.6 Slaughter horses imported from the USA cannot be unloaded in Canada for feed, water and rest. They must reach their final destination prior to unloading. Transporters must assure that the total duration of the trip does not exceed 36 hours.

12.1.7 Horses held for more than 24 hours must be provided with adequate feed and water which cannot become contaminated. The facility must have sufficient bedded floor space for all horses to lie down at the same time.

### 12.2 Unloading

12.2.1 Unloading should take place as soon as possible after arrival at the plant. The packer,

the trucker and the veterinary inspector should consult to prevent unnecessary delays.

12.2.2 Unloading facilities that will not cause injury to horses must be provided.

12.2.3 Vehicles and docks should always be aligned. There should be no gaps between the vehicle and the bottom and sides of the platform.

12.2.4 Facilities should be inspected routinely to remove hazards such as holes in flooring, broken boards and bars, protruding pieces of angle iron, nails or long bolts.

12.2.5 Horses generally move toward light. To encourage the safe and efficient movement of horses, adequate and appropriate lighting is required around alleys, loading ramps and the entrance to transport vehicles. Lamps should not be shone directly into horses' eyes. Diffused lighting should be used. Harsh contrasts in lighting should be avoided.

12.2.6 One-way gates that prevent horses from reversing direction are recommended.

12.2.7 Secure footing for all horses should be provided and maintained.

12.2.8 Loading ramps, chutes and holding facilities should be constructed of solid materials which can be easily cleaned and maintained.

12.2.9 Ramps should:

- a) be strong and solid;
- b) provide safe footing; and
- c) have sides high enough to prevent horses from falling or jumping off.

12.2.10 Chutes or ramps should be about 76 cm (30 in) wide to allow horses to move in single

file. Handling of loose horses is more easily accomplished if the alleys and ramps have no sharp turns that could impede movement or could cause injury to the horses. Chute design should allow for a gradual curve with no more than a 15° bend. The walls of chutes and ramps should be solid. The inside wall should be made slightly lower so that the animals can see the tops of the heads of the horses ahead of them.

- 12.2.11 Concrete ramps should be of stairstep design with adequate grooving in the concrete.
- 12.2.12 Wooden ramps require square cleats 3.8-5.0 cm (1.5-2 in) attached to the ramp every 20 cm (8 in). Hardwood or square steel tubing should be used for cleats.
- 12.2.13 Angles of elevation of loading and unloading docks should not exceed 25° and must not exceed 45°. Loading and unloading docks should be at least 1.5 m (5 ft) wide and the top of the loading dock should be level with the vehicle floor.
- 12.2.14 During unloading of vehicles, loading docks must always be aligned. Small gaps can catch or trip horses, resulting in injury (refer to section 10.5.2 on loading and unloading).
- 12.2.15 Drains should be installed outside the alley ways. Horses may balk and refuse to walk over drain grates in the middle of the floor or alleyways.
- 12.2.16 Commercial unloading facilities must provide an appropriate area, suitably equipped, for cleaning vehicles during all seasons. In winter, wet bedding can freeze to form an uneven, dangerous surface. Wet bedding should be removed from the vehicle after each winter trip.
- 12.2.17 Injured animals or animals unable to move (downers) must not be unloaded and must be seen immediately by a veterinarian. Downer horses should be euthanised on the trailer.
- 12.2.18 Odours and noise originating in the slaughter area may deter horses from moving. Procedures should be in place to minimize these deterrents.

### **12.3 Special Handling of Injured, Sick and Disabled Horses**

- 12.3.1 All horses that are obviously sick, injured or disabled must be separated immediately from healthy horses. Special segregation is required for horses found to be unfit during antemortem inspection.
- 12.3.2 Special facilities must be provided for the unloading and conveyance of crippled horses directly into the plant. Downers must not be dragged.
- 12.3.3 Animals unable to move (downers) must be seen immediately by a veterinarian. Downer horses should be euthanised on the trailer.
- 12.3.4 Facilities should be available to permit conveyance to the kill floor of animals slaughtered on a transport vehicle.

### **12.4 Holding Facilities**

- 12.4.1 Sufficient pen space must be provided to prevent overcrowding, to permit necessary segregation of horses and to enable all horses to lie down.
- 12.4.2 Every holding area must be adequately ventilated to minimize distress to the horses and to prevent excessive accumulation of odours.

12.4.3 Each holding pen must provide access to potable water. Water heaters must be provided to prevent drinking water from freezing.

12.4.4 Antemortem inspection facilities must be provided and must include a restraining device. Such devices must provide protection against injury for both the animals and the inspectors. Adequate lighting must be provided.

## 12.5 **Stunning and Slaughter**

12.5.1 No horses shall be slaughtered without first being rendered unconscious by a properly trained person using an approved, humane method. Shooting is the preferred method.

12.5.2 Hoisting of conscious horses is illegal.

12.5.3 Stunning pens should be designed and constructed to accommodate a single horse at a time to permit easy and safe stunning.

12.5.4 Stunning systems must be well maintained and used only by operators who are properly trained and have the ability to apply such systems so that unconsciousness of the horse results immediately.

# Appendix 1 Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Horses in PMU Operations

The Pregnant Mare Urine (PMU) industry developed its Recommended Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Horses in PMU Operations in 1990. The code was developed by an eight member committee comprised of veterinarians, animal scientists, producers and Wyeth-Ayerst company representatives. The code was endorsed by the Ministers of Agriculture of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta and the Commissioner of Agriculture of North Dakota.

The code was reviewed and revised in 1993 and again in 1995. A third review and revision was carried out in June of 1996 and the revised code has now been reprinted, again with the endorsement of the four jurisdictions already mentioned.

Because of the specialization of the PMU industry and the uniqueness of its code, the PMU Code is not printed in its entirety in this document. If you wish to receive a copy of the PMU Code, please contact:

Manitoba Department of Agriculture  
545 University Crescent  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3T 5S6

## Appendix 2 Recommended Space Requirements for a 500 kg / 1100 lb horse

Requirements	500 kg	1100 lbs
Stall sizes: - box - foaling (box) - tie (incl. manger)	3m x 3m to 3.6m x 3.6m 3m x 3m to 3.6m x 3.6m 1.5m x 3.6m - 3.8m	10' x 10' to 12' x 12' 10' x 10' to 12' x 12' 4'-5' x 8' - 9'
Watering Facilities: - space requirements - water used (daily)	1 bowl / 20 horses 40 litres	1 bowl / 20 horses 10 gallons
Grain Feeders: (individual grain boxes) - length - width - depth - throat height	30 to 60 cm 20 to 40 cm 15 to 30 cm 60 to 90 cm	12 - 24" 12 - 16" 6 - 12" 24 - 36"
Hay Feeders: (individual manger) - length - width - depth - throat height	60 to 90 cm 50 to 60 cm 60 to 76 cm 60 to 106 cm	24 - 36" 20 - 24" 24 - 30" 24 - 42"
Barn Facility Alleys	3 m (minimum)	10' (minimum)
Pasture Gates	3.6 m (minimum)	12' (minimum)
Stall Doors	1.2 m or wider	4' or wider
Corrals: - for runs - for working pens	95 m <sup>2</sup> / horse 20 m <sup>2</sup> / horse	1000 ft <sup>2</sup> / horse 250 ft <sup>2</sup> / horse
Open Front Sheds	7.5 m <sup>2</sup> to 9 m <sup>2</sup> / horse	80 to 100 ft <sup>2</sup> / horse

Adapted from: Horse Handling Facilities  
February, 1997  
Alberta Agriculture  
Food and Rural Development, Publishing Branch  
700-113 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T6H 5T6

# Appendix 3   ◇   Nutrient Requirements of Horses

To obtain information from the National Research Council on the nutrient requirements of horses, refer to the following:

Nutrient Requirements of Horses  
Fifth Edition, 1989  
National Academy Press  
Washington, D.C.

## Appendix 4   ◇   Reportable Diseases

For the purpose of Section 2 of the *Health of Animals Act*, the following reportable diseases may affect horses:

    Anthrax  
    Brucellosis  
    Contagious Equine Metritis  
    Dourine  
    Equine Infectious Anaemia  
    Equine Piroplasmosis  
    Glanders  
    Rabies  
    Tuberculosis  
    Vesicular Stomatitis

Source: Canadian Food Inspection Agency, *Reportable Diseases Regulations*, February, 1991.

## Appendix 5 Body Condition Scoring System for Horses

SCORE	DESCRIPTION
1 POOR	Extremely emaciated. Spinal vertebrae, ribs, tailhead and point of the hip and buttock are prominent. Bone structure of withers, shoulders and neck easily noticeable. No fat can be felt anywhere.
2 VERY THIN	Emaciated. Slight fat covering over base of spinal vertebrae, transverse processes of lumbar vertebrae feel rounded. Spinal vertebrae, ribs, tailhead, point of hips and buttocks are prominent. Withers, shoulders and neck structure faintly evident.
3 THIN	Fat built up about halfway on spinal vertebrae, transverse processes cannot be felt. Slight fat cover over ribs. Spinal vertebrae and ribs easily discernible. Tailhead prominent, but individual vertebrae cannot be visually identified. Point of hip appears rounded, but easily seen. Point of buttock evident. Withers, shoulders and neck accentuated.
4 MODERATELY THIN	Slight ridge along the back. Faint outline of ribs visible. Tailhead prominence depends on confirmation, fat can be felt around it. Point of hip not evident. Withers shoulders and neck not obviously thin.
5 MODERATE	Back level. Ribs cannot be visually distinguished but can be easily felt. Fat around tailhead beginning to feel spongy. Withers appear rounded over spinal vertebrae; shoulders and neck blend smoothly into body.
6 MODERATE TO FLESHY	May have slight ridge along back. Fat over ribs feels spongy. Fat around tailhead feels soft. Fat beginning to be deposited along the sides of the withers, behind the shoulders and along the sides of the neck.
7 FLESHY	May have crease down back. Individual ribs can be felt, but noticeable filling between ribs with fat. Fat around tailhead is soft. Fat deposited along withers, behind the shoulders and along the sides of the neck.
8 FAT	Crease down back. Difficult to feel ribs. Fat around tailhead very soft. Area along withers filled with fat. Area behind shoulder filled in flush. Noticeable thickening of neck fat deposited along inner buttocks.
9 EXTREMELY FAT	Obvious crease down back. Patchy fat appearing over ribs. Bulging fat around tailhead, along withers, behind shoulders and along neck. Fat along inner buttocks may rub together. Flank filled in flush.

Adapted from: Henneke et al., *Equine Veterinary Journal*: 371-372 (1983)



## CONDITION SCORE SYSTEM

Tailhead	Crease down back	Along the withers	Along the neck
----------	------------------------	-------------------------	----------------------

Ribs

Behind the  
shoulder

**Diagram of areas emphasized in condition**

# Appendix 6 $\diamond$ Maximum Loading Density For Loose Horses For Transit\*

\* Stocking densities will be less in smaller trailers (less than 8 feet wide)

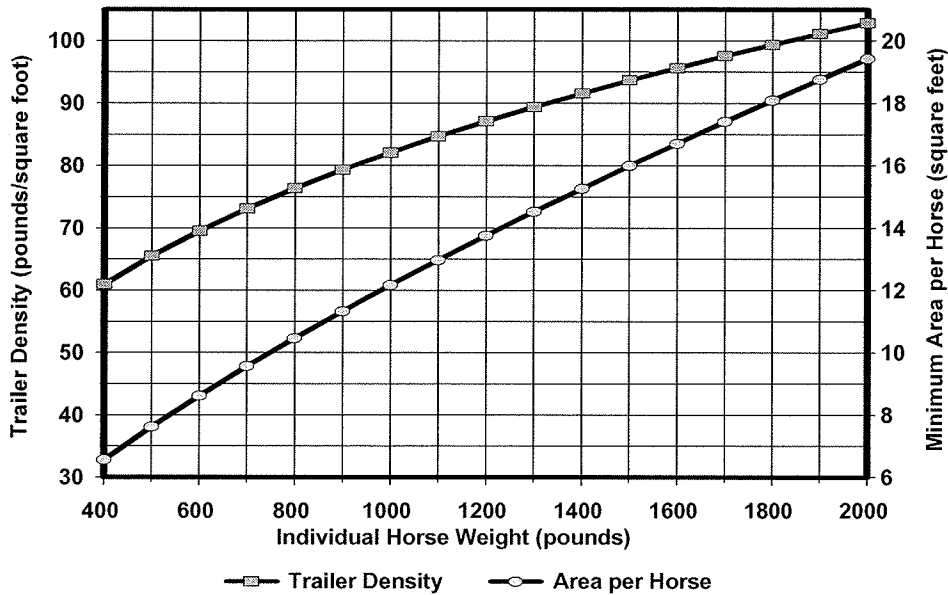


Figure 1 Maximum recommended stocking density (Imperial) for loose loaded horses in body condition score 5. Floor density on the left axis and area per horse on the right. Thin horses in body condition score 1 to 3 require more space per horse. Reduce loading density 10-15% for hot humid conditions.

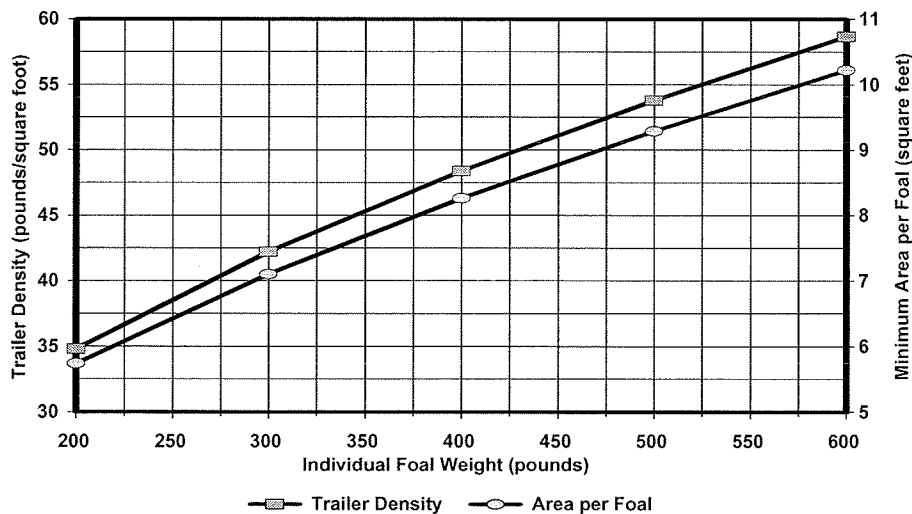


Figure 2 Maximum recommended Stocking Density (Imperial) for loose loaded foals in body condition score 5. Reduce stocking density 10-15% for hot humid conditions.

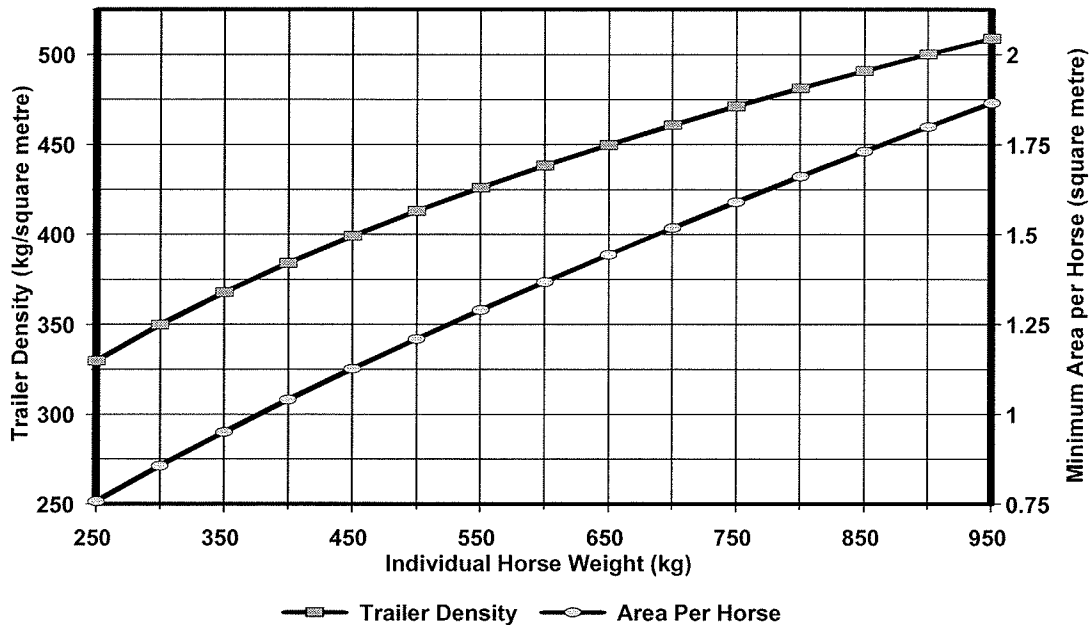


Figure 3 Maximum recommended stocking density (Metric) for loose loaded horses in body condition score 5. Floor density on the left axis and area per horse on the right. Thin horses in body condition score 1 to 3 require more space per horse. Reduce loading density 10-15% for hot humid conditions.

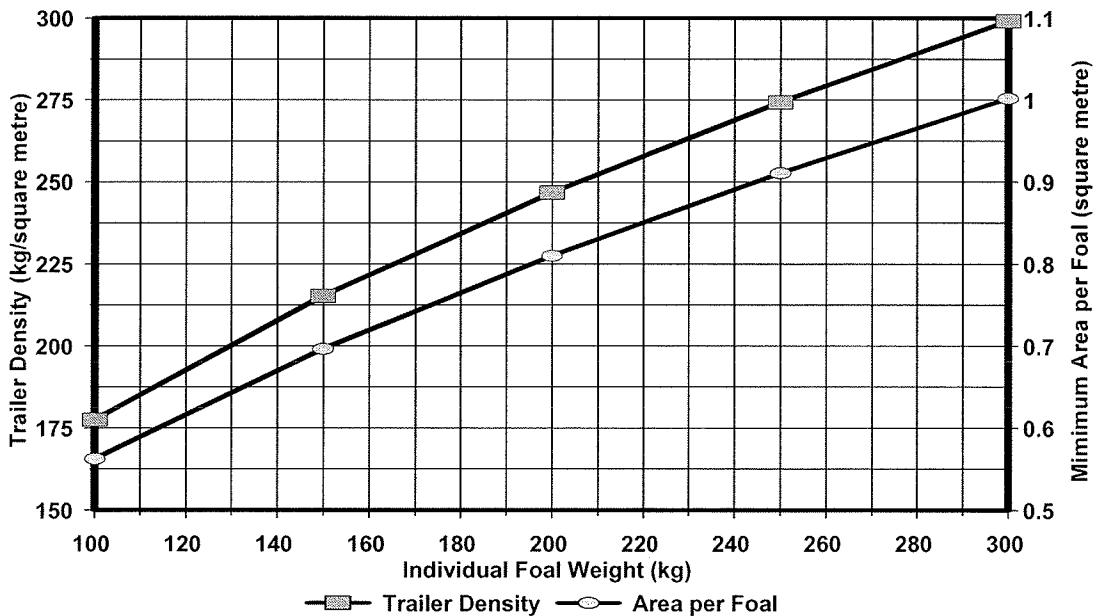


Figure 4 Maximum recommended Stocking Density (Metric) for loose loaded foals in body condition score 5. Reduce loading density 10-15% for hot humid conditions.

Source:

T. Whiting  
 Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)  
 269 Main Street, Federal Building  
 Winnipeg, Manitoba  
 R3C 1B2

# Appendix 7 Guidelines for Dealing with Vehicle Accidents Involving Horses

## **General:**

The ability to handle horses is a skill which is not common among the general public. A good citizen with this specialized ability should provide assistance in emergency situations as necessary.

## **PROCEDURE**

### **Provision of Assistance to Police and Emergency Personnel:**

1. Horse owners and handlers present at motor vehicle accidents involving horses should provide assistance to police or emergency personnel who are attending the accident and are legally responsible for management of the site. The judgement and common sense of experienced horse handlers may have a very positive influence in these situations.
2. Horse handlers should employ procedures which facilitate the safe and efficient handling of horses.
3. Always ensure that emergency officials have the site under control before presenting yourself as available to assist. Inform police or emergency officials of any special training or experience that you have which is applicable to the situation and await instruction from the attending officers.

### **If first to arrive at the accident site:**

1. Remember human health and safety should be your primary concern. Provide first aid to the driver and other people involved in the vehicle accident.
2. Evaluate the whole situation and try to identify the types and numbers of horses involved, and the most expedient response.
3. Always deal with loose, mobile horses first. Expect horses to be frightened, disoriented and excited. Frightened horses are unpredictable and may react instinctively by running. If possible, allow them to calm down before trying to move them. It is very important to remain calm and quiet. Take your time and be patient. Stay alert as you may need to move quickly. Always have an escape route for yourself. If possible, seek the assistance of another experienced animal handler when attempting to deal with or move large or excited horses.
4. Once the loose horses have quietened down, advise all people involved:
  - a) DO NOT shout or wave arms wildly.
  - b) DO NOT approach an animal from directly in front unless absolutely necessary, e.g. assisting injured people.
  - c) Direct the movement of horses to a safe area. The horses should be moved slowly and in a group away from traffic areas. Horses may be temporarily penned with portable fencing such as crowd control barriers that police can bring quickly. Barriers which will stand alone can be assembled to adapt to the area. Other possibilities are snow fencing, vehicles, yellow police tape or a combination of materials.
  - d) Approach horses slowly from the rear half of the animal, and slightly to one side. If using crowd control

barriers, stand behind the barriers and gradually decrease the area by pushing forward and walking behind. The barriers can also be used to create a chute or funnel to guide the horses. Once you are in the animal's personal space or flight zone (up to 15 feet from the animal) it will move forward. Move back outside the flight zone to stop forward movement. If you enter the flight zone too deeply or too quickly, the animal will try to run.

5. Deal with loose conscious, badly injured horses second. Advise spectators to stay away. Injured horses are less likely to struggle to their feet if left alone. Euthanasia may be considered the most humane action. If unsure, consult with a veterinarian and/or the driver and owner if available (Appendix 8).
6. Live animals must be removed from the disabled vehicle before it is righted or moved in any way. Live animals should be transferred to a new conveyance for transport from an accident site. Dead animals should be removed from the truck and injured animals assessed.

Animals released from the truck must be contained or they will create a traffic hazard which may endanger human life. Various means may be used to handle the release of animals from the truck or trailer.

Access to horses, when trailers are lying on their sides, can be accomplished by removing the roof of the trailer. The roof can normally be cut away with equipment routinely carried by highway Emergency Response Teams.

A second truck may be backed up to the damaged truck and animals transferred directly. Use gates or temporary fencing to prevent animals from escaping.

Horses trapped in the trailer can vary in extent of injury. Every effort should be made to protect horses from further injury and to minimize the suffering of animals not likely to recover.

7. To quiet a struggling injured animal which is lying down (e.g. with broken limbs), place a heavy cover over its eyes, leaving the nostrils exposed, and press down lightly on the neck just behind the head with a knee. Approach the animal from the back in order to stay clear of the feet.
8. Comatose horses are not aware of any pain and may be left to last. Horses lying down having seizures or paddling their legs may have serious head injuries. Unless these horses show signs of regaining consciousness, such as lifting the head, looking about or trying to rise, they may be left.
9. If a comatose animal does not blink when the clear part of the eye at the corner is touched, it may be dead. Check for breathing by positioning yourself at the animal's back, near the shoulder, and place a hand on the chest.
10. Euthanasia of moribund and severely injured animals, unlikely to recover can be effectively accomplished with a firearm (Appendix 8).

Source: Adapted from *Vehicle Accidents Involving Livestock*, Halton Regional Police Service (Ontario), 1996.

# Appendix 8 Guidelines for Euthanasia of Horses by Firearms

## **Introduction**

All animals that need to be killed must receive a quick and painless death. The following brief guideline is intended to assist persons who must perform this unpleasant task.

## **General Considerations**

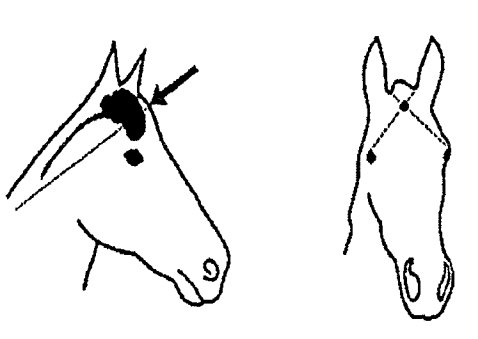
For a horse to receive a humane death it must be rendered immediately unconscious and go on to die without regaining consciousness. Therefore most recommended methods of euthanasia involve agents that affect the brain very rapidly. Shooting, although aesthetically unpleasant, is a humane method of killing provided that the shot penetrates the brain and does significant damage. To ensure that this occurs, the weapon used must be fired with the muzzle placed close to the horse's head, pointing in the required direction. The horse should be adequately restrained to ensure proper placement of the shot. Knowledge of the anatomy is essential.

Shooting a horse should only be done by persons well versed in handling firearms and licensed to use firearms and only in jurisdictions that allow for firearm use. In emergency situations on site police agencies should be involved. Safety to personnel and the general public must be considered. The procedure should be performed outdoors in a location away from public access. It must be noted that although a horse shot correctly is instantly unconscious, there may be convulsive thrashing and muscle spasms for some seconds after the shot.

The preferred firearm for humanely shooting a horse from close range is a shotgun. A 410 gauge is ideal, however a larger gauge may be used. At close range, any weight of shot is acceptable. The barrel of the firearm should be 3 to 5 centimeters (1-2 inches) from the head if using a shotgun. If using a high powered rifle (e.g. .308, .223) the distance may be increased and still be effective. The use of a pistol may be satisfactory, however permanent complete brain dysfunction may not be accomplished with light pistols (e.g. police .38). If a light pistol, .22 caliber rimfire rifle or a captive bolt is used to render the animal unconscious, the animal's death must be assured by a second means such as exsanguination. If using a high powered rifle or pistol, the projectile may pass through the horse's head. Thus the direction of shooting must be considered.

## **Guideline for Horses, Mules and Donkeys**

These animals should be haltered to control the head and led to the desired location. It is essential to aim the shot above the eyes as the brain is high in the upper part of the skull. The bullet should enter the skull at a point where an imaginary line crosses from the eyes to the ears. The direction of the shot should be down toward the withers.



Adapted from: J. (Al) Longair, Gordon G. Finley, Marie-Andrée Laniel, Clayton MacKay, Ken Mould, Ernest D. Olfert, Harry Rowsell, and Allan Preston. 1991. Guidelines for euthanasia of domestic animals by firearms. *Can. Vet. J.* (32) December.

# Appendix 9 Canadian Equestrian Affiliated Provincial Offices \* \*

## **Canadian Equestrian Federation**

1600 James Naismith Drive  
Gloucester, Ontario  
K1B 5N8

## **Horse Council of B.C.**

5746 B 176A Street  
Cloverdale, B.C.  
V3C 4C7

## **Alberta Equestrian Federation**

8989 Macleod Trail South West  
Suite 210  
Calgary, Alberta  
T2H 0M2

## **Saskatchewan Horse Federation**

2205 Victoria Avenue  
Regina, Saskatchewan  
S4P 0S4

## **Manitoba Horse Council**

200 Main Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3C 4M2

## **Ontario Equestrian Federation**

1185 Eglinton Avenue East  
North York, Ontario  
M3C 3C6

## **Fédération Equestre du Québec**

4545 Pierre de Coubertin  
P.O. Box 1000, Station M  
Montreal, Quebec  
H1V 3R2

## **New Brunswick Equestrian Association**

479 Model Farm Road  
Rothesay, New Brunswick  
E2G 1L2

## **Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation**

5516 Spring Garden Road, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 3010 South  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3G6

## **P.E.I. Horse Council**

P.O. Box 1887  
Charlottetown, P.E.I.  
C1A 7N5

## **Newfoundland Equestrian Association**

P.O. Box 272, Station C  
St. John's, Newfoundland  
A1C 5J9

\*\* This list is by no means conclusive. You may also wish to contact a local or national association.

## Appendix 10 List of Participants

Representatives of the following organizations provided input at various stages in the drafting of this code. However, the code does not necessarily have the unequivocal endorsement of any agency.

<i>Organization</i>	<i>Representative</i>
Alberta Agriculture	L. Burwash
Animal Welfare Foundation	J. Quine, D.V.M.
Canadian Food Inspection Agency <i>Animal Health Division</i>  <i>Meat &amp; Poultry Products Division</i>	T. Whiting, D.V.M. G. Doonan, D.V.M. I. Kirk, D.V.M.
Canadian Council on Animal Care	J. Wong, D.V.M.
Canadian Federation of Humane Societies	J. Ripley F. Rodenburg
Canadian Veterinary Medical Association	A.K. Preston, D.V.M.
Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation	J. Porter
Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs	P. Lawlis (Chair/Secretary)
Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals	M. Cole

The participants would like to thank the hundreds of individuals who gave input into the development of this document.



# Glossary of Terms:

<b>Container</b>	A box or crate that is constructed for the shipment of horses and that can be moved independently from one mode of transportation to another.
<b>Deep Litter System</b>	Over winter, soiled bedding and manure are not removed. Instead dry, fresh bedding material is added at a rate which provides a clean, dry place for resting. The accumulated “pack” provides insulation from the cold.
<b>Drive Through Unloading</b>	An enclosed corral system where low riding single level trailers can be driven into and the animals released directly into the enclosure.
<b>Horse</b>	For the purposes of transport, horse is taken to mean all members of the family Equidae, including horses, ponies, mules, hinnies, and donkeys.
<b>Loose Loading</b>	The practice of loading groups of horses in a single compartment of a transportation vehicle.
<b>Loose Horse</b>	When applied to transport any animal handled without a halter and lead.
<b>Possum Belly Trailer</b>	A specialized commercial livestock trailer designed with multiple levels and internal ramps to allow animals to be carried in two tiers or layers in the vehicle.
<b>Potable</b>	Ice free, uncontaminated water, fit for animal consumption.
<b>Slaughter</b>	Those processes related in humanely converting a live animal into a safe wholesome product for human consumption.
<b>Stages of Parturition</b>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> stage - behavioural and physiological stage leading into the second stage Signs: filling of udder, waxing of teats, relaxing of vulva, restlessness, discomfort, tail elevation, defecation, urination</p> <p>2<sup>nd</sup> stage - passage of the fetus through birth canal Signs: rupture of water bag, fetus enters birth canal (10-60 minutes), abdominal contractions, expulsion of fetus</p> <p>3<sup>rd</sup> stage - delivery of placenta Signs: mild colic, uneasiness, rolling, etc. (1/2 - 3 hours)</p>
<b>Tethered Horse</b>	A horse stationary, or in motion (i.e. on a vehicle) where movement is controlled by a restraining halter and lead.
<b>Tingle Voltage</b>	Also known as “stray” voltage, tingle voltage is a known problem in farm animal production. It can occur when a voltage differential exists between two points (metal structures and either floor or earth) that may be touched at the same time by an animal.
<b>Transponder</b>	A small electronic device which generates a specific electromagnetic signal.
<b>Vehicle</b>	Any means used to transport horses, including trucks, tractor-trailers, railway cars, ferries and aircraft.
<b>Wind Chill</b>	A measure of the combined chilling effect of wind and temperature.



**ServiceOntario**

e-Laws

Français

**Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act**

R.S.O. 1990, CHAPTER O.36

**Consolidation Period:** From December 15, 2009 to the e-Laws currency date.

**Last amendment:** 2009, c. 33, Sched. 9, s. 9.

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**INTERPRETATION**

**Interpretation**

1. (1) In this Act,

- “accredited veterinary facility” means a veterinary facility as defined in the *Veterinarians Act* that is accredited under that Act; (“établissement vétérinaire agréé”)
- “Board” means the Animal Care Review Board; (“Commission”)
- “business day” means a weekday, excluding a day that is a holiday; (“jour ouvrable”)
- “distress” means the state of being in need of proper care, water, food or shelter or being injured, sick or in pain or suffering or being abused or subject to undue or unnecessary hardship, privation or neglect; (“détresse”)
- “place” includes a vehicle or vessel; (“lieu”)
- “prescribed” means prescribed by regulation made under this Act; (“prescrit”)
- “veterinarian” means a person licensed as a veterinarian by the College of Veterinarians of Ontario. (“vétérinaire”) 2008, c. 16, s. 1; 2009, c. 33, Sched. 9, s. 9 (1).

**Minor owner, custodian**

(2) Where the owner or custodian of an animal is a minor, the owner or custodian for the purposes of this Act is deemed to be the minor's parents or guardians. 2008, c. 16, s. 1.

**ONTARIO SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

**Society continued**

2. The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, a body politic and corporate incorporated by *An Act to Incorporate the Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals*, being chapter 124 of the Statutes of Ontario, 1919, is continued under the name The Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in English and Société de protection des animaux de l'Ontario in French. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 2.

**Object**

3. The object of the Society is to facilitate and provide for the prevention of cruelty to animals and their protection and relief therefrom. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 3.

**Membership**

4. The Society shall consist of class A members, being affiliated societies, class B members, being individual members, and class C members, being honorary members, and each class has such rights and obligations as are provided in the by-laws of the Society. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 4; 2008, c. 16, s. 3.

**Board of directors: executive committee**

5. The affairs of the Society shall be controlled and managed by a board of directors and by an executive committee, both of which shall be composed and have such powers and duties as are provided in the by-laws of the Society. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 5; 2008, c. 16, s. 4.

**Officers**

6. The Society shall have such officers with such powers and duties as are provided in the by-laws

of the Society. 2008, c. 16, s. 5.

**Chief Inspector**

6.1 (1) The Society shall appoint an employee of the Society as the Chief Inspector. 2008, c. 16, s. 5.

**Powers, duties**

(2) In addition to the powers and duties of an inspector or an agent of the Society, the Chief Inspector shall have the powers and duties that may be prescribed by regulation, including the power to establish qualifications, requirements and standards for inspectors and agents of the Society, to appoint inspectors and agents of the Society and to revoke their appointments and generally to oversee the inspectors and agents of the Society in the performance of their duties. 2008, c. 16, s. 5.

**Same**

(3) The Chief Inspector of the Society may have additional powers and duties as are provided in the by-laws of the Society. 2008, c. 16, s. 5.

**By-laws**

7. (1) The Society may pass such by-laws, not contrary to law, as it considers necessary for the control and management of its affairs and the carrying out of its object. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 7 (1).

**Approval**

(2) No by-law of the Society is valid or shall be acted upon until it has been approved by a majority of the votes cast in accordance with the by-laws of the Society at an annual or special general meeting. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 7 (2).

**Annulment**

(3) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may annul any by-law of the Society. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 7 (3).

**Powers**

8. The Society,

- (a) may acquire and hold as a purchaser, donee, devisee or legatee, or in any other capacity, any interest in real estate;
- (b) may accept, receive and hold gifts, bequests or subscriptions of personal estate;
- (c) may grant, receive, bargain for, mortgage, sell, assign or otherwise dispose of any of its real or personal estate;
- (d) may erect, construct, equip and maintain such buildings and works as it considers advisable for its purposes; and
- (e) may do all such other matters and things as it considers advisable for carrying out its object. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 8.

**Exemption of property from taxation**

9. The lands and buildings of the Society are exempt from taxation except for local improvements and school purposes so long as they are held, used and occupied for the purposes of the Society. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 9.

**Prohibitions re holding out as Society, affiliated society**

10. (1) No corporation or other entity, other than the Society or an affiliated society, shall, (a) hold itself out as being the Society or an affiliated society having authority under this Act; or

(b) use the name "humane society", "society for the prevention of cruelty to animals" or "spca" or the equivalent of any of those names in any other language, alone or in combination with any other word, name, initial or description. 2008, c. 16, s. 6.

**Exception**

(2) Despite clause (1) (b), a corporation or other entity that was an affiliated society on April 3, 2008 may continue to use the name "humane society", "society for the prevention of cruelty to animals" or "spca", or the equivalent of any of those names in any other language, alone or in combination with any other word, name, initial or description, even if it is no longer an affiliated society. 2008, c. 16, s. 6.

**Inspectors and agents**

**Powers of police officer**

11. (1) For the purposes of the enforcement of this Act or any other law in force in Ontario pertaining to the welfare of or the prevention of cruelty to animals, every inspector and agent of the Society has and may exercise any of the powers of a police officer. 2008, c. 16, s. 7 (1).

**Inspectors and agents of affiliates**

(2) Every inspector and agent of an affiliated society who has been appointed by the Society or by the Chief Inspector of the Society may exercise any of the powers and perform any of the duties of an inspector or an agent of the Society under this Act and every reference in this Act to an inspector or an agent of the Society is deemed to include a reference to an inspector or agent of an affiliated society who has been appointed by the Society or by the Chief Inspector of the Society. 2008, c. 16, s. 7 (2).

**Local police powers**

(3) In any part of Ontario in which the Society or an affiliated society does not function, any police officer having jurisdiction in that part has and may exercise any of the powers of an inspector or agent of the Society under this Act. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 11 (3).

**Identification**

(4) An inspector or an agent of the Society who is exercising any power or performing any duty under this Act shall produce, on request, evidence of his or her appointment. 2008, c. 16, s. 7 (3).

**Interfering with inspectors, agents**

(5) No person shall hinder, obstruct or interfere with an inspector or an agent of the Society in the performance of his or her duties under this Act. 2008, c. 16, s. 7 (3).

OBLIGATIONS AND PROHIBITIONS RE CARE OF AND HARM TO ANIMALS

**Standards of care for animals**

11.1 (1) Every person who owns or has custody or care of an animal shall comply with the prescribed standards of care with respect to every animal that the person owns or has custody or care of. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

**Exception**

- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of,
  - (a) an activity carried on in accordance with reasonable and generally accepted practices of agricultural animal care, management or husbandry; or
  - (b) a prescribed class of animals or animals living in prescribed circumstances or conditions, or prescribed activities. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

**Same**

(3) Subsection (1) does not apply to,

- (a) a veterinarian providing veterinary care, or boarding an animal as part of its care, in accordance with the standards of practice established under the *Veterinarians Act*;
- (b) a person acting under the supervision of a veterinarian described in clause (a); or
- (c) a person acting under the orders of a veterinarian described in clause (a), but only in respect of what the person does or does not do in following those orders. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

#### **Prohibitions re distress, harm to an animal**

##### **Causing distress**

**11.2 (1)** No person shall cause an animal to be in distress. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Permitting distress**

**(2)** No owner or custodian of an animal shall permit the animal to be in distress. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Training, permitting animals to fight**

**(3)** No person shall train an animal to fight with another animal or permit an animal that the person owns or has custody or care of to fight another animal. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Owning animal fighting equipment, structures**

**(4)** No person shall own or have possession of equipment or structures that are used in animal fights or in training animals to fight. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Harming law enforcement animals**

**(5)** No person shall harm or cause harm to a dog, horse or other animal that works with peace officers in the execution of their duties, whether or not the animal is working at the time of the harm. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Exception**

- (6)** Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply in respect of,
  - (a) an activity permitted under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* in relation to wildlife in the wild;
  - (b) an activity permitted under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* or the *Fisheries Act* (Canada) in relation to fish;
  - (c) an activity carried on in accordance with reasonable and generally accepted practices of agricultural animal care, management or husbandry; or
  - (d) a prescribed class of animals or animals living in prescribed circumstances or conditions, or prescribed activities. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Same**

- (7)** Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply to,
  - (a) a veterinarian providing veterinary care, or boarding an animal as part of its care, in accordance with the standards of practice established under the *Veterinarians Act*;
  - (b) a person acting under the supervision of a veterinarian described in clause (a); or
  - (c) a person acting under the orders of a veterinarian described in clause (a), but only in respect of what the person does or does not do in following those orders. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Veterinarians' obligation to report**

**11.3** Every veterinarian who has reasonable grounds to believe that an animal has been or is being abused or neglected shall report his or her belief to an inspector or an agent of the Society. 2008, c. 16,

s. 8.

#### PROTECTION OF ANIMALS BY SOCIETY

##### **Inspection – places used for animal exhibit, entertainment, boarding, hire or sale**

**11.4 (1)** An inspector or an agent of the Society may, without a warrant, enter and inspect any building or place used for animal exhibit, entertainment, boarding, hire or sale, either alone or accompanied by one or more veterinarians or other persons as he or she considers advisable, in order to determine whether the standards of care prescribed for the purpose of section 11.1 are being complied with. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Dwellings**

**(2)** The power to enter and inspect a building or place under this section shall not be exercised to enter and inspect a building or place used as a dwelling except with the consent of the occupier. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Accredited veterinary facilities**

**(3)** The power to enter and inspect a building or place under this section shall not be exercised to enter and inspect a building or place that is an accredited veterinary facility. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Time of entry**

**(4)** The power to enter and inspect a building or place under this section may be exercised only between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., or at any other time when the building or place is open to the public. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Powers on inspection**

- (5)** An inspector or an agent of the Society conducting an inspection under this section may,
  - (a) demand the production for inspection of a record or thing that is relevant to the inspection; and
  - (b) examine a record or thing that is relevant to the inspection. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Warrant – places used for animal exhibit, entertainment, boarding, hire or sale**

**11.5 (1)** A justice of the peace or provincial judge may issue a warrant authorizing one or more inspectors or agents of the Society named in the warrant to enter a building or place specified in the warrant, either alone or accompanied by one or more veterinarians or other persons as the inspectors or agents consider advisable, and to inspect the building or place and do anything authorized under section 11.4 if the justice of the peace or provincial judge is satisfied by information on oath that,

- (a) an inspector or an agent of the Society has been prevented from entering or inspecting the building or place under section 11.4; or
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that an inspector or an agent of the Society will be prevented from entering or inspecting the building or place under section 11.4. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

##### **Telewarrant**

**(1.1)** If an inspector or an agent of the Society believes that it would be impracticable to appear personally before a justice of the peace or provincial judge to apply for a warrant under subsection (1), he or she may, in accordance with the regulations, seek the warrant by telephone or other means of telecommunication, and the justice of the peace or provincial judge may, in accordance with the regulations, issue the warrant by the same means. 2009, c. 33, Sched. 9, s. 9 (2).

##### **When warrant to be executed**

(2) Every warrant issued under subsection (1) or (1.1) shall,

- (a) specify the times, which may be at any time during the day or night, during which the warrant may be carried out; and
- (b) state when the warrant expires. 2008, c. 16, s. 8; 2009, c. 33, Sched. 9, s. 9 (3).

#### **Extension of time**

(2) A justice of the peace or provincial judge may extend the date on which a warrant issued under this section expires for no more than 30 days, upon application without notice by the inspector or agent named in the warrant. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

#### **Other terms and conditions**

(4) A warrant issued under this section may contain terms and conditions in addition to those provided for in subsections (1) to (3) as the justice of the peace or provincial judge considers advisable in the circumstances. 2008, c. 16, s. 8.

#### **Entry where animal is in distress Warrant**

12. (1) If a justice of the peace or provincial judge is satisfied by information on oath that there are reasonable grounds to believe that there is in any building or place an animal that is in distress, he or she may issue a warrant authorizing one or more inspectors or agents of the Society named in the warrant to enter the building or place, either alone or accompanied by one or more veterinarians or other persons as the inspectors or agents consider advisable, and inspect the building or place and all the animals found there for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is any animal in distress. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Telewarrant**

(2) If an inspector or an agent of the Society believes that it would be impracticable to appear personally before a justice of the peace or provincial judge to apply for a warrant under subsection (1), he or she may, in accordance with the regulations, seek the warrant by telephone or other means of telecommunication, and the justice of the peace or provincial judge may, in accordance with the regulations, issue the warrant by the same means. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **When warrant to be executed**

- (3) Every warrant issued under subsection (1) or (2) shall,
  - (a) specify the times, which may be at any time during the day or night, during which the warrant may be carried out; and
  - (b) state when the warrant expires. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Extension of time**

(4) A justice of the peace or provincial judge may extend the date on which a warrant issued under this section expires for no more than 30 days, upon application without notice by the inspector or agent named in the warrant. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Other terms and conditions**

(5) A warrant issued under subsection (1) or (2) may contain terms and conditions in addition to those provided for in subsections (1) to (4) as the justice of the peace or provincial judge considers advisable in the circumstances. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Immediate distress – entry without warrant**

(6) If an inspector or an agent of the Society has reasonable grounds to believe that there is an

animal that is in immediate distress in any building or place, other than a dwelling, he or she may enter the building or place without a warrant, either alone or accompanied by one or more veterinarians or other persons as he or she considers advisable, and inspect the building or place and all the animals found there for the purpose of ascertaining whether there is any animal in immediate distress. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Accredited veterinary facilities**

(7) The power to enter and inspect a building or place under subsection (6) shall not be exercised to enter and inspect a building or place that is an accredited veterinary facility. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Definition – immediate distress**

(8) For the purpose of subsection (6),

“immediate distress” means distress that requires immediate intervention in order to alleviate suffering or to preserve life. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Authorized activities**

##### **Inspect animals, take samples, etc.**

12.1 (1) An inspector or an agent of the Society or a veterinarian, who is lawfully present in a building or place under the authority of any provision of this Act or of a warrant issued under this Act, may examine any animal there and, upon giving a receipt for it, take a sample of any substance there or take a carcass or sample from a carcass there, for the purposes set out in the provision under which the inspector’s, agent’s or veterinarian’s presence is authorized or the warrant is issued. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Same**

(2) An inspector, agent or veterinarian who takes a sample or carcass under subsection (1) may conduct tests and analyses of the sample or carcass for the purposes described in subsection (1) and, upon conclusion of the tests and analyses, shall dispose of the sample or carcass. 2008, c. 16, s. 9; 2009, c. 33, Sched. 9, s. 9 (4).

#### **Supply necessities to animals**

(3) If an inspector or an agent of the Society is lawfully present in a building or place under the authority of any provision of this Act or of a warrant issued under this Act and finds an animal in distress, he or she may, in addition to any other action he or she is authorized to take under this Act, supply the animal with food, care or treatment. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Seizure of things in plain view**

(4) An inspector or an agent of the Society who is lawfully present in a building or place under the authority of any provision of this Act or of a warrant issued under this Act may, upon giving a receipt for it, seize any thing that is produced to the inspector or agent or that is in plain view if the inspector or agent has reasonable grounds to believe,

- (a) that the thing will afford evidence of an offence under this Act; or
- (b) that the thing was used or is being used in connection with the commission of an offence under this Act and that the seizure is necessary to prevent the continuation or repetition of the offence. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

#### **Report to justice, judge**

(5) An inspector or an agent of the Society shall,

- (a) report the taking of a sample or a carcass under subsection (1) to a justice of the peace or provincial judge; and

- (b) bring any thing seized under subsection (4) before a justice of the peace or provincial judge or, if that is not reasonably possible, report the seizure to a justice of the peace or provincial judge. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

**Order to detain, return, dispose of thing**

- (6) Where any thing is seized and brought before a justice of the peace or provincial judge under subsection (5), the justice of the peace or provincial judge shall by order,
- (a) detain it or direct it to be detained in the care of a person named in the order;
  - (b) direct it to be returned; or
  - (c) direct it to be disposed of, in accordance with the terms set out in the order. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

**Same**

- (7) In an order made under clause (6) (a) or (b), the justice of the peace or provincial judge may,
- (a) authorize the examination, testing, inspection or reproduction of the thing seized, on the conditions that are reasonably necessary and are directed in the order; and
  - (b) make any other provision that, in his or her opinion, is necessary for the preservation of the thing. 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

**Application of *Provincial Offences Act***

- (8) Subsections 159 (2) to (5) and section 160 of the *Provincial Offences Act* apply with necessary modifications in respect of a thing seized by an inspector or an agent of the Society under subsection (4). 2008, c. 16, s. 9.

**Order to owner of animals, etc.**

13. (1) Where an inspector or an agent of the Society has reasonable grounds for believing that an animal is in distress and the owner or custodian of the animal is present or may be found promptly, the inspector or agent may order the owner or custodian to,
- (a) take such action as may, in the opinion of the inspector or agent, be necessary to relieve the animal of its distress; or
  - (b) have the animal examined and treated by a veterinarian at the expense of the owner or custodian. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 13 (1).

**Order to be in writing**

- (2) Every order under subsection (1) shall be in writing and shall have printed or written thereon the provisions of subsections 17 (1) and (2). R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 13 (2).
- (3) Repealed: 2008, c. 16, s. 10 (1).

**Time for compliance with order**

- (4) An inspector or an agent of the Society who makes an order under subsection (1) shall specify in the order the time within which any action required by the order shall be performed. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 13 (4).

**Idem**

- (5) Every person who is served with an order under subsection (1) shall comply with the order in accordance with its terms until such time as it may be modified, confirmed or revoked and shall thereafter comply with the order as modified or confirmed. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 13 (5); 2008, c. 16, s. 10 (2).

**Authority to determine compliance with order**

(6) If an order made under subsection (1) remains in force, an inspector or an agent of the Society may enter without a warrant any building or place where the animal that is the subject of the order is located, either alone or accompanied by one or more veterinarians or other persons as he or she considers advisable, and inspect the animal and the building or place for the purpose of determining whether the order has been complied with. 2008, c. 16, s. 10 (3).

**Revocation of order**

- (7) If, in the opinion of an inspector or an agent of the Society, the order made under subsection (1) has been complied with, he or she shall revoke the order and shall serve notice of the revocation in writing forthwith on the owner or custodian of the animal that is the subject of the order. 2008, c. 16, s. 10 (3).

**Taking possession of animal**

14. (1) An inspector or an agent of the Society may remove an animal from the building or place where it is and take possession thereof on behalf of the Society for the purpose of providing it with food, care or treatment to relieve its distress where,

- (a) a veterinarian has examined the animal and has advised the inspector or agent in writing that the health and well-being of the animal necessitates its removal;
- (b) the inspector or agent has inspected the animal and has reasonable grounds for believing that the animal is in distress and the owner or custodian of the animal is not present and cannot be found promptly; or
- (c) an order respecting the animal has been made under section 13 and the order has not been complied with. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 14 (1).

**Order for Society to keep animal**

(1.1) A justice of the peace or provincial judge may make an order authorizing the Society to keep in its care an animal that was removed under subsection (1) if,

- (a) the owner or custodian of the animal has been charged, in connection with the same fact situation that gave rise to the removal of the animal under subsection (1), with an offence under this Act or any other law in force in Ontario pertaining to the welfare of or the prevention of cruelty to animals; and
- (b) the justice of the peace or provincial judge is satisfied by information on oath that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the animal may be harmed if returned to its owner or custodian. 2008, c. 16, s. 11 (1).

**Order re costs**

- (1.2) Where a justice of the peace or provincial judge makes an order under subsection (1.1), he or she may also order that the whole or any part of the cost to the Society of providing food, care or treatment to the animal pursuant to its removal under subsection (1) and pursuant to the order under subsection (1.1) be paid by the owner or custodian of the animal to the Society. 2008, c. 16, s. 11 (1).

**Same**

- (1.3) The Society or owner or custodian of the animal may at any time apply to a justice of the peace or provincial judge to vary an order made under subsection (1.2) and the justice of the peace or provincial judge may make such order as he or she considers appropriate. 2008, c. 16, s. 11 (1).

**Order to return animal**

(1.4) The Society or the owner or custodian may apply to a justice of the peace or provincial judge to order the return of an animal that is the subject of an order made under subsection (1.1) and, if satisfied that there are no longer reasonable grounds to believe that the animal may be harmed if returned to its owner or custodian, the justice of the peace or provincial judge may order the return of the animal to its owner or custodian, subject to any conditions that the justice of the peace or provincial judge considers appropriate. 2008, c. 16, s. 11 (1).

#### **Destruction of animal**

(2) An inspector or an agent of the Society may destroy an animal,

- (a) with the consent of the owner; or
- (b) if a veterinarian has examined the animal and has advised the inspector or agent in writing that, in his or her opinion, it is the most humane course of action. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 14 (2); 2008, c. 16, s. 11 (2).

#### **Notice**

(3) An inspector or an agent of the Society who has removed or destroyed an animal under subsection (1) or (2) shall forthwith serve written notice of his or her action on the owner or custodian of the animal, if known. 2008, c. 16, s. 11 (3).

#### **Same**

(4) Every notice under subsection (3) respecting the removal of an animal under subsection (1) shall have printed or written on it the provisions of subsections 17 (1) and (2). 2009, c. 33, Sched. 9, s. 9 (5).

#### **Liability of owner for expenses**

15. (1) If an inspector or an agent of the Society has provided an animal with food, care or treatment, the Society may serve on the owner or custodian of the animal a statement of account respecting the food, care or treatment and the owner or custodian is, subject to an order made under subsection 14 (1.2) or (1.3) or 17 (6), liable for the amount specified in the statement of account. 2008, c. 16, s. 12.

#### **Power to sell**

(2) Where the owner or custodian refuses to pay an account under subsection (1) within five business days after service of the statement of account or where the owner or custodian, after reasonable inquiry, cannot be found, the Society may sell or dispose of the animal and reimburse itself out of the proceeds, holding the balance in trust for the owner or other person entitled thereto. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 15 (2); 2006, c. 19, Sched. F, s. 2 (2).

#### **Society, affiliated society deemed to be owner of abandoned animal**

15.1 If the Society or an affiliated society takes custody of an animal and no person is identified as the animal's owner or custodian within a prescribed period of time, the Society or affiliated society, as the case may be, is deemed to be the owner of the animal for all purposes. 2008, c. 16, s. 13.

#### **ANIMAL CARE REVIEW BOARD**

#### **Board continued**

16. (1) The Animal Care Review Board is continued under the name Animal Care Review Board in English and Commission d'étude des soins aux animaux in French. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 16 (1).

#### **Idem**

(2) The Board shall consist of not fewer than three persons who shall be appointed by the

Lieutenant Governor in Council. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 16 (2); 2006, c. 34, s. 39.

#### **Chair, vice-chair**

(3) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may appoint one of the members of the Board as chair and another of the members as vice-chair. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 16 (3).

#### **Composition of Board for hearings**

(4) A proceeding before the Board shall be heard and determined by a panel consisting of one or more members of the Board, as assigned by the chair or vice-chair of the Board. 2001, c. 9, Sched. M, s. 1.

#### **Remuneration of members**

(5) The members of the Board shall receive such remuneration and expenses as the Lieutenant Governor in Council determines. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 16 (5).

#### **Appeal to Board**

17. (1) The owner or custodian of any animal who considers himself aggrieved by an order made under subsection 13 (1) or by the removal of an animal under subsection 14 (1) may, within five business days of receiving notice of the order or removal, appeal against the order or request the return of the animal by notice in writing to the chair of the Board. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 17 (1); 1993, c. 27, Sched.; 2006, c. 19, Sched. F, s. 3 (1).

#### **Same**

(1.1) The notice shall set out the remedy or action sought and the reasons for the appeal or request. 2006, c. 19, Sched. F, s. 3 (2).

#### **No appeal if there is order for Society to keep animal**

(1.2) Subsection (1) does not apply if an order in respect of the animal under subsection 14 (1.1) is in force. 2008, c. 16, s. 15 (1).

#### **Application for revocation of order**

(2) Where, in the opinion of the owner or custodian of an animal in respect of which an order under subsection 13 (1) has been made, the animal has ceased to be in distress, the owner or custodian may apply to the Board to have the order revoked by notice in writing to the chair of the Board. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 17 (2); 2008, c. 16, s. 15 (2).

#### **Notice of hearing**

(3) Within five business days of the receipt of a notice under subsection (1) or (2), the chair of the Board shall,

- (a) fix a time, date and place at which the Board will hear the matter; and
- (b) notify the Society and the owner or custodian who issued the notice of the time, date and place fixed under clause (a). R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 17 (3); 2006, c. 19, Sched. F, s. 3 (3); 2008, c. 16, s. 15 (3).

#### **Date of hearing**

(4) The date fixed for a hearing shall be not more than 10 business days after the receipt of a notice under subsection (1) or (2). R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 17 (4); 2006, c. 19, Sched. F, s. 3 (4).

#### **Procedure at hearing**

(5) At a hearing, the Society and the owner or custodian are entitled to hear the evidence, cross-examine, call witnesses, present argument and be represented by persons authorized under the *Law Society Act* to represent them. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 17 (5); 2006, c. 21, Sched. C, s. 124.

**Powers of Board**

- (6) After a hearing or, with the consent of the Society and the person who issued the notice under subsection (1) or (2), without a hearing, the Board may,
- rescind an order made under subsection 13 (1), confirm, revoke or modify the order appealed against;
  - respecting the removal of an animal under subsection 14 (1), order that the animal be returned to the owner or custodian and may make an order in the same terms as an order may be made under subsection 13 (1);
  - order that the whole or any part of the cost to the owner or custodian of an animal of complying with an order made under subsection 13 (1) be paid by the Society to the owner or custodian; or
  - order that the whole or any part of the cost to the Society of providing food, care or treatment to an animal pursuant to its removal under subsection 14 (1) be paid by the owner or custodian of the animal to the Society. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 17 (6); 2008, c. 16, s. 15 (4, 5).

**Notice of decision**

- (7) Notice of the decision of the Board made under subsection (6), together with reasons in writing for its decision, shall be served forthwith on the Society and the owner or custodian of the animal. 2008, c. 16, s. 15 (6).

**Society order not stayed**

- (8) An appeal to the Board in respect of an order made under subsection 13 (1) does not stay the operation of the order. 2008, c. 16, s. 15 (7).

**Appeal**

- 18.1 (1) The Society or the owner or custodian may appeal the decision of the Board to a judge of the Superior Court of Justice. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 18 (1); 2006, c. 19, Sched. C, s. 1 (1).

**Notice of appeal**

- (2) The appeal shall be made by filing a notice of appeal with the local registrar of the court and serving a copy thereof on the other parties before the Board within 15 business days after the notice of the Board's decision is served on the appellant under subsection 17 (7). R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 18 (2); 2006, c. 19, Sched. F, s. 4 (1).

**Date of hearing**

- (3) The appellant or any person served with notice of appeal may, upon at least two business days notice to each of the other parties, apply to the judge to fix a date for the hearing of the appeal. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 18 (3); 2006, c. 19, Sched. F, s. 4 (2).

**Decision**

- (4) The appeal shall be a new hearing and the judge may rescind, alter or confirm the decision of the Board and make such order as to costs as he or she considers appropriate, and the decision of the judge is final. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 18 (4).

**OFFENCES****Offences**

- 18.1 (1) Every person is guilty of an offence who,
- contravenes subsection 11 (5);

- contravenes or fails to comply with section 11.1;

- contravenes subsection 11.2 (1), (2), (3), (4) or (5);

- contravenes subsection 13 (5);

- contravenes or fails to comply with an order of the Board; or

- knowingly makes a false report to the Society in respect of an animal being in distress. 2008, c. 16, s. 16.

**Penalty – individuals**

- (2) Every individual who commits an offence under clause (1) (a), (d), (e) or (f) is liable on conviction to a fine of not more than \$1,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not more than 30 days, or to both. 2008, c. 16, s. 16.

**Same**

- (3) Every individual who commits an offence under clause (1) (b) or (c) is liable on conviction to a fine of not more than \$60,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not more than two years, or to both. 2008, c. 16, s. 16.

**Penalty – corporations**

- (4) Every corporation that commits an offence under subsection (1) is liable on conviction to the same fine to which an individual is liable for the offence. 2008, c. 16, s. 16.

**Penalty – directors, officers**

- (5) Every director or officer of a corporation who authorized, permitted or participated in the corporation's commission of an offence under subsection (1) is also guilty of the offence and on conviction is liable to the same penalty to which an individual is liable for the offence, whether or not the corporation has been prosecuted or convicted. 2008, c. 16, s. 16.

**Prohibition order**

- (6) If a person is convicted of an offence under clause (1) (b) or (c), the court making the conviction may, in addition to any other penalty, make an order prohibiting the convicted person and, if the convicted person is a corporation, the directors and officers of the corporation described in subsection (5), from owning, having custody or care of, or living with any animal, or any kind of animal specified in the order, for any period of time specified in the order, including, in the case of an individual, for the remainder of the person's life and, in the case of a corporation, forever. 2008, c. 16, s. 16.

**Restitution order**

- (7) If a person is convicted of an offence under clause (1) (b) or (c), the court making the conviction may, in addition to any other penalty, make an order that the convicted person pay the whole or any part of the cost to the Society of providing food, care or treatment to an animal that was the victim of the offence of which the convicted person was convicted. 2008, c. 16, s. 16.

**Other orders**

- (8) If a person is convicted of an offence under clause (1) (b) or (c), the court making the conviction may, in addition to any other penalty, make any other order that the court considers appropriate, including an order that the convicted person undergo counselling or training. 2008, c. 16, s. 16.

**MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS**



**Inspector, etc., not personally liable**

19. No inspector or agent of the Society and no veterinarian or member of the Board is personally liable for anything done by him or her in good faith under or purporting to be under the authority of this Act. R.S.O. 1990, c. O.36, s. 19.

**Service of orders, notices, etc.**

20. Any order, notice or statement of account required or authorized to be served under this Act shall be served personally or by registered mail, courier, fax, electronic mail or other prescribed method in accordance with the regulations. 2008, c. 16, s. 18; 2009, c. 33, Sched. 9, s. 9 (6).

**Conflict with municipal by-laws**

21. In the event of a conflict between a provision of this Act or of a regulation made under this Act and of a municipal by-law pertaining to the welfare of or the prevention of cruelty to animals, the provision that affords the greater protection to animals shall prevail. 2008, c. 16, s. 18.

**REGULATIONS****Regulations**

22. (1) The Lieutenant Governor in Council may make regulations,

- (a) prescribing activities that constitute activities carried on in accordance with reasonable and generally accepted practices of agricultural animal care, management or husbandry for the purposes of clauses 11.1 (2) (a) and 11.2 (6) (c);
- (b) prescribing classes of animals, circumstances and conditions or activities for the purposes of clauses 11.1 (2) (b) and 11.2 (6) (d);
- (c) exempting any person or class of persons from any provision of this Act or of a regulation made under this Act, and prescribing conditions and circumstances for any such exemption. 2008, c. 16, s. 18.

**Same**

- 22. (2) The Minister responsible for the administration of this Act may make regulations,
  - (a) prescribing and governing the powers and duties of the Chief Inspector of the Society, including the power to establish qualifications, requirements and standards for inspectors and agents of the Society, to appoint inspectors and agents of the Society and to revoke their appointments and generally to oversee the inspectors and agents of the Society in the performance of their duties;
  - (b) prescribing standards of care for the purposes of section 11.1;
  - (c) governing the report required under section 11.3, including its contents and the manner of making the report;
  - (d) prescribing forms for the information on oath required by subsection 11.5 (1), 12 (1) or 14 (1.1), for a warrant issued under subsection 11.5 (1) or 12 (1) and for an order issued under subsection 14 (1.1) or (1.4);
  - (e) governing applications for and the issue of warrants by telephone or other means of telecommunication for the purposes of subsections 11.5 (1.1) and 12 (2), prescribing the forms required to apply for a warrant under those subsections and the forms for the warrants issued under those subsections, prescribing rules for the execution of such warrants and prescribing evidentiary rules with respect to such warrants;

(f) prescribing a period of time for the purpose of section 15.1;

(g) governing the service of orders, notices and statements of account for the purposes of section 20. 2008, c. 16, s. 18; 2009, c. 33, Sched. 9, s. 9 (7).

FORMS 1, 2 Repealed: 1997, c. 39, s. 12.

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# ONTARIO SOCIETY OF THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS ACT

## ONTARIO REGULATION 59/09

### GENERAL

Last amendment: O. Reg. 8/10.

#### Additional powers and duties of Chief Inspector

1. (1) The Chief Inspector of the Society shall,

(a) establish qualifications, requirements and standards for inspectors and agents of the Society; and

(b) generally oversee inspectors and agents of the Society in the performance of their duties.  
O. Reg. 59/09, s. 1 (1).

(2) The Chief Inspector of the Society shall appoint inspectors and agents of the Society and may revoke any such appointment. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 1 (2).

#### Society etc. deemed owner of animal with unknown owner, custodian — prescribed period

2. For the purpose of section 15.1 of the Act, the Society or affiliated society is deemed to be the owner of an animal if no person is identified as the animal's owner or custodian within three business days after the day the Society or affiliated society took custody of the animal. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 2.

#### Forms

3. (1) An information to obtain a warrant under subsection 12 (1) of the Act shall be in Form 1. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (1).

(2) A warrant issued under subsection 12 (1) of the Act shall be in Form 2. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (2).

(3) An information to obtain a warrant to enter and inspect premises under subsection 11.5 (1) of the Act shall be in Form 3. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (3); O. Reg. 8/10, s. 1 (1).

(4) A warrant to enter and inspect premises issued under subsection 11.5 (1) of the Act shall be in Form 4. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (4); O. Reg. 8/10, s. 1 (2).

(5) An information to obtain a telewarrant under subsection 12 (2) of the Act shall be in Form 5. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (5).

(6) A telewarrant authorizing entry and inspection of premises issued under subsection 12 (2) of the Act shall be in Form 6. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (6).

(6.1) An information to obtain a telewarrant to enter and inspect premises under subsection 11.5 (1.1) of the Act shall be in Form 6.1. O. Reg. 8/10, s. 1 (3).

(6.2) A telewarrant to enter and inspect premises issued under subsection 11.5 (1.1) of the Act shall be in Form 6.2. O. Reg. 8/10, s. 1 (3).

(7) An information under subsection 14 (1.1) of the Act for an order to keep an animal removed under subsection 14 (1) of the Act shall be in Form 7. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (7).

(8) An order under subsection 14 (1.1) of the Act to keep an animal removed under subsection 14 (1) of the Act shall be in Form 8. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (8).

(9) An order under subsection 14 (1.4) of the Act to return an animal removed under subsection 14 (1) of the Act shall be in Form 9. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (9).

(10) The Forms prescribed by subsections (1) to (9) are the forms described in the Table to this section and available from the Government of Ontario Central Forms Site website. O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3 (10).

### TABLE

Form Number	Form Name	Date of Form
1	Information to Obtain Warrant (Animal in Distress)	March 2009
2	Warrant (Animal in Distress)	March 2009

3	Information to Obtain Warrant (Enter and Inspect)	January 2010
4	Warrant (Enter and Inspect)	January 2010
5	Information to Obtain Telewarrant (Animal in Distress)	March 2009
6	Telewarrant (Animal in Distress)	March 2009
6.1	Information to Obtain Telewarrant (Enter and Inspect)	January 2010
6.2	Telewarrant (Enter and Inspect)	January 2010
7	Information to Obtain Order to Keep Animal	January 2010
8	Order to Keep Animal	January 2010
9	Order to Return Animal	March 2009

O. Reg. 59/09, s. 3, Table; O. Reg. 8/10, s. 2.

4. Omitted (provides for coming into force of provisions of this Regulation). O. Reg. 59/09, s. 4.

## ONTARIO REGULATION 60/09

### STANDARDS OF CARE

#### Application

1. (1) The basic standards of care applicable to all animals are set out in section 2. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 1 (1).

(2) In addition to the basic standards of care applicable to all animals set out in section 2,

(a) standards of care specific to dogs that live primarily outdoors are set out in section 3; and

(b) standards of care specific to wildlife kept in captivity are set out in sections 4 and 5. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 1 (2).

(3) In addition to the basic standards of care applicable to all animals set out in section 2 and the standards of care specific to wildlife kept in captivity set out in sections 4 and 5, the standards of care specific to primates kept in captivity are set out in section 6. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 1 (3).

(4) A requirement that a standard of care be adequate and appropriate or necessary is a requirement that the standard of care be adequate and appropriate or necessary to the specific animal, having regard to its species, breed and other relevant factors. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 1 (4).

#### Basic standards of care for all animals

2. (1) Every animal must be provided with adequate and appropriate food and water. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 2 (1).

(2) Every animal must be provided with adequate and appropriate medical attention. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 2 (2).

(3) Every animal must be provided with the care necessary for its general welfare. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 2 (3).

(4) Every animal must be transported in a manner that ensures its physical safety and general welfare. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 2 (4).

(5) Every animal must be provided with an adequate and appropriate resting and sleeping area. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 2 (5).

(6) Every animal must be provided with adequate and appropriate,

(a) space to enable the animal to move naturally and to exercise;

(b) sanitary conditions;

- (c) ventilation;
  - (d) light, and;
  - (e) protection from the elements, including harmful temperatures. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 2 (6).
- (7) If an animal is confined to a pen or other enclosed structure or area,
- (a) the pen or other enclosed structure or area, and any structures or material in it, must be in a state of good repair;
  - (b) the pen or other enclosed structure or area, and any surfaces, structures and materials in it, must be made of and contain only materials that are,
    - (i) safe and non-toxic for the animal, and
    - (ii) of a texture and design that will not bruise, cut or otherwise injure the animal; and
  - (c) the pen or other enclosed structure or area must not contain one or more other animals that may pose a danger to the animal. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 2 (7).

(8) Every animal that is to be killed must be killed by a method that is humane and minimizes the pain and distress to the animal; an animal's pain and distress are deemed to be minimized if it is killed by a method that produces rapid, irreversible unconsciousness and prompt subsequent death. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 2 (8).

#### **Standards of care for dogs that live outdoors**

3. (1) Every dog that lives primarily outdoors must be provided with a structurally sound enclosure for its use at all times. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 3 (1).
- (2) The enclosure must be weather-proofed and insulated. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 3 (2).
  - (3) The size and design of the enclosure must be adequate and appropriate for the dog. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 3 (3).
  - (4) A chain, rope or similar restraining device used to tether a dog that lives primarily outdoors,
    - (a) must be at least three metres long;
    - (b) must allow the dog to move safely and unrestricted (except by its length); and
    - (c) must allow the dog to have access to adequate and appropriate water and shelter. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 3 (4).

#### **Standards of care for captive wildlife**

4. (1) Wildlife kept in captivity must be provided with adequate and appropriate care, facilities and services to ensure their safety and general welfare as more specifically set out in subsections (2) and (3) of this section and in sections 5 and 6. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 4 (1).
- (2) Wildlife kept in captivity must be provided with a daily routine that facilitates and stimulates natural movement and behaviour. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 4 (2).
  - (3) Wildlife kept in captivity must be kept in compatible social groups to ensure the general welfare of the individual animals and of the group and to ensure that each animal in the group is not at risk of injury or undue stress from dominant animals of the same or a different species. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 4 (3).

#### **Standards for enclosures for captive wildlife**

5. (1) A pen or other enclosed structure or area for wildlife kept in captivity must be of an adequate and appropriate size,
- (a) to facilitate and stimulate natural movement and behaviour;
  - (b) to enable each animal in the pen or other enclosed structure or area to keep an adequate and appropriate distance from the other animals and people so that it is not psychologically stressed; and
  - (c) to ensure that the natural growth of each animal in the pen or other enclosed structure or area is not restricted. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 5 (1).

- (2) A pen or other enclosed structure or area for wildlife kept in captivity must have,
- (a) features and furnishings that facilitate and stimulate the natural movement and behaviour of each animal in the pen or other enclosed structure or area;
  - (b) shelter from the elements that can accommodate all the animals in the pen or other enclosed structure or area at the same time;
  - (c) surfaces and other materials that accommodate the natural movement and behaviour of each animal in the pen or other enclosed structure or area;
  - (d) one or more areas that are out of view of spectators; and
  - (e) one or more sleeping areas that can accommodate all the animals in the pen or other enclosed structure or area at the same time and that are accessible to all the animals at all times. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 5 (2).
- (3) A pen or other enclosed structure or area for wildlife kept in captivity must be made of and contain only materials that are,
- (a) safe and non-toxic for the animals kept in the pen or other enclosed structure or area; and
  - (b) of a texture and design that will not bruise, cut or otherwise injure the animals. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 5 (3).
- (4) A pen or other enclosed structure or area for wildlife kept in captivity and any gates or other barriers to it, including moats, must be designed, constructed and locked or otherwise secured to prevent,
- (a) interaction with people that may be unsafe or inappropriate for the wildlife;
  - (b) animals escaping from the pen or other enclosed structure or area by climbing, jumping, digging, burrowing or any other means; and
  - (c) animals or people (other than people who are required to enter the enclosure as part of their duties) from entering the pen or other enclosed structure or area by climbing, jumping, digging, burrowing or any other means. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 5 (4).
- (5) A pen or other enclosed structure or area for wildlife kept in captivity and any gates or other barriers to it, including moats, must be designed, constructed and maintained in a manner that presents no harm to the wildlife. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 5 (5).

**Standards of care for captive primates**

6. Every primate kept in captivity must be provided with,
- (a) daily interaction with a person having custody or care of the primate;
  - (b) a varied range of daily activities, including foraging or task-oriented feeding methods; and
  - (c) interactive furnishings, such as perches, swings and mirrors. O. Reg. 60/09, s. 6.
7. Omitted (provides for coming into force of provisions of this Regulation). O. Reg. 60/09, s. 7.

