
Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by nicali - 2008/05/19 09:39

Hi, take a visit to www.equinection.com and if anybody can help, these are horse/ponies/donkeys that are being fed up to go for slaughter in Europe.:angry:

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Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by Roslinqh - 2008/05/19 13:27

This really annoys me as people forget that these horses were mainly in "loving caring" homes to get in the state which puts them in that position, quite often thats the best thing for them dare I say it, its obvious in most photos its taken months if not years for them to get that bad, the only kind option is for them to be put down, I totally disagree with live transport dont get me wrong, but so called fattening them up, by god how long have they been without food at least they get something before the end and dont die somewhere in a field or barn!
Sorry but it really annoys me!

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Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by whitewood - 2008/05/19 14:56

I don't eat horse meat, I have never eaten horse meat (I don't think) I can't even start to think about eating a horse and whole thing is abhorrent to me.

BUT if I thought about it long and hard I wouldn't eat, sheep, cows,pigs etc etc either which are also farmed to a 'fat' condition for food.

This is such an inflammatory subject - I cannot express an opinion with offending someone.

All I know is, that I can go down the road or the local horse auction and see horses in a similar state, probably without the benefit of being 'fed up' before dying in the corner of a field somewhere. You only have to read the Horse and Hound to see the on going cases of abject cruelty our beloved horses are going through in some places of UK.

Somehow - in a perverted way,as has been already said, being made fat before being destroyed is somehow better???

I would dearly love to give them all a home and I must admit tears were running when I looked at the videos etc - but where do you draw the line.

It was not many days ago I received some pictures of a stray dog tethered in an art gallery and starved to death before everyones eyes in the cause of ART!! Only to be repeated later this year because it was so successful.(France)

Just What sort of world do we live in?

Post edited by: whitewood, at: 2008/05/19 14:59

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Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by scotty - 2008/05/19 15:01

Exactly. What sort of world do we live in. The only thing you can hope is that these horses will be despatched as humanely and with as little stress as possible. We have very high standards of slaughter in UK horse abbatoirs but I'm afraid it's not always mirrored in Europe.

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Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by westernsaddler - 2008/05/19 17:09

Well I have one of the first rescues to come through EquineSection. We got Guinevere last July. The fate of these horses is awful, and they are treated MUCH worse than bred for meat animals over here. There were 3-legged horses, horses with awful injuries, illnesses, and the farmers do not care... afterall they are only meat animals. It is preferrable that they are pregnant as, a) they get more money for them, and b) it makes the meat more tender. The horses that have been rescued have been used to hi-light the plight of live transport. All the ones that came to us looked very unwell, even if they were fat.

On 6th April our mare had a foal - Arthur. In fact a number of the 10 rescues that ours came with have had foals. It was lovely to see when their fate could have been so very different. See Guinevere's foal etc here <http://ihdg.proboards91.com/index.cgi?board=talk2&action=display&thread=60529&page=1>

Lastly, horse meat is commonly called 'beef' in europe and is apparently in pepperami and chorizo (sp?) amongst other things.

Post edited by: westernsaddler, at: 2008/05/19 17:16

Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by westernsaddler - 2008/05/19 17:18

Guinevere and Arthur a few weeks ago...

http://www.thewesternshop.com/components/com_fireboard/uploaded/images/DSC_0021a.jpg

Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by shaza - 2008/05/19 17:51

i would help if i could,but who do you choose.

sadly it goes on,Go to the new forest pony sales and you will find most go to the meat wagon.

Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by CatG - 2008/05/19 18:35

Arthur's grown - he looks fab!

Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by Roland - 2008/05/19 22:44

I think the main thing is not breeding unwanted horses lets hope more horses are gelded...also it would be good if people "did the right thing" with old, sick or unsound horses instead of passing the problem on and causing them to end up in more suffering ... IM also against live export now we have invented refrigeration. the unnessary suffering and crulty sickens me and im shocked at what goes on in Mexico with the closesure of the American abattoirs...

Post edited by: Roland, at: 2008/05/19 22:57

Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by scotty - 2008/05/20 08:46

I agree entirely with Roland's point about the old, sick and unsound.

I was director of an equine charity for more than 10 years and like all such charities facing constant pleas to take unwanted horses the message we tried to get across is that if you really care about your horse nobody will ever give it the care and attention that you give it yourself. There is nobody 'out there', no organisation that can wave a magic wand and take in all the, for a variety of reasons, unwanted equines. Many people genuinely struggle when the time comes to seriously consider putting down a horse and some feel understandably guilty that just because the horse can't work anymore, they have to get rid of it so they can get another one. This obviously applies to many who have to keep horses on livery who can't afford to pay for the upkeep of a retired horse plus own another. So they jump at the chance to pass the horse to someone who appears to offer a very cheap retirement solution. Be assured - there isn't a very cheap retirement solution and if it looks too good to be true it very probably is and the horse could be at risk, at the very least ask yourself how somebody can afford to look after the horse properly on so little. For the sake of all the suffering and neglected equines out there I just wish more owners would take the ultimate responsibility and not pass the buck.

Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by springwest - 2008/05/20 14:52

oh my god!
How could people be so cruel.:(

Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by Jills - 2008/05/20 15:57

It's a lady I know through www.exracersclub.com that now runs this charity after rescuing a horse herself. She was looking for a H/W horse and there weren't any in the UK rehoming charities. She found "Shrek" and has helped rehome lots of other horses.

As a meat eater I have no right to "disapprove" of other cultures that eat horse/dog/animals we class as pets etc. I do strongly object to live transportation (of any animal) and if you feel the same you can sign up here <http://www.ilph.org/makeanoise/> to make a difference.

I also agree with the comments about breeding. Too many people are keeping sub standard horses entire or breeding from sub standard mares to give them a "purpose" resulting in below sub standard stock that is currently flooding the UK market.Or at least that is what I have found from my limited experience and from the countless horses advertised all over the net...

I think that people have to take a more responsible attitude towards breeding. Stallion owners should retain the right to refuse "poor" quality mares and mare owners should be more fussy about the stallion they use and not just opt for "cheap"

Totally agree with Scotty re making the decision when the time comes. When you take on any animal you immediately become responsible for it's welfare for the WHOLE of it's life and that includes the end. Horses aren't very "helpful" when it comes to just going to sleep peacefully and not waking up... I had my arab mare pts in Feb as it transpired she had a cyst up her nasal passage that was untreatable and would only get worse. Yet even then I had people *hinting* that I was cruel and not letting her live her days out (to bleed out in a field??) and offering to give her a retirement home?! :angry: She was uncomfortable so I was doing the best for her by ending any discomfort and ensuring she did not suffer on. It saddens me when I see older horses on places like horsemart who have been "part of the family for 10yrs" etc, to be it's apparent that the owners can't deal with the end so are passing on the "problem"

rant over :blush:

Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by misty - 2008/05/20 20:53

'm another one who could have a rant. If you eat meat (as I do)then horses are meat. I just hate the cruelty involved in

the transportation, and that covers our own meat animals.

We have two old boys who have been retired for about 6 years. Live out, rugged up, well feed. If we weren't in the position to keep them then they would be pts. We all had great times together, even now if you put a lorry or trailer in the field they would load themselves. The thought of them being sold, traumatised, bullied and mis-treated makes my blood run cold and I would sooner let them go only knowing happy times.

A friend had two horses pts last year (as ours would have to go together)and I just think she was very brave.

Again it is people being greedy and/or shirking responsibility.

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Re:Rescue from meat lorry.

Posted by Isobelj - 2008/05/22 07:50

Re breeding valueless foals

Many English people who move here to France get very cross because their 'unpapered' horse on which they have competed in England is not eligible for many levels of competition here. It means that foals bred from parents whose origins are unknown (either or both having no breed papers) have considerably less value. This applies to ponies as well,riding schools go to competitions here too so need qualified ponies. Obviously all sorts of unscrupulous things go on as in any country but it does mean that 'let's have a foal' is less of an option.

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