

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

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

The Promise of Cheval

A viable meat industry preserves the intrinsic worth and dignity of all horses, restores value to animals at risk, and ensures the preservation of the equine species.

International Equine Business Association



INTERNATIONAL
EQUINE
BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION

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

to the legal and humane processing of horse meat for human consumption.

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

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

Rod McQueary , rancher and horseman

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sue Wallis". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

Sue Wallis
United States, Chair

The Promise of Cheval

Cheval is the common term for meat produced from the equine species in the same way that beef is produced from cattle, and pork is produced from hogs.

A viable meat industry preserves the intrinsic worth and dignity of all horses, restores value to animals at risk, and ensures the preservation of the equine species.

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

Electronic version with links to documentation is available at <http://IEqBAssn.org/PromiseofCheval>. ©IEBA 2013

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

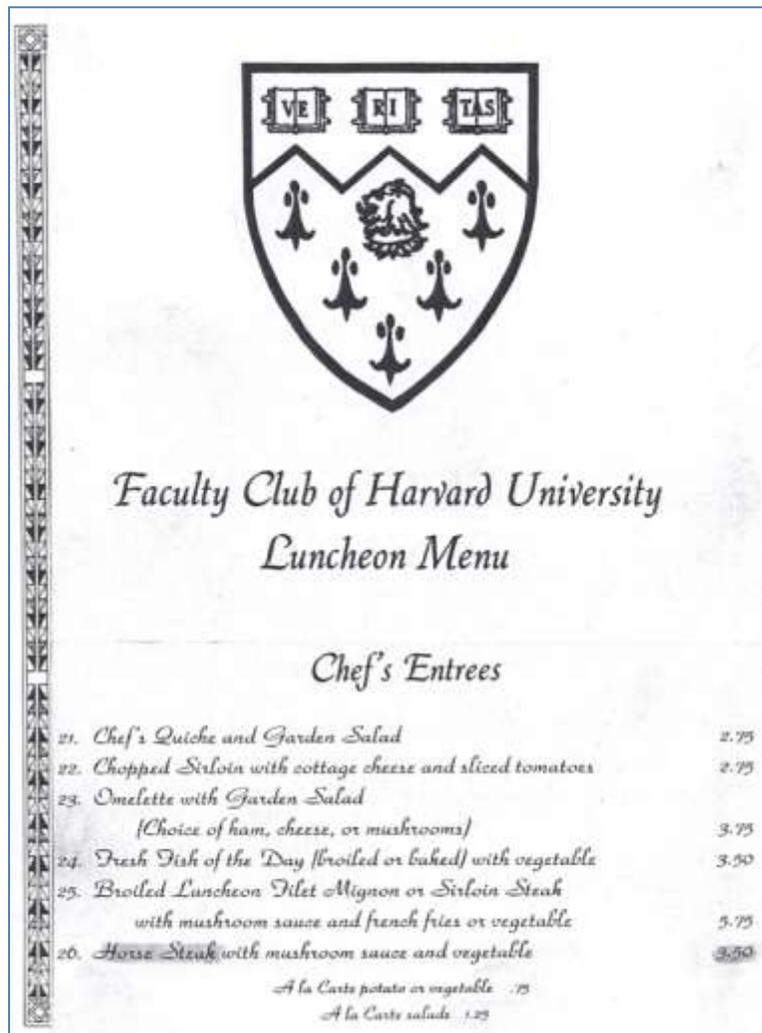
Americans eat horses. Some Americans eat horses today, and more would do so if it was available as it is in most of the world. For more than three-quarters of the cultures of the world, horse meat is just another culinary choice that is safe, nutritious, and delicious, right alongside the beef, pork,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



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

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

In a country where common gastronomic choices include everything from baby lambs and suckling pigs to grasshopper tacos and alligator tails, why can you not find the horse steak that was available on the menu of the Harvard dining room in the 1990s? When our Canadian neighbors are dining on delightful meals of Medallions of



Cheval au Porto, where is the same lean, tender dish to tempt our palates? How can it be that south of our border Mexico is the second largest consumer of horse meat in the world, second only to China? And why, oh why, are so many good horses—many who under normal market conditions would be wanted and valuable for other purposes—either enduring long transportation to processing plants in other countries where we Americans have no jurisdiction whatsoever over how that is done, or starving to death because they don't have enough value to sell, while at the exact same time the so-called rescues are full of horses they cannot "adopt out" (read "turn a profit on")? Why are so many thousands of horses suffering needlessly because their owners have fallen upon hard times, or just don't care? And why are so many horses now so worthless that they aren't even taken to a sale where they might be valuable enough to feed, be kept in good health, and at the very least processed into meat in a regulated and inspected facility designed for the purpose by trained professionals? Why are so many horses doomed to the prolonged misery and excruciating demise of slow starvation and disease, and why has this holocaust occurred in the last five years when it never did before?

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

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

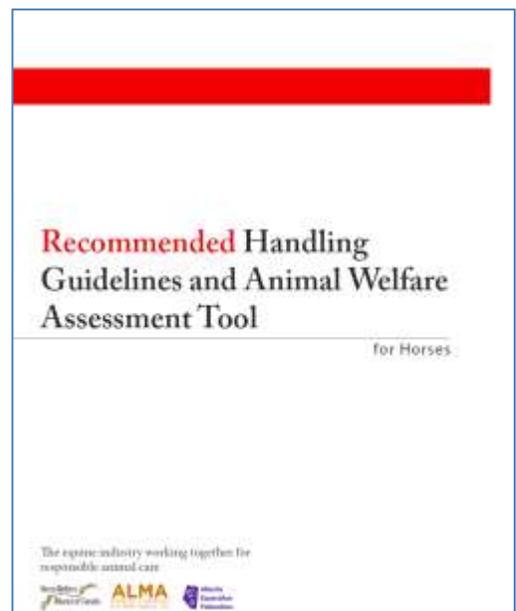
The problem with today's journalism is that it fails to deliver any real reason. It used to be that journalists were required to fact check, something akin to the scientific method, to corroborate a story. This meant a bit of work to consult multiple sources, and to make sure that what they were relaying about events or issues was based on reality—or they wouldn't run the story. But today, the best you can hope for is that a journalist will present "both sides" as if this were admirable. They don't even attempt to establish the truth or reality of either side.

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

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

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

Government inspectors are required to inspect all horses before slaughter, to be present and verify insensibility before they are hung up to bleed out. As trained professionals both the inspectors and the plant employees know how to assess whether there is any feeling, any sensibility whatsoever, even though the carcass will be twitching with reflex movements. These inspectors are required to inspect horses in exactly the same manner as every other species of food animal. In the unlikely circumstance that these requirements were not being met, citations would be issued. There is no credible evidence of citations for the systemic or habitual improper stunning of horses at slaughter. Processors have every incentive—economic, social, and ethical incentives—to ensure this critical step in the process of meat making is handled correctly because any animal that is in stress, or in pain, produces poor quality, unusable meat. The fact that their regulator has the power and the authority to shut down their plant for non-compliance is actually pretty



The International Equine Business Association (IEBA) has adopted the humane handling systems developed by the Horse Welfare Alliance of Canada which are used in horse plants in the U.S. and Canada. (37)

low on the list of deterrents. It explains why the most highly paid positions on the processing line are the knock box operators, and why they are always instantly removed from that position if they miss.

Comparative Nutritional Analysis Of Various Meats
 The following chart was prepared by Food Research Laboratories, Inc.,
 a USDA-approved laboratory located in Boston, MA.

	PROTEIN	FAT	ASH	CALORIES
BEEF -				
* Club Steak	15.5	34.5	0.7	380
* Porterhouse Steak	14.5	36.2	0.7	390
* Rib Steak	14.5	37.4	0.8	401
* T-Bone	14.5	37.1	0.7	397
** Ground Beef (Lean)	17.9	21.2	0.7	268
PORK -				
* Ham	15.9	28.5	0.7	308
* Loin	17.1	24.9	0.9	256
LAMB -				
* Leg	17.8	16.2	1.3	222
* Rib	15.1	30.4	1.1	329
VEAL -				
* Plate	18.3	17.0	0.9	231
* Round	19.5	9.0	1.0	184
SAUSAGE PRODUCTS -				
* Bologna	12.1	27.5	3.1	304
* Frankfurters	12.5	27.6	2.5	309
* Salami (cooked)	17.5	25.5	4.5	311
* Pork Sausage (Raw)	9.4	50.8	1.7	496
HORSEMEAT -				
** Clod	21.5	1.8	1.1	99
*** Flaked & Formed Steak	18.8	12.8	1.1	189

* American Meat Institute Bulletin #57, July 1964
 ** Food Science Department, Clemson University - Average value of Clods A, B, C, D (wholesale trim)
 *** Research Laboratories Inc., Boston, Mass. - USDA Approved Laboratory

Horse meat is safe. A few horses are raised specifically as meat animals in the U.S. today for shipment live to Japan and other countries where they are processed when they arrive. Canada, Iceland (3), Korea (4), and France (5) are just a few countries who have well-developed and flourishing purpose bred horse meat herds. Most meat animals here in the U.S., including livestock bred specifically as food animals, are provided veterinary medicines at some point in their lives. Many of these substances like dewormers are used in cattle, sheep, goats, swine, horses, and other species. Most of these substances have scientifically established withdrawal periods which are adhered to before they can be used as food animals. In any case, the food safety regimes in every nation require that there be a scientifically valid and rigidly adhered to testing protocol administered by government inspectors that ensures that no drug residue

contaminated meat enters the human food system. (6) The stated reason for USDA to delay the inspection of horse plants for over a year, from the time when the removal of the Ag Appropriations annual riders in the Fall of 2011 throughout 2013 was in part because the agency was validating the science underlying their drug residue prevention testing. These findings, and those produced from industry driven scientific research, has resulted in a testing procedure for every carcass entering the human food system to absolutely guarantee zero tolerance for any contamination.

Again, and especially for horses, the meat processors have every incentive—economic, social, and ethical—to ensure that their protocols go beyond minimum government requirements to guarantee that no horse that has unacceptable levels of any substance in their system is processed. In the U.S. comprehensive systems include fail safe methods, verified by independent third party laboratory testing down to the parts per trillion, that every horse processed is free of any drug residue, and that tracks every horse from the moment they begin to be managed as food animals, all of the way through the food chain. These protocols are in addition to and complementary to those established by the United States Department of Agriculture, whose inspectors are required to perform rigorous random sampling in plants, and who are required to write citations, levy consequences, and condemn any and all meat in the plant for any discovery of unacceptable levels. These protocols are written as part of every plant’s Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) plan (7), and are promulgated and enhanced by the International Equine Business Association (IEBA) (see details under the IEBA tab in this report) which helps processors go above and beyond minimum government requirements. (8)

Dr. Bagley, a veterinarian at Utah State University and the author of fact sheets cited here notes that “Production agriculture has recognized that it can do a better job in preventing residues. The mistakes detected in the future will be so costly they will put some producers out of business because of one minor error. Contaminated milk from one cow could result in residue detection and cause the condemnation of mixed milk from 1,000 to 60,000 other cows. The regulations could force a producer to pay for that contaminated, discarded milk. Few producers could afford it and they would be forced out of business.” The example is well taken, and applies equally well to the horse meat situation.

As noted by Dr. Bagley and others, the emphasis on drug residue contamination is primarily driven by the increased ability of testing protocols to detect levels in minute amounts, and that all of these precautions are for

basically a non-existent, but perceived, public danger. No human being has ever been documented as having been sickened by any drug residue in any meat in the last twenty years. (9)

In spite of these long standing food safety systems and protocols, one tactic of extremists is to proclaim that horses not raised for their entire life span as food animals, are always provided veterinary medicines which make them permanently ineligible for food animals. Fortunately, there are [scientists dedicated to pure scientific methods](#) (10) who have stepped up [to debunk these spurious claims](#) (11), noting that bute is one of the substances most quickly eliminated from horse's systems and pointing to the established science which proves this. The [disclosure requirements for horses destined to be slaughtered for human consumption in Canada are working effectively](#) to keep restricted drugs and vaccines out of the food supply, according to Dr. Richard Arsenault, director of the meat programs division for the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA), and USDA standards will be as rigid or more so. (12)

It is a documented fact that as a direct result of the discovery of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy commonly referred to as BSE or mad cow disease in cattle, the demand for horse meat shoots up. Horses are not ruminants and they do not get diseases like BSE or Foot and Mouth Disease. (13)

Horsemeat is Nutritious. On nutritional websites horse meat is often lumped together with game meats as a lean, nutritionally dense source of protein. (14) An old USDA publication promoting both horse and goat meat from 1997 lists the nutritional characteristics of horse meat as low in fat with a 100-gram (3 1/2 ounces) serving of cooked, roasted meat as 175 calories; 28 grams protein; 6 grams fat; 5 milligrams iron; 55 milligrams sodium; and 68 milligrams cholesterol. (15) A Korean study that compared the nutritional characteristics of horse meat to pork and beef concluded that in comparison to both other meats, horse was particularly high in fatty acids and some vitamins. "Horse fat had a much higher α -linolenic acid than the others, probably due to the more intakes of fatty acids through hay by horses. Grasses usually contain significant amounts of α -linolenic acid. Although cattle gain the same amount of α -linolenic acid through hay, unsaturated fatty acids will be hydrogenated in the rumen and as a result very little α -linolenic acid will reach the animal's fat storage." (4)



In Italy horse meat baby food is very popular with finicky mothers who want only the best and purest foods for their children.

Because of these nutritional benefits horse meat is prized by mothers as baby food in places like Italy (16) and Japan (17), and especially sought after by athletes as a lean, high protein, red meat perfect for building body condition. (18)

Horsemeat is Affordable. According to the United States Meat Export Federation, leading purveyors of horse meat globally, and export meat traders here in the U.S., horse meat tends to be 40% to 50% less in price than traditional meats like beef in every country where it is sold. Sometimes called "red meat for the poor," with the rise in popularity of exotic meats worldwide, horse meat is sought after for its lean, high protein nutrition. But in hard economic times, the main driver for the increasing demand worldwide is economic. (19)

Horsemeat is Delicious. Good horse meat is hard to find in the U.S. right now, unless you butcher it yourself as a few Western ranch families continue to do, and some ethnic communities such as Tongans or Mongolians whose traditional cuisines treasure horse meat, and who will buy horses and process the meat themselves. Unfortunately, some have been known to butcher other people's horses and sell it on the street at black market prices for up to \$40 per pound in southern Florida. A black market that would be completely eliminated if there were safe, government inspected, and affordable meat available in the stores.

Horse meat is often described as tender, lean, slightly sweet to the taste, and somewhere between grassfed beef and really good elk or venison in taste. Recipes abound on the internet, and the possibilities are endless. Like other lean red meats, the tougher front quarter cuts benefit from long, slow braising in liquid, but the tender, high

quality hind quarter, and especially roasts or steaks cut from the “pistole”¹ are stupendous when seared over high heat to lock in the juices, and then quickly brought to a mouthwatering medium rare.

There is at least one restaurant in the U.S. serving horse meat in New York City. A food blog, the [United Nations of Food](#) (20), raved about an Uzbeki dried horse meat with cumin dish served at a new Armenian restaurant in Sheepshead Bay. “Even more awesome: one of our salads was an appealing little number called naryn, made



Uzbeki Naryn, horse meat dried with cumin, Aladdin Restaurant, NYC.

from shredded dough with medallions of an unusually tasty meat product. It tasted like a cross between a mild sausage and a not-completely-dried beef jerky, and none of us—not even our well-traveled Armenian friend—knew exactly what it was. I imagined that it was beef or lamb, cured in some ingenious way. Nope. It was horse meat, dried with cumin. And it was delicious.”

Look for an array of *cheval* and *carne de caballo* dishes to tempt the palate that will shortly be available at restaurants, and stock shows, and other events across the country, as well as opportunities to order directly from companies that are producing cheval.

The Tragic Loss of Value

The absence of a valuable use for otherwise unwanted horses results in immediate tragedy, increased suffering, loss of economic opportunity, and enormous, unnecessary, taxpayer expense and burden.

There are several reasons why the dismal situation of the U.S. horse world matters to the entire country. The first is an unprecedented circumstance where the political and social agenda of a tiny minority of animal rights extremists is being used to destroy the free market opportunity of an entire sector of animal agriculture. By using deceptive media campaigns that raise funds supposedly to help pet animals, these groups use skillful manipulation of the media, and aggressive litigation against individual property owners without the resources to counter them, to eliminate choice and competition in the horse world.

The inevitable and immediate result is that horses suffer. Horses suffer tragically in huge numbers. People who depended on horses for their living, the families of breeders, trainers, veterinarians, farriers, stable owners, feed growers, equipment suppliers, all see their chosen and beloved profession become impossible to maintain, and the industry liquidates. Without a residual market for horses, the



More needs to be done to expose the unethical practices engaged in by extremist groups like this clever video. (38)

A once viable, humane, market solution providing economic opportunity turns into an unfunded mandate and societal travesty that kills jobs, drains already stretched thin public coffers, and worst of all condemns horses to the most awful fates imaginable.

entire market collapses.

Part of this tragedy is documented in the Government Accountability Office (GAO) report on [HORSE WELFARE: Action Needed to Address Unintended Consequences of Domestic Slaughter Cessation](#). (21) This eighteen month long study took a team across the Nation to talk to every segment of the horse world to find out the true result

¹ The pistole is the best cut of meat from a horse which includes the tenderloin strip, and runs down into the rump.

of the plants closing in 2007. When they talked to trainers they learned how the market collapse had evaporated the dollars that breeders were willing to put into training. When they talked to tribes they learned how the lack of market for low-end horses had eliminated the only humane management tool they had to manage their herds of horses that naturally increase by 20% to 25% per year as noted by the letter to Congress from the National Tribal Horse Council included in the Appendices of this report. When they talked to sale barns they learned how the lack of market was causing desperate owners who could no longer sell their horses to abandon them everywhere, and how many of these markets were closing because they could not get a bid for most otherwise unusable horses. When they talked to rescues they learned how there was no possible way they could deal with the ever increasing numbers of horses with nowhere else to go, and no other options. When they talked to state veterinarians and livestock agencies they learned about the enormous spike in abandoned and neglected horses in every area of the country.

One key indicator that is not addressed in the GAO report is the drastic decline in breeding. Every single major breed registry in the U.S. from the American Quarter Horse Association, to the Jockey Club which registers thoroughbreds, to the American Paint Horse Association, and all of the rest—every stud book is recording well over 70% fewer foals being registered over the course of the past five years. Regardless of what occupation one comes from, even someone who has never had the opportunity to touch a horse in their life, or who has no knowledge whatsoever of the livestock industry, can understand that when your livelihood is diminished by close to three quarters, that is a very dire circumstance and a sure recipe for disaster. 70% fewer colts being born means 70% fewer colts being sold, 70% fewer colts being trained, fed, fitted, shod, showed, or sold...70% fewer jobs. Another factor not even mentioned in the GAO is the resulting loss of genetic diversity and the danger of losing forever rare and endangered breeds of horses, as well as valuable genetic lines within the prominent breeds.

A current situation in [Los Lunas, New Mexico](#) (22) perfectly illustrates the scope, and [the inevitable disaster that occurs almost immediately](#) (23) when the industry is prevented from providing normal market value and a humane, valuable use for some horses. The horses suffer. Once profitable businesses that could take the risk of taking a horse, feeding them, providing them care, and marketing them once they are in good shape are prevented from providing this service. Nonprofit rescues beg for money, are unregulated and often corrupt, or simply incompetent. The taxpayer ultimately pays the bill. The problem of excess, unmarketable horses quickly spirals out of control. A once viable, humane, market solution providing economic opportunity turns into an unfunded mandate and societal travesty that kills jobs, drains already stretched thin public coffers, and worst of all condemns horses to the most awful fates imaginable.

[Excerpt from International Equine Business Association letter to New Mexico Governor Martinez-] "It is the position of the IEBA that the fate of these suffering horses, and far too many others, are the direct result of the actions of animal activists who in a misguided attempt to "save horses from slaughter," have instead rendered them worthless, or nearly so, and have condemned good horses to a fate far worse

The Simple and Obvious Solution.

Allow a properly regulated free market industry that protects the rights and choices of horse owners, while allowing the return to normal market functioning to create jobs, offer opportunity, and end the unnecessary misery of horses.

The Simple Solution. Restore humane and regulated processing of horses to the United States as soon as possible. Take heed of the straight forward message of the GAO to restore the USDA inspection of horse processing facilities, or completely ban all transportation and processing of horses. (21) Make note of the fact that the second alternative will inevitably lead to an even worse situation than the one that exists now. The GAO Report points out

the devastation and suffering wrought by the shutdown of the U.S. industry which only resulted in many horses starving, and many horses enduring long transportation to another country where that country reaped all of the benefit. Understand that the second alternative would only result in the exponential increase of the suffering, and of the economic loss, and that there are no solutions being proposed to mitigate either.

The brutal fact is that the horse industry has been devastated by a failed experiment foisted upon it by extremists who have had five long years to come up with any viable solution to the devastation...and have done nothing to relieve the suffering. The only alternatives offered are the creation of a taxpayer supported welfare entitlement system for every horse to allow them to live out their 30 plus years of life though they serve no useful purpose to anyone, or to kill them all with lethal drugs so that no one can use the meat. They offer no solution to the resulting

more than 200,000 toxic waste filled carcasses per year which in most jurisdictions cannot be buried for fear of leaching into ground water, cannot be rendered or composted because the toxicity survives both processes, and certainly cannot be left lying on top of the ground to poison any scavenger like endangered bald eagles, or the neighbor's dog...not to mention the stench of a rotting carcass.

Let fully informed consumers decide for themselves whether they would like to have another culinary choice, or not.

Let horse owners decide if and when and under what circumstances they want to market their horses.

Let our ancient and venerable horse industry thrive.

Protect our American freedoms and responsibilities.

Make sure that the industry is monitored by both horse people and government oversight to ensure that every horse is handled appropriately at every stage. Let the market work. Do not allow a tiny minority of culturally arrogant and ethnically

insensitive extremists determine the culinary choices of others, or to limit the economic use of animals. Protect the rights of horse owners, and insist that if the value of animals is eliminated through the agenda of a few radicals, hold those extremists accountable for the suffering they have caused, and make sure that horse owners are properly compensated for their loss.

Make sure that it is the horse people of the United States, participating in a normal market and pursuing their own economic self-interest, with real knowledge of the equine species and the livestock industry, who determine the proper and humane handling of horses at every stage. The horse industry has the benefit of equine veterinarians, animal scientists, and equine professionals. Do not allow radical extremists whose only objective is factory fundraising, and the elimination of animal agriculture to destroy jobs, limit opportunity, increase the public burden of taxpayers, or continue the unnecessary suffering of horses.

Let fully informed consumers decide for themselves whether they would like to have another culinary choice, or not. Let horse owners decide if and when and under what circumstances they want to market their horses. Let our ancient and venerable horse industry thrive. And protect our American freedoms and responsibilities.



Find a recipe for Filet Mignon of Cheval at <http://Chevaline.us/Recipes>.

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Show Your Compassion – Support humane and regulated horse processing in the United States

Horse owners and concerned citizens have come together with real solutions to ensure the humane care, management, and euthanasia of horses; to ensure the long-term sustainability and viability of the equine industry; and to restore the market for all horses. Anti-slaughter legislation exacerbates these problems, and offers zero solutions



What if the people who couldn't take care of these horses, could sell them before they starved?

This is what happens when there is no market...

No value...

No options!



What if HSUS/PETA, spent as much money on veterinarians, and care givers as they do on slick city lawyers, six figure salaries, and million dollar ad campaigns?



A quick, painless euthanasia while still in good condition, and providing nourishing meat for hungry people is a far more humane fate than an agonizingly prolonged death of starvation.



A young mare found with her brand cut out—turned loose on the Nevada desert to fend for herself.

Additional documentation of nation-wide abandonment and starvation of equines at <http://www.abandonedhorses.net>.