

## BSPA PASSPORT INFORMATION SHEET (2)

### NOTES FOR OWNERS & APPLICANTS:

#### 1-CONTEXT:

- It has been a legal requirement since 2005 that ALL Horses (Equines) must be issued with a Horse Passport AND from 1/7/2009 that ALL passports issued must contain a microchip number.
- New Legislation comes into force on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2016 that strengthens the Equine identification regime and further protects Human health by rigorous clarification regarding food status..
- **ALL BSPA Passports** are henceforth to be issued under **Regulation (EU) 2015/262**. They are a Legal Document and it is an Offence to knowingly apply for a Horse Passport when one already exists.
- Under these Regulations any equine born during 2015 but without any passport (or 2015 application prior to 31/12) **WILL henceforth** only be eligible for a **"Replacement"** passport. Whether or not one exists already, and the equine automatically signed out of the Human Food-Chain. **This is not reversible.**
- **Duplicate Passports**, applications for a duplicate **WILL** now be required to have a new Sketch sheet completed by a Vet prior to re-issuance and the equine automatically signed out of the Human Food Chain. **This is not reversible.**

#### 2-PURPOSE:

- A Passport is a document of identity (UELN/Microchip/Silhouette (Sketch) and lasts the lifetime of the horse.
- It also states the status of the equine regarding whether or not it can be used for food at the end of its life.
- Owners can make such a declaration in a passport (refer BSPA Passport pages 16/17 pre 2016 and pages 4-6 current 2016 version). **THIS IS MOST IMPORTANT**
- Microchips- A vet **MUST** implant a chip (Transponder) and the bar-code sticker sent with all applications.
- Vets **MUST** also complete the Silhouette (Sketch) and description sheet (Section 1a & 1b). These will both appear in the Passport document.
- If your equine is found to have a microchip implanted prior to a passport application, it is now compulsory under the new Passport regulations for the equine to be signed out of the human food chain and for a "Replacement Passport" only to be issued. **This is not reversible.**

#### 3-APPLICATION TIMESCALES:

- ALL new births (Foals) **MUST** be micro-chipped and have a passport applied for by 6/12 old **OR** by the 31<sup>st</sup> December of their birth year (whichever is the later).
- Micro-chips should be implanted as part of the application process and the Sketch sheet completed by the vet at the same time.
- Any Equine born before 31/12/2015 will be 'assumed' under these regulations, to have held a passport previously. As such BSPA (or any other passport provider PIO) may only issue a "Replacement" document and sign the equine out of the food chain at source. **This is not reversible.**
- Whenever a legal timescale is not kept to the BSPA is obligated to inform Trading Standards.
- **Owners and Keepers of an equine may be fined up to £5000 if they fail to comply with the Legislation which is actively enforced by Local Authority Trading Standards.**

#### 4-LOST PASSPORTS:

- It is a requirement under **EU 2015/262** that the registered owner apply for a Duplicate Passport (BSPA Form on line).
- If the registered owner no longer has possession of the equine then the new 'owner' **MUST** be able to establish their legal rights of ownership. BSPA will also make contact with the last recorded owner to establish when the equine left their ownership...
- Under these circumstances the Equine is permanently excluded from the Human Food Chain. **This is not reversible.**

#### 5- NOTIFICATION OF THE DEATH OF AN EQUINE:

- It remains an EU requirement that the relevant PIO is advised of any loss within 30 days of their death and the relevant Passport document is returned for BSPA Invalidation.
- If you wish to have the document returned to you following Invalidation please send a large letter sae.

#### BSPA Registrar

##### Refer also to BSPA Downloads:-

- BSPA Passport Application Notes 2016
- BSPA Passport user instructions 2016
- BSPA Passport Legislation & Definitions 2016