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Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
(14.11.2025)

The Commission acknowledges the significance of data related to the horse sector for a deeper understanding of this industry and its importance in policy development. The breeding and raising of horses, donkeys, mules, and hinnies are classified under code A.01.43 of the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Union (NACE Rev. 2.1)¹ and are included in the definition of an agricultural holding according to Regulation (EU) 2018/1091².

However, support activities such as stud services, animal boarding, and care, as well as the rental of animals and operation of riding stables, are excluded from this definition. This distinction highlights that only a portion of the European Equidae population can be surveyed through the integrated farm statistics under the current legal framework.

The Commission is working on a proposal to amend Regulation (EU) 2018/1091. As part of this initiative, stakeholders will be invited to share their views with the aim to strike a balance between new information needs and limiting the administrative burden on respondents.

¹ Regulation (EC) No 1893/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 December 2006 establishing the statistical classification of economic activities NACE Revision 2 and amending Council Regulation (EEC) No 3037/90 as well as certain EC Regulations on specific statistical domains (OJ L 393, 30.12.2006, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2006/1893/oj>), as subsequently amended and supplemented.

² Regulation (EU) 2018/1091 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on integrated farm statistics and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1166/2008 and (EU) No 1337/2011 (OJ L 200, 7.8.2018, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2018/1091/oj>).