

Summary - Horse Breeding and Equestrian from the Legal Point of View

I have decided to work on such a specific topic due to my strong extracurricular interest in horses and equestrian. Horse breeding and equestrian sport is on the grow in the Czech Republic currently. The population of horses has been growing steadily since 1996 and simile trend is expected in the next few years. Although it presents a very narrow scope of human activity, many legal regulations are to be applied to the subject matter, both from the area of public and private law.

The main focus of this thesis is to describe the legal regulation of horse breeding, equestrian sport and animal welfare in the Czech Republic, assess it from the practical point of view, effectiveness, legal awareness if the public and understandability. Due to given parameters of the work, I focus only on the public law regulations of the topic in the thesis.

In the introductory chapters I deemed useful to define the term „animal“, and its legal context together with economic aspects of horse breeding and equestrian sport. Three main chapters are then to follow: In the first part I focus on breeding, evidence and labeling. In the second part I assess the animal welfare as a term and the connected legal regulations. In the end of this chapter I discuss the provisions of the new (2010) criminal code regarding animal abuse, providing a comparison with the old criminal code to depict the differences. The third part presents a small insight into legal regulation of protection of the wild species of Equidae.

Throughout the whole thesis I made an effort to confront the legal regulation with the common practice in equestrian and breeding and literature, to depot the impact of the legal regulations on the practice.

The literature and sources were quite rare. It was especially difficult to find any reference to the legal status of animals, probably due to the fact that it is still subject to ongoing discussion between different opinion groups.