



# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

---

The President's Editorial	2
Germany: ESSA campaigns for cultural heritage and biodiversity at the Equestrian Sports World Fair EQUITANA	3
ESSA General Assembly 2013: April 15 <sup>th</sup> -17 <sup>th</sup> at the Hungarian National Stud BÁBOLNA	3
France: Personal changes at the French Institute for Horse and Riding (IFCE)	4
Contact to Belgium: Flemish Brabant Tourism around the Brabant draft horse	4
Current European Issues (as reported by EHN)	5
ESSA dates 2013	7
Dates of ESSA partner institutions	7

---



# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

## The President's Editorial

Dear friends,

Four years now that we started ESSA communication with this newsletter every two months... It should be a strong anniversary to celebrate for a group like ours. Thanks to our MARBACH office and to Alexandra Lotz we have succeeded during these years to establish more and more actions and connections in between our members.

Now, I hope that the number "13" of this year will be a lucky one for our association. We need to find some people to come on the ESSA board. A board of 5 people can only be efficient if all of them are convinced and dedicated to our goals, if all of them are involved and give a little of their time to our actions. Please think about the possibilities to communicate together at the European level! Thanks in advance to any of you who can accept to be a candidate for our next board! We need you!

We also need to gain some more goodwill within our members to work for presenting our network's future to the European Union: application for EU grants or preparation of the EU Heritage Label for the most visited sites. This administrative work is nothing but long and difficult but it is the only way to be recognized and to get more potential.

This newsletter will keep you informed about some changes within our members. Our state companies, whatever their exact status is, have all the same sort of problems and relationship with their authorities. Regular changes of directors make the management and the long term policies of each state stud a little chaotic. That's why we have to develop our network in order to support the stud directors and their teams and to be able to give the required expertise to any of our members.

I hope to see you all at BÁBOLNA in April for our second meeting after 2005 in one of the oldest, widest and most famous place of horse breeding in Europe ... and in the world!

With my very best regards,

Bernard Maurel



# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

## Germany: ESSA campaigns for cultural heritage and biodiversity at the Equestrian Sports World Fair EQUITANA

From March 16<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, ESSA participates with the theme “save heritage and biodiversity” at the world's leading equestrian fair EQUITANA, taking place at Essen (Germany) every second year.

A quadrille of mounted and carriage tandems will celebrate its premiere, demonstrating traditional horse training and the diversity of breeds maintained in the European state studs. Franches Montagnes stallions of the Swiss National Stud AVENCHES and Black Forest Coldbloods originating from and MARBACH State Stud in Germany perform together with Oldkladrubers from KLADRUBY NAD LABEM and Czech Kinsky horses. TOPOL'ČIANKY National Stud in Slovakia sends Lipizzaner and Huculs, while DILLENBURG State Stud participates with Rhenish German Coldbloods. The colourful picture is completed by Breton, Comtois and Cob Normand stallions of the French National Studs LAMBALLE, ROSIÈRES-AUX-SALINES and SAINT-LÔ.

There will be a public training on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>, the EQUITANA theme day “education”, and two performances on the following days in the large ring of hall 6. Visitors of the fair can experience the European state studs' representatives also during different performances in the small rings and at the information stand in hall 11. With an exhibition space of 90.000 square meters in 17 halls and more than 200.000 visitors EQUITANA is considered to be the most influential event of its kind and thus a perfect platform for the European state studs and their horses.

*For more information about Equitana see [http://www.equitana.com/dates\\_and\\_facts\\_8.html](http://www.equitana.com/dates_and_facts_8.html)*

---

## ESSA General Assembly 2013: April 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> at the Hungarian National Stud BÁBOLNA

This year's ESSA General Assembly will take place from April 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> at the Hungarian National Stud BÁBOLNA. Stud directors from most parts of Europe will meet and discuss current issues and plan future activities on international level. According to the statutes, a new board will be elected. Besides the conference, the programme will include a visit of the stud premises and equestrian performances. A reception is intended in order to introduce ESSA's goals to representatives of politics, economy, culture and to the Hungarian horse world. The invitations have been sent and the ESSA board is looking forward to meet as many members as possible for a personal dialogue.



# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

## France: Personal changes at the French Institute for Horse and Riding (IFCE)

Following the changes in the French National Studs and their merge with the National Riding School some persons are going from SAUMUR to LE PIN: Sophie Lemaire, who was before at the International Department of IFCE will replace Franck Le Mestre as Director of LE PIN. Franck Le Mestre is appointed by the gallop racing society as director of Maisons-Lafitte Training Center. Eric Leclerc, former head of the teaching department at SAUMUR will take the responsibility as overall director (*Directeur Territorial*) for Normandy. At POMPADOUR, Xavier Guibert, who is well known by many ESSA members since he attended the General Assembly at LIPICA in 2008 and was the head of the International Department first of the Haras Nationaux, then of IFCE, is now Territorial Director, replacing Alain James who retired at the end of last year.

---

## Contact to Belgium: Flemish Brabant Tourism around the Brabant draft horse

At the end of 2012 the tourism service of the Flemish Brabant region in Belgium, represented by Ms Barbara Temmerman, has joined ESSA. In Flemish Brabant there are two regions, the *Hageland* and the *Green Belt*. For the region of the Green Belt the Brabant draft horse has been defined as a unique selling point. Several strategies were developed in order to promote the draft. The main objective is to found a touristic center around the Brabant draft horse in the picturesque town of Vollezele, near Galmaarden, in the south-west of the province. Vollezele is the place where the Brabant draft horse comes from originally.

On the farm where the breed was actually 'assembled' out of several regional breeds, a touristic center is in preparation. Main attractions will be several horses with foals in the foaling season, a museum about the glorious past of the Brabant horse, a café, a museum shop, seminar space etc. The site shall become a renewed home for the breed, in the place where it originates from. The farmstead itself features a beautiful 19<sup>th</sup> century villa with a grand cobblestone court yard, surrounded by wooden stables. In its past as a breeding farm for draft horses it was home for about 150 horses. The project is currently in its starting phase and we keep fingers crossed that it will become a success!



# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

This initiative can be an inspiration for our ESSA partners, who undertake all sorts of efforts to protect and promote endangered breeds.

For more information see <http://www.toerismevlaamsbrabant.be/en/index.jsp>

---

## Current European Issues (as reported by the European Horse Network EHN)

### **Betting: EU Communication "towards a comprehensive European Framework on gambling"**

The Commission is not proposing any EU wide legislation, nor is the subject of the funding of sports through betting addressed in the Communication itself. A first expert group meeting with the Member States was held on 5<sup>th</sup> December, and in 2013, the Commission will organise a stakeholders conference.

### **Sports Policy: The funding of Sport**

Following the Communication 'Developing the European Dimension in Sport' the Council in its Resolution on a European Union Work Plan for Sport for 2011-2014 set up an Expert Group 'Sustainable Financing of Sport'. The Expert Group, to which 21 Member States have appointed experts, reports to the Council. The Expert Group intends to present recommendations on strengthened solidarity mechanisms by the end of 2012. The Commission will assess these recommendations with a view to determining possible future action that may be necessary at EU level.

### **Sports policy: Match fixing**

Plans for an EU-wide legal approach to match-fixing and money laundering in sport are under way. A number of organisations are calling for a cross-border approach to criminalise match-fixing, proposing an EU-wide legal framework as well as agreements amongst the main stakeholders to coordinate investigations. Androulla Vassiliou, the commissioner responsible for culture and sport, said her cabinet was asking for EU funds under the 2014-2020 budget to combat "international threats to sport", including match-fixing. Some stakeholders have suggested the European Commission play a role in coordinating the different stakeholders and provide a platform for discussion



# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

## **Agriculture: CAP reform**

The Commission's proposals on reform of the Common Agricultural Policy announced last year have been widely debated this year. Thoroughbred breeders welcomed the emphasis on the protection and expansion of permanent grasslands. There was concern about any change to the definition of 'active farmer' in case horse breeders were intentionally (or unintentionally excluded) but this has not so far happened. The Single Farm Payment is worth millions of euros in revenue to stud farms and other equestrian enterprises with grazing land. A vote by the European Parliament on the reform package has already been delayed from November until January 23 and 24 as a result of delays in agreeing the EU budget and the time taken to incorporate more than 7,000 amendments suggested by MEPs into the proposals. Plans by EU Agriculture Ministers to reach agreement on elements of the reform at a meeting in Brussels early December have also been put back as many of the relevant texts are not ready. The breakdown at the end of November of talks on the overall EU budget makes the timetable for agreeing CAP reform by the unofficial deadline of June 30, 2013, the end of the Irish presidency of the EU, look even tighter, and unlikely as all parties involved in the reform process accept that a deal will not be possible without agreement on the overall EU budget and the spending limits for the next CAP regime.

## **Animal Health and Welfare: EU Review of Zootechnical (breeding) requirements**

The first draft of this has been stalled for months in the Commission's legal services department, but the Commission official will start looking at this again soon and will consult further with stakeholders.

## **EU Animal Welfare Strategy**

The focus on the Animal Welfare Strategy is on production animals. There are 4 key elements: a law of good principals, information for consumers, a network of reference centers on animal welfare, and competence requirements for people working with animals. The core idea is that the farmer/breeder is responsible for the welfare of their animals, and risk management by checks on potential risks. Whether there is to be an Animal Welfare Law will be decided this winter. There will then be consultations in 2013 especially on animal welfare indicators and the intention is for this to be up and running by 2014.



# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

## Animal Welfare in Transport

A recent European Parliament own-initiative report calls for a shortened maximum journey limit for horses for slaughter. However the Commission is reluctant to open the existing regulation again to changes.

## VAT on horse sales

The last case to be heard (Ireland) was heard at the European Court of Justice on the 20<sup>th</sup> November. All other countries have lost their case and been ordered to apply full VAT rates to normal horse sales and related products. France is set to apply full VAT from the 1 January 2013 except on sales of breeding mares, stallions and nominations.

---

## ESSA dates 2013

March 16 <sup>th</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup>	EQUITANA fair at Essen, Germany
April 15 <sup>th</sup> to 17 <sup>th</sup>	General Assembly 2013 at National Stud BÁBOLNA, Hungary
August 28 <sup>th</sup> to September 1 <sup>st</sup>	FEI World Driving Championship Pairs at TOPOL'ČIANKY, Slovakia

---

## Dates of ESSA partner institutions

### March

22.-24.03. REDEFIN Indoor State Championships Show Jumping

### April

04.04. REDEFIN Stallion Approval

13.04.-14-04. AVENCHES Days of Horse Breeding

25.04. AVENCHES Symposium Network Horse Breeding

# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

## Mai

01.05.	TOPOL' ČIANKY	Open Day with Gala Show
03.-05.05.	REDEFIN	International Horse Festival – CSI**/CDN
09.-12.05.	MARBACH	Marbach Eventing CIC***/CIC*/CCIP* ( <a href="http://www.marbachervielseitigkeit.de">www.marbachervielseitigkeit.de</a> )
18.05.	AVENCHES	Aventicum Western Classic
30.05.-02.06.	DILLENBURG	International Single Driving Competition
31.05.-02.06.	REDEFIN	“LebensArt” – Lifestyle exhibition for house and garden

## June

01.-02.06.	REDEFIN	Shetland Pony Days of Mecklenburg
06.-09.06.	YPÄJÄ	40th Traditional Show Jumping competition Finnderby and General Mannerheim Eventing “Championat de cheval d’armes”
06.-25.06.	REDEFIN	Performance test for mares
15.-16.06.	MARBACH	Broad Mare and Foal Show of Trakehner and Wuerttemberg horses
20.-23.06.	MARBACH	European Championships of Shagya-Arabians
21.-23.06.	DILLENBURG	“LebensArt” – Lifestyle exhibition for house and garden
27.-30.06.	FLYINGE	Scandinavian dressage and show jumping competition for pony-juniors and young riders

## July

05.+ 06.07.	MARBACH	“Marbach Classics” - Gala Shows with horses and the Wuerttemberg Philharmonic Orchestra
18.07.	AVENCHES	“Thursdays in the stud farm”





# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

27.07. RREDEFIN Picnic-Horses Symphony Concert

29.07. AVENCHES Brood Mare Show

## August

05.08.-14.10. MARBACH Stallion performance test

08.-11.08. MARBACH Dressage Festival

09.-11.08. FLYINGE Swedish Championships in single, pair and four-in-hand driving

09.08.-17.10. REDEFIN Stallion performance test

14.-15.08. FLYINGE Breeders' Trophy Eventing (Swedish horses of 4 to 6 years)

17.-18.08. MARBACH International Arabian horse show „Bairactar Memorial“

19.-20.08. MARBACH Performance test for draft horses

22.-25.08. MARBACH Four-in-hand Driving State Championships

28.08.-01.09. TOPOL'ČIANKY FEI World Driving Championships for pairs 2013  
([www.chmtopolcianky2013.sk](http://www.chmtopolcianky2013.sk))

29.08.-01.09. YPÄJÄ National Finnhorse Breeders' Competition and final seminar of the  
InnoEquine EU-project ([www.mtt.fi/innoequine](http://www.mtt.fi/innoequine))

## September

07.09. REDEFIN Picnic-Horses Symphony Concert

17.09. REDEFIN Stallion Parade

22. 09. DILLENBURG Stallion Parade

22. 09. REDEFIN Stallion Parade

28. 09. REDEFIN Stallion Parade



# ESSA courier

No. 20 – March 2013

29. 09.	DILLENBURG	Stallion Parade
29. 09.	MARBACH	Stallion Parade with guests from Austria
30.09.-06.10.	FLYINGE	Breeders Trophy in show jumping and dressage for young Swedish horses

## October

03.10.	MARBACH	Stallion Parade with guests from Austria
05.-06.10.	DILLENBURG	Driving Competition for Draft Horses
06.10.	MARBACH	Stallion Parade with guests from Austria

## November

09.-10.11.	MARBACH	Stallion Approval and Auction
07.-09.11.	REDEFIN	Mecklenburg Stallion Approval

## December

06.-08.12.	REDEFIN	Winter enchantment – Christmas market
15.12.	MARBACH	Christmas play