

Abstract

The aim of this thesis is in part to fill the gap that exists in the Czech historiography regarding the use of horses and other transport animals in the First World War. It follows the experience of draught, pack and mounted animals in this war, from its very beginnings to the end, and tries to answer these questions: how were these animals used, what did they have to go through and encounter on the battlefield and what care they were provided. This thesis combines the use of historical sources of both administrative and personal nature with the knowledge and observations gained from the field of horse ethology. It also addresses in detail the relationship between fighting men and their horses and tries to paint the picture of the role of war horses in the representation and memory of the First World War.