

Sport Horse Showmanship

AR General.

1. Handlers in classes for junior exhibitors cannot have reached their 18th birthday in accordance with GR126. Competition Management is encouraged to offer Adult Showmanship classes for handlers who are 18 years and older and may divide classes by age groups which will vary according to local participation.
2. Unsoundness of the horse being shown shall not penalize a handler unless it is sufficiently severe as to impair the required performance, in which case penalty is at the judge's discretion.
3. Offering prize money in ~~Youth Halter~~^{SH} Showmanship is prohibited.
4. A minimum of six ribbons should be awarded, but no more than ten places are recommended.
5. The handler's number must be worn on the back and must be clearly visible at all times. Hair must be neat and securely fastened so as not to cover the handler's number.
6. Excessive coaching or unauthorized assistance in any manner is subject to penalty or disqualification at the judge's discretion.
9. It is recommended that stallions be prohibited, but it must be so stated in the prize list.

AR Judging Guidelines.

Showing a horse in-hand is an art and should be considered as such by the showman and judge alike. The showmanship class shall be judged strictly on the exhibitor's ability to prepare and present the horse safely, correctly and elegantly. The conformation of the horse is not to be judged, since the horse is considered a means of displaying the abilities of the showman. The ideal showmanship performance consists of a poised, confident, appropriately attired exhibitor leading a well-groomed and conditioned horse that quickly and efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness and precision. Horses shall be presented in the ~~Arabian show stance~~ or the discipline being represented. Emphasis shall be placed on the handler's ability to perform maneuvers in a safe and elegant manner.

1. SHOWMANSHIP 60 percent

a. LEADING

(1) The horse shall be led from the left (near) side with the handler holding the lead strap in the right hand at a distance from the horse allowing for maximum control and presentation of the horse. Handler's position when leading is midway between the head and shoulder of the horse. The remaining portion of the strap should be held safely in the left hand, and not wrapped around the hand.

(2) Horse must work individually on the line at a walk and a trot. Horse should lead readily.

b. SHOWING

(1) When showing the horse, the handler should stand toward the front, off the horse's shoulder, facing the horse. The handler should always be in a position where he/she can keep an eye on the entire horse.

(2) When the handler is showing to the judge the shank should be held in the hand at a level appropriate to the height of the handler. It is optional, when showing the horse that the shank is held in the right or left hand, with the whip if held in the opposite hand.

(3) As the judge moves around the horse, handlers should position themselves so as to avoid obstructing the judge's view of the horse. The handler may choose to show using either the Quarter System (exhibitor is always in the quadrant next to the

judge) or the Half System (exhibitor is never on the same side of the horse as the judge). The horse should be shown quietly and effectively at all times. Handlers must not just show themselves.

c. POISE, ALERTNESS, ATTITUDE

(1) Before and after showing to the judge, the horse should stand in a relaxed manner with the handler in a state of awareness. The handler should be aware of the position of the judge during the entire class.

(2) The handler should endeavor to show the horse to its best advantage throughout the class.

(3) The handler should respond quickly to requests from the judge and should be courteous and sportsmanlike at all times.

(4) The handler should not be distracted by persons and/or things inside or outside of the arena.

2. PRESENTATION 40 Percent

a. CONDITION Horse should be healthy, alert and in good condition.

b. GROOMING

(1) Coat clean and free of stains. Excessive amounts of oils, fly spray and polish are discouraged.

(2) Mane and tail should be clean and free of tangles.

(3) Hoof dressing and/or polish may be used.

(4) Excess hair should be clipped or trimmed from fetlocks, face, ears, throatlatch and bridle path.

AR Additional tests from which the Judge may choose:

1. Questions on relevant subjects such as:

a. Parts of the horse

b. Grooming

c. Basics in horse care

d. Proper attire

NOTE: If questions are asked, the same or similar questions must be used with each handler so tested.

2. Pick up horse's hoof.

3. Mouth horse.

AR Showmanship Faults:

1. Not following the judge's instructions.

2. Handlers not showing the horse, but just showing themselves.

3. Crowding other competitors while leading the horse or in the line-up.

4. Not lining up in front of the judge when walking or trotting.

5. Turning the wrong direction in patterns. Normally, the horse is between the exhibitor and the judge.

6. Standing in a position to obstruct the judge's view of the horse.

7. Excessive use of the whip, or actions that may disturb other entries.

8. Not holding the shank correctly or jerking the shank excessively.

9. Excessive steady pressure on lead shank or dragging the horse while moving.

10. Improper attire or attire not clean and neat.

11. Horse in poor condition, not clean or properly groomed.

12. Improper tack or tack that is not clean.

13. Number not worn or improperly displayed.

14. Any handler not having his horse under sufficient control must be dismissed from the

ring by the judge.

AR Appointments.

1. Braiding is optional.
2. Boots or bandages of any kind are forbidden during a class. In the event of an injury, the judge may permit a protective bandage. In the case of inclement weather, competition management may permit the use of bell boots and/or protective bandages on the front legs.
3. SPORT HORSE IN-HAND CLASSES. Bridles are mandatory on horses three years and older. A bridle shall be a dressage-type snaffle bridle or hunter-type snaffle bridle. Snaffle may be with or without cheeks, keepers allowed. Use of a noseband is optional but if used, it must be a cavesson, flash, figure 8, mexican, dropped, or crescent style noseband. A split or single lead made of either leather or chain (or a combination of both) may be used, attached through both sides of the bit, with/or instead of reins. Horses aged two years may be shown in a bridle (as listed above), or a plain leather stable halter. Horses under age two years must be shown in a plain leather stable halter. Horses wearing nonconforming appointments will be eliminated from judging consideration.
 - a. Conservative casual attire is recommended for the handler. This would include casual pants and shirt. Also acceptable would be Dressage or hunter attire including breeches, boots, shirt with tie, stock tie or choker collar. Jackets, hats, vests, and gloves are optional.
 - b. The handler may carry only one whip, maximum length of six feet, including lash and without attachments (i.e. plastic bags, ribbons, etc.).

AR Conduct of Classes.

1. The AHA Sport Horse Showmanship Score Sheet shall be used. Each judge will be assigned a scribe who will record scores and comments as dictated by the judge.
2. Horses will be shown individually on the triangle.



Arabians in Motion

Sport Horse Classic

Sport Horse Showmanship Scoresheet

based on the USDF Amateur Handler Scoresheet

Competition Name _____
 Date / Judge _____
 Class No. / Class Name _____
 Exhibitor No. Horse / Handler _____

Entry No.: _____

Percentage: _____

Placing: _____

Specifications	Criteria & Directive Ideas	Points	Coef.	Total	Comments
Grooming and Turnout	Condition. Grooming. Appropriate tack and equipment to complement horse.		x 2 or 20%		
Conformation	Shows horse to best of its ability.		x 1 or 10%		
Walk Presentation	Shows horse to best of its ability.		x 1 or 10%		
Trot Presentation	Shows horse to best of its ability. Horse unrestricted, straight, forward and attentive to handler.		x 2 or 20%		
Presentation and Handling	Demonstrates correct training, good horse care and understanding of in-hand showing techniques. Handles any difficulties effectively. Appropriate attire and attitude.		x 3 or 30%		
General Impression	Well-mannered horse. Harmony between horse and handler.		x 1 or 10%		

FURTHER REMARKS:

Decimals may be used in scoring

Total Points _____ (100 points possible)

Percentage _____

Judge's Signature(s) _____

Genetic Disorders and the Importance of Testing

Horses, like other species such as dogs, cats and even humans, can be affected by a variety of genetic disorders. Currently, DNA testing is available for ten equine genetic disorders, with three of those disorders of particular interest to Arabian horse owners and breeders: Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID), Cerebellar Abiotrophy (CA) and Lavender Foal Syndrome (LFS).

All three of these disorders are recessive traits, which mean that in order for a foal to be *affected* with the disease, it must have received a copy of the gene mutation from each parent. Horses that have only one copy of the gene mutation are physically normal, but are still *carriers* and can pass the mutation along to their offspring. While the vast majority of Arabian horses are *clear*, so do not possess the mutations responsible for these disorders, it is important to be aware that these genetic disorders do exist within the breed.

Owners and breeders now have the ability to test to determine if their horse is clear, carrier, or affected. Testing allows breeders to make informed choices, so the production of affected foals can be avoided.

Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID)

Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) is a lethal genetic disorder that results in an affected foal being born with a severely weakened immune system. Because the foal's natural defense system against infection is not functioning properly, they usually die at a very early age of opportunistic infections (such as pneumonia) or require euthanasia.

Cerebellar Abiotrophy (CA)

Cerebellar Abiotrophy (CA) is a neurologic genetic disorder which causes the degeneration of specialized nerve cells in the brain that are responsible for balance and coordination. Foals affected with CA may appear normal at birth. However, as the nerve cells begin to die (often by a few months of age, but can occur later), the foal will begin to show signs which may include a head tremor, lack of balance, exaggerated movement of the limbs, a wide-based stance, sensitivity to sound and sudden movements, and falling. The range and severity of the physical signs of CA can vary widely. Affected foals are generally euthanized or restricted to life as pasture pets, as their lack of coordination presents a danger to themselves and others, and also prevents them from being ridden safely.

Lavender Foal Syndrome (LFS)

Lavender Foal Syndrome (LFS), also known as Coat Color Dilution Lethal (CCDL), is a lethal neurologic genetic disorder. Affected foals are unable to stand and often have episodes of tetany where the foal will lay on its side rigidly extending its limbs, neck and back. Many of these foals are also born with a unique diluted coat color that may appear as pale lavender, pale pink or silver. Because these foals are often large and may have had a difficult birth, they can initially be mistaken as 'dummy foals' (neonatal maladjustment syndrome). There is no treatment for LFS and affected foals will usually die quickly or require euthanasia.

Other Disorders

Although not yet testable, disorders such as Guttural Pouch Tympany (GPT), Juvenile Idiopathic Epilepsy (JIE) and Occipitoatlantoaxial Malformation (OAAM) are also thought to have a genetic basis. Half-Arabian owners and breeders also need to be aware of genetic conditions found in other breeds, such as Hyperkalemic Periodic Paralysis (HYPP) in Quarter Horses. Because HYPP is a dominant trait, it is possible for a half-Arabian to be HYPP affected. Owners should check with the registry of any breed they are utilizing for additional information on breed associated genetic disorders.

Breeding Considerations

The decision to use carriers of recessive genetic disorders as breeding stock is an individual choice; there is no right or wrong answer. The primary goal is to not produce any affected foals. A secondary goal is to reduce the frequency of the mutation in the gene pool while maintaining the genetic diversity that is vital for the long term welfare of the Arabian breed. Breeding decisions must be made in an informed and careful manner to prevent needless suffering of foals and to preserve the health of the Arabian horse. When the decision is made to use a carrier, they should never be bred to another carrier, as this may lead to affected foals. Affected animals should never be used for breeding, as they will always pass on a copy of the mutated gene.

The information provided here is meant as a basic overview, to introduce owners and breeders to common genetic disorders that can affect Arabian and half-Arabian horses. For additional information, please visit the Arabian Horse Association's website at <http://www.arabianhorses.org/education/genetic/default.asp> and also consult with your veterinarian.

Arabian Horse Association Code of Ethics

The AHA Code of Ethics requires members to disclose SCID, CA, LFS and HYPP status, if known, for any horse capable of reproducing that is being offered for breeding, sale, or lease. In addition, an owner of a mare that produces affected SCID, LFS, CA or HYPP offspring should immediately notify the stallion owner.

Testing Information

Cerebellar Abiotrophy (CA) testing available from the UC Davis VGL and also VetGen UC Davis Veterinary Genetics Laboratory (VGL)

- The cost is \$40 per test. Tests can be ordered online directly from the VGL at <http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/services/horse.php> or by calling (530) 752-2211.

VetGen

- The cost is \$35 - \$50 per test, depending on the number ordered. Tests can be ordered through VetGen at <http://www.vetgen.com/documents/order-form-equine.pdf> or by calling (800) 483-8436.

****Combination testing for CA and SCID is now available from VetGen with special pricing through FOAL****

- CA/SCID test combination cost is \$141.50 per test when ordered through FOAL. Test orders can be placed at http://www.foal.org/SCID_CA_KitOrder.pdf or through the FOAL mailing address listed below.

Lavender Foal Syndrome (LFS) testing available from the Cornell Animal Health Diagnostic Center

- The cost is \$47 per test (\$45 for the test, plus \$2 accession fee). Information on ordering tests can be found at <http://ahdc.vet.cornell.edu/news/lfs.cfm> or by calling (607) 253-3900.

Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) testing available from VetGen

- The cost is \$99 per test when ordered through FOAL. Orders can be placed at <http://foal.org/KitOrder.pdf>.
- If you are unable to access the online order form, please contact:
Arabian F.O.A.L. Association
Marguerite Illing, Treasurer
PO Box 198
Parksville, NY 12768-5336
e-mail: milling@hughes.net

VOLUNTARY REPORTING OF TEST RESULTS – FOAL accepts voluntarily reported test results for SCID, CA and LFS for inclusion on their publicly available test results list. Please visit the FOAL.org site for additional information: <http://foal.org/Test-Kits---Forms.html>

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These Registration Commission materials were prepared in conjunction with the Equine Stress, Research and Education Subcommittee on Genetic Disorders with the assistance of Beth Minnich, Jennifer Ramsey, DVM and Scott Benjamin



FACTS provided by the horse people of the United States to Congress refuting anti-agriculture, anti-horse slaughter activist rhetoric:

Horse slaughter is inherently inhumane...

The processing of horses for meat can only occur in USDA inspected facilities which are governed by the U.S. Humane Methods of Slaughter Act requiring instantaneous insensibility from a single shot. Government inspectors are required to be present and to inspect the animals prior to, and during the kill process. Horse slaughter is exactly the same, and is held to the same high standard as for every other species of meat animal. There is no record of violations or citations issued for the mistreatment of any horses in U.S. horse processing facilities prior to 2007. Much touted mistreatment combined with graphically manipulated and out of context images show either injured horses that were hurt in transport or prior to arrival at the plant—(those injuries resulting from transport violations were prosecuted appropriately)—or they depict alleged events in other countries where U.S. authorities have no jurisdiction over the process.

Horses are not livestock, they are pets and companion animals...

While some people may consider their horses to be pets, the vast majority of people who actually make their living with horses, and who breed, train, and use horses in their everyday life consider them to be livestock. Both federal law and the state law of practically every state specifically designate horses as a livestock species. Horses do not live in homes, or sleep with their owners as generally accepted pet animals like dogs and cats do...and on the other side of this picture many typically regarded livestock animals like pigs and chickens are kept as pets by many Americans.

Horses are sensitive flight animals that smell death and are traumatized at slaughter facilities...

Horses, like other animals commonly used for meat such as elk and bison may respond differently than traditional livestock such as cattle or hogs, but modern facilities are designed and managed for these characteristics. There is no screaming, no abuse, no being "butchered alive" this is all the worst sort of fallacious propaganda. Horses are killed quickly and cleanly after calmly walking into the chute at a facility designed for the unique characteristics of horses, by professionals trained to use equipment designed especially for the purpose, and under the scrutiny of government inspectors charged with both humane handling and food quality. It is a far better fate than any of the alternatives.

Americans don't eat horse meat and we shouldn't be supplying those who do...

Many Americans do appreciate nutritious and delicious horse meat, and more would do so if it were available at meat counters. It is 50% higher in protein, 40% lower in fat, high in iron, and has up to 18 times the Omega-3 fatty acids of beef. China is the largest consumer, followed closely by Mexico, then other countries in Europe, Asia, Middle East, Russia, and the Americas. There are more meals served every day worldwide than there are McDonald's hamburgers. Horse meat kept the troops from starving in World War II, and fed most of the people at home because it was readily available, government inspected, and not rationed like every other form of meat. Today criminals in Florida and elsewhere are butchering stolen horses and selling the meat at black market prices out of coolers on the street. Obviously, the U.S. is full of people from ethnic traditions around the world, three-quarters of those cultures appreciate horse meat and consider it a high quality food source. Choosing to eat horse meat, or not, is a cultural choice best left to individuals, and not heavy handed government intervention or

radical animal rights groups.

Only foreigners and foreign owned companies benefit from horse slaughter...

It is true that today the primary market for horse meat is in Europe and Asia, and that the companies operating in the U.S. prior to 2007 were foreign owned, as are many companies in practically every other industry in the nation. They operated on U.S. soil, governed by U.S. laws and regulations, employed U.S. citizens, paid U.S. taxes, and purchased the horses they processed from U.S. citizens by paying fair values for otherwise unusable, unwanted, and unneeded livestock. The U.S. exports more than 10 Billion dollars worth of livestock and meat every year providing tremendous value to U.S. farmers and ranchers of every other form of livestock, except horses. The inability for any return, and the roadblocks to domestic or export market access for otherwise unwanted, unneeded, unusable, and excess horses is a severe economic hardship unrightfully imposed on the horse industry alone.

Removing the appropriations rider will require the appropriation of over \$5 Million dollars to support the required USDA inspection of horse meat and should not be considered when Congress is looking for all possible cuts...

USDA horse meat inspection can easily be provided on a fee for service basis exactly like is currently done for elk, bison, ostrich, and other forms of exotic meat processing today. This would require ZERO appropriation of tax dollars, would create more than 1,000 jobs practically overnight in hard hit state and tribal economies, and allow the entire horse industry to begin to recover as the overall economic condition of the country begins to improve. On a side note, the U.S. taxpayer foots the bill for the entire cost of inspecting traditional meats like beef, pork, and lamb—over \$10 Billion dollars worth of which is exported to other countries and is not even consumed by U.S. citizens.

Horses are not raised as food animals, and most have been administered toxic drugs deadly to humans...

As for every form of meat there are rigorously enforced rules and regulations preventing the contamination of horse meat for human consumption. Activists are particularly trying to make the case that phenylbutazone (“bute”), an NSAID commonly used in horses and dogs, but banned in humans, makes treated horses permanently unsuitable as food animals. However, bute is one of the drugs that is most quickly eliminated from a horse's system with 90% of the dose being eliminated in the first 24 hours, and another 90% of the remainder being eliminated each and every day thereafter. In spite of this fact, and the fact that there has NEVER BEEN a documented case of a single serious health effect from residues of ANY SUBSTANCE in meat or poultry in the last 20 years, there has been increased public concern and regulatory restriction particularly on horse meat. It is now required that all horses processed in Canada must be held for a minimum of 180 days prior to processing. Processing companies routinely test meat with laboratory tests accurate down to parts per trillion. If a government inspector pulls a sample of meat that has a higher than acceptable level of any substance, the entire lot of meat in the plant at the time is condemned at substantial economic loss to the processor. In European Union Audits of both Canadian and Mexican horse processing plants there has not been any finding concerning unacceptable levels of any prohibited substance in horse meat.

On a side note, more than 18,000 kids starve to death every day around the world. The 38,000 and counting excess unadoptable wild horses that the U.S. taxpayer is supporting on privately owned property because they cannot be left to overpopulate and denude the BLM rangelands would be much better used to provide much needed protein to starving people. In one fell swoop you could cut three-quarters of the Wild Horse and Burro Program funds that are now being spent to manage horses that are off of federal lands AND greatly enhance U.S. sponsored hunger relief efforts...a win/win all around! Those who object to others eating horse meat have never been hungry.

There are no excess horses in America, and what there are would be eliminated if horse owners would quit "over-breeding"...

The GAO report on HORSE WELFARE: Action Needed to Address Unintended Consequences of Domestic Slaughter Cessation clearly documents the increase of excess horses since the closure of the plants. Activist claims that reports of huge increases in abandoned and neglected horses are "anecdotal" and "not based in fact" are belied not only by the GAO (which interviewed state veterinarians among others—state officials reporting official statistics for their state are hardly "anecdotal"), but by the huge increase in media reports all over the country, the problems that the Tribes are facing as a result of no market and their herds increasing by 20% per year, the fact that the few available horse rescues are full and overwhelmed at exactly the same time as every horse sale in the country is flooded with low value, unmarketable horses. The prominent American breed registries (American Quarter Horse, American Paint Horse, Arabian, Thoroughbreds) for quality horses are universally reporting decreases in excess of 70% in the number of horses being bred per year.

It is worth noting that the U.S. government with its out of control wild horse and burro management is without question, by many thousands of percent, the biggest offender in terms of irresponsible "over-breeding."

Closing the slaughter plants did not increase abandoned horses – it is all because of the economy...

The strongest proof against this fallacy is a comparison between the effect on the equine economy during the severe economic downturn in the 1980s and this one. In the 1980s the number of horses that were sold and processed more than doubled to over 300,000 head because horses are, for the most part, luxury items that are the first things to go in tough economic times. The price of horses at that time were, however, quite high especially in comparison to the current extremely depressed prices. There were no increases in horse abandonment or neglect because all horses had value. When the recession was over the horse industry recovered in record time.

Horse slaughter is a predatory business where killer buyers outbid people who only want to save horses...

Horse auctions and horse buyers are in the business of finding the highest value for every horse. In a normal market situation that means that a horse that is wanted for any other purpose will be worth more than one that is only suitable as a meat animal. Anyone with the resources and desire to do so can bid on and acquire horses at whatever the market price is on that particular day. The reality is that most rescues will not bid on old, lame or otherwise undesirable horses that they will be unable to adopt out and turn a profit on.

Horse owners often don't understand that a horse they sell at auction might be slaughtered...

While it is commonly understood that horses sold at horse sales and auction barns are sold without restriction, the seller always has the right of "no sale" if their animal does not bring the amount they want or if they do not wish to sell to the individual who is the highest bidder. Killer buyers are not hidden and the seller can always ask the auctioneer who the buyer is. Sellers unfamiliar with common agricultural practices are responsible for doing their own investigation, and if they are uncomfortable with selling under the terms of the horse sale, should choose a private treaty or some other method of selling their horse.

Horses are often stolen and sent to slaughter...

Every state in the Nation has livestock laws around the transfer of legal ownership of livestock, and procedures such as brand inspection before horses can be legally sold to any buyer including a

processing plant. Sale barns, brand inspectors, and livestock law enforcement around livestock auctions are acutely aware of the possibility of stolen livestock, and use all possible means to prevent the inadvertent sale of stolen livestock. In addition, the horse industry has developed a fail safe method that is available to any horse owner concerned about this possibility. A Do Not Slaughter Registry has been established and the horse processing companies operating in North America have agreed to scan every horse before their buyers purchase them in the U.S. This scan will immediately identify any horse that has been stolen, or one that has been entered into the registry.

Slaughter horses are inhumanely crammed onto trucks and are routinely tortured and beaten...

Horses bound for slaughter are the only species of livestock that are regulated during transport by the federal government. USDA-APHIS Slaughter Horse Transport is the agency charged with the responsibility of enforcing these laws and regulations which include a ban on transportation in double-deck trucks, separate compartments for stallions and aggressive horses, prohibition against transporting horses that cannot put weight on all four legs, or who are blind, etc. Neither horses nor any other form of meat animal are routinely "tortured and beaten" because animals that are slaughtered while in excessive pain or unduly stressed result in very poor quality, often unusable meat—what is known in the trade as "dark cutters." For economic and meat quality reasons, as well as the obvious moral and ethical reasons, horses being transported to slaughter are taken very good care of, fed well, watered often, and handled as quietly and calmly as possible. Good livestock hauling practices includes making sure that there are enough horses in each compartment so that they are able to lean on and support each other as the truck sways and rocks going down the road, but not so many that a horse who might slip and fall could not get back up. Trucks are required to have non-slip footing to help prevent this from happening.

Please note that one of the primary findings of the GAO report on HORSE WELFARE was that the Slaughter Horse Transport agency charged with enforcement is hampered in their duties by appropriations riders that prevent the inspection of live horses.

Horse slaughter is a barbaric practice that is unneeded, and there are better solutions...

However, the only solutions that are offered are anything but...and only compound and exacerbate the problems already so devastating to horses and horse people. Should the only solution to an excess, unusable, unwanted horse be either the establishment of a full-blown animal welfare entitlement program that requires the U.S. taxpayer to foot the bill to care for every horse until they live out their 30+ years of natural life, or to have the taxpayers pay for a very expensive, veterinary administered lethal drug overdose? Should Congress and the American people have to figure out how to pay for it at up the chemical euthanasia and disposing cost of to \$600 per horse, and then dispose of the environmentally toxic large animal carcasses averaging more than 1,000 lbs. each, and then figure on doing that for more than 300,000 carcasses per year which is less than the number of horses that were sold for good and valuable meat during the economic downturn of the 1980s. On top of that Congress should be prepared for an economic bailout of all of the equine businesses that are denied a legitimate market for unusable livestock by government restrictions.

Captive bolts are not suitable for horses, a horses skull is different and requires multiple attempts to properly kill a horse...

Both the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) and the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP), who are the veterinarians who best know horses, have determined that a penetrating captive bolt, which is a penetrating object into the brain that causes instantaneous insensibility is humane. A carefully placed bullet under safe and controlled conditions as is found in a processing facility is the other acceptable and humane method, and is, in fact the method used in most

horse processing plants. While a horse's skull is shaped differently than a cow's skull, the brain is actually higher in the skull, and protected by less bone, thus a horse is more reliably killed with a single shot from either a captive bolt or a gunshot than is a cow or a bison.