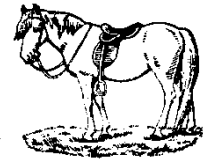


NEW FOREST PONY BREEDING AND CATTLE SOCIETY



INTERNATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY 28 AUGUST 2022

THE SHOWGROUND, NEW PARK, BROCKENHURST, UK, 10.30 am

The meeting began with a moment in silence in memory of Ole Wienecke, our good friend from Denmark.

Present:

NFPBCS UK: Suzanne Kempe (Chair of Meeting), Wendy Adams, Sam Dovey, Jane Murray

Belgium: Marijke Derveaux, Manuel Van Wezemaël, Peter Timmermans, Kristl Van den Bergh

Finland: Leena Niemi

Germany: Elisabeth Jensen, Thorsten Gosch

Netherlands: Channa de Winter, Mirjam de Wit, Eddy Schoonhoven

Norway: Nina Hakonsen

Sweden: Anna Ransholm

Apologies: Gill Wright (UK), France, Denmark.

Wendy Adams, NFPBCS Society President 2022, welcomed all delegates and opened the meeting. Everyone briefly introduced themselves.

Minutes of the Meetings held online by Zoom in July and October 2021

Correction to the Minutes of the Plenary Meeting 28 October 2021

Eddy Schoonhoven asked that on page 1 'understands' replaces the word 'accepts' so that the sentence reads: 'On page 8, Eddy Schoonhoven said that while he understands that registered foals should go in the X-Register ...'

Acceptance as a correct record of the Minutes of the Meetings held online by Zoom in July and October 2021

Following the correction above, and noting that France had commented that the minutes should only be agreed if it is mentioned that no stallion should be breeding for the main studbook unless it is tested free of Myotonia and PSSM1, the Minutes of the 2021 International Meetings held by Zoom in July and October 2021 were accepted.

Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 2021 Meetings not covered elsewhere on the agenda

Minutes of Meeting 1, 27 July 2021 (page 4) – noted that the stallion licence had been revoked in Germany.

Minutes of the Meeting with Dutch Board and observers 17 December 2021 and Matters Arising including the Mytonia Breeding Policy

The Dutch Board had sent a letter shortly before the meeting indicating that they wished to discuss outstanding matters from the December 2021 meeting. In the meantime, France had indicated that they remain worried that the foals by stallions that are Mytonia positive are still being registered in the main studbook. France stated that they must insist that the rules are enforced.

Eddy Schoonhoven (ES) explained that in the Netherlands, foals do not go into the main studbook until they are three years of age. At that point, colts must be licensed as stallions and fillies must be approved for the main section. Filly foals from the Kantje's Ronaldo (KR) line are mytonia tested and records kept. ES reminded the meeting that in terms of foal welfare, a carrier of the mytonia gene does not suffer from the disease. He felt that the six KR coverings a year were not risky because breeders are knowledgeable. He also stated that removing KR coverings could further narrow an already narrow gene pool. The new Dutch Board now had a better understanding of EU rules concerning the X- Register. He felt that the UK response to the December 2021 meeting and the Dutch follow-up letter was just a restatement of the rules rather than a continuation of discussions.

The Dutch Board now found themselves in the position that members were coming forward with these few KR foals and the Dutch Society needed to give them information about registration. They want to follow NFPBCS rules but they must also heed EU rules. KR semen is still available and they cannot prevent members from using it, so it comes down to registration.

ES then outlined the Dutch proposal for dealing with this issue. With only 6-10 KR coverings a year this is only a minor issue in the Netherlands, but the Dutch Society will carry out an information campaign explaining to members the consequences of using a mytonia-carrying parent. There will be no mytonia gene in stallions in the future. All current mares from before 2023 descended from KR will remain in the studbook as they are already tested. From 2023 users of KR frozen semen for untested or positive NF mares will be fined 1,000 euros. The Dutch Board were asked to submit this proposal in writing to NFPBCS, which had always been concerned about the continued use of KR and the continued use of carrier mares for breeding. Any proposal from NL would have to be workable in other countries. The NL proposal needs to be ready by the end of 2022 for the 2023 covering season and foal testing in 2024.

Both Germany and Belgium commented that riding and jumping ponies could still be produced using KR semen, and Netherlands said they have no jurisdiction over other breeds. It was noted that the French authorities would issue the zootechnical certificate for KR semen which would state that it was defective for the Mytonia gene, and perhaps awareness of this needs to be raised. In Finland and Norway all stallions are tested free and Swedish law does not allow breeding from KR.

Further discussion highlighted the general use of the Foal Book across the EU, with ponies having to be selected/approved or licensed at 3 years of age for admission to the main studbook. In the Netherlands foals are given a VB registration number, and on admission to the main studbook this is upgraded to a STB number.

Germany - X-Register Passports

NFPBCS confirmed that UK X-Register passports have maroon covers and a red X stamped to show in the clear window of the cover.

The German Society had met with representatives from their competent authorities and asked for their opinion concerning the requirements of registration in Section X (in German: Anhang). The German government stated that 'breeding up' should be allowed once the problem has disappeared, even if this takes 4-5 generations. Prior to this meeting France had commented in writing that the Zootech rules allow the studbook of origin to establish classes within the main section and that all filial societies should follow these rules. It was noted that height and the extent of white markings are difficult to control in breeding (increased genetic knowledge in the future might help) so for now this is why NFPBCS states that offspring of X-Register ponies should themselves remain in the X-Register.

PSSM1 Breeding Policy

PSSM1 – The PSSM1 Breeding Policy was approved at the 2021 meeting. At the time Denmark was not implementing testing of stallions. Denmark sent a written report indicating that their Breeding Programme now states that a stallion must be tested for the PSSM1 gene in accordance with their rules before he can be included on the approved breeding list. Norway will carry out further checking to ensure that the policy is included in their printed version.

The Breeding Programme

A very brief general review, noting that the Golden Wonder statement had been added to the Breeding Programme as Chapter 17.

Plenary Zoom meeting

It was agreed that early October would be a good time.

International Judges Seminar

Denmark had commented on the success of the International Judges Seminar which they had hosted and suggested holding another if another country would like to host it.

Next Meeting

France expressed a willingness to host the next physical meeting in 2024. Agreed that a Zoom meeting in mid-2023 would be useful.

Reports on the status of the breed in each country

Belgium

Membership is down.

58 foals in 2021, 47 in 2022, only about two-thirds are pure-bred.

Stallion coverings have dropped, with some stallions being gelded for sports events.

National online foal registration.

Germany

Has seen a boom in the market for all breeds, especially for ridden mature ponies.

In 2020 there were 139 'active' mares, and this had risen to 161 in 2021.

31 foals in 2020, 52 in 2021.

Netherlands

15,000 NF ponies.
Society membership has decreased to 900 members.
263 mares covered in 2021.
274 foals in 2021.
67 stallions in 2021.
Events are back to normal this year, with the sports events being very popular.

Norway

4 licensed stallions, 2 are active and one was in Denmark this year.
2-10 foals each year, there are only 2 main studs.
There is a good market for well-behaved ponies.

Sweden

127 mares were covered in 2021.
80 foals in 2021.
38 stallions of which 25 were active.
There are very few breeders now breeding more than two foals a year, although interest in the breed is increasing and it is not difficult to sell a 3-4 year old.

FRANCE – STATUS REPORT FOR 2022

The breeding policy that was put in place for the past 3 years in France is positive

Registration of IFCE births on 23/02/2022

2021 NF 75

2020 NF 66

2019 NF 58

2021 NFC 119

2020 NFC 99

2019 NFC 30

Stallions

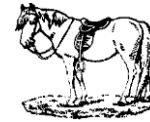
We have 64 active stallions producing in the main stud book,
19 stallions from 2 to 10 years old,
9 stallions from 11 to 15 years old,
13 stallions from 16 to 20 years old,
11 stallions from 21 to 30 years old,
6 dead,

(146 NF covers, 121 in crossbreeding), of which 4 active stallions in our studbook B (30 covers in crossbreeding, 3 NF),
7 New Forest stallions in crossbreeding (41 covers in crossbreeding, 2 NF).

Full details on the link

<http://www.asso-newforest.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/RAPPORT-MORAL-ACTIVITE-AFPNF-AG-2021-sans-couleurs.pdf>

**Report supplied by Patricia Cerina
August 2022**



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BREED OVERVIEW 2022

For registration data, see page 36 of 2021 Annual Report

Foal numbers are expected to be higher in 2022, as 20 stallions were turned out on the Forest in 2021, whereas only 10 had been turned out in 2020.

CURRENT UK-BASED LICENSED STALLIONS

Number = 144

These 144 stallions have 88 different sires, 63 different sire's sires. And 102 different dam-sires. These figures are essentially the same as they were three years ago.

All are tested clear/negative for PSSM1.

It continues to be a matter of some concern that only about half of the licensed stallions are used for breeding each year.

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

We were pleased that membership held up well during the pandemic, and has shown a small increase in 2022, currently standing at 970.

RARE BREED SURVIVAL TRUST 'WATCHLIST STATUS'

The Watchlist is now based on a wider range of criteria, and is now presented in a 'traffic light' system of Red = Priority, Amber = At Risk, Green = Other UK native breeds.

The New Forest Pony continues to be listed as 'At Risk'.

ONLINE AUCTIONS

Online auctions arose out of necessity during the pandemic combined with the fire damage to the sale yard at Beaulieu Road which proved troublesome to repair. The details of the 2021 auctions are on page 24-25 of the 2021 Annual Report. The most recent online auction in July was another huge success with some excellent prices achieved. We will be returning to Beaulieu Road for our first foal sales there since 2019, on 22 September and again on 27 October, when we will begin with a foal show.

FUTURITY SCHEME

We are most pleased that the New Forest Verderers were able to fund another round of our Futurity Colts Scheme in 2022. Five yearling colts were selected in the spring and have been growing on together in good grazing funded by the Scheme.