

WILDNESS SCALE

Assessing degree of 'wildness' of an equine herd

The following questionnaire will allow the degree of wildness of a herd to be calculated.

The questionnaire is designed to assess any equine, including Przewalski's horse.

In order to assess where an equine herd is on this WILDNESS SCALE, from EXTREMELY DOMESTICATED to EXTREMELY WILD:

1. Select ONE mare from the herd that you wish to assess.
2. The mare should represent (be typical of) the herd to which it belongs.
3. The mare should be minimally 6 years old.
4. The mare should be maximally 8 years old (or as close to this age as possible).
5. The owner / breeder / overseer must know the mare's entire history accurately.

SECTION A: DETAILS OF HERD

1. Name of Breeder / Owner / Overseer: _____
2. Address of Breeder / Owner / Overseer: _____
3. Name of pony / horse society (if applicable): _____
4. Name of breed (if applicable): _____
5. Name of herd (if applicable): _____
6. Name of representative equine (if applicable): _____
7. Age of representative equine (years and months): _____
8. Precise usual location of equine: _____
9. Number of potentially breeding mares in herd: _____
10. Number of stallions in herd (if applicable): _____

In all remaining questions, you have a choice of answers.

Please select ONE option that BEST applies.

Put a CROSS (X) through the number of that option.

Please answer EVERY question if you can, to allow a WILDNESS SCORE to be calculated.

If you cannot answer a question, please leave that question blank. Add a comment.

SECTION B: WILDNESS QUESTIONS

Q1. How long has the equine been owned?

- 1 From birth to present
- 2 From some time after birth to present
- 3 From birth for a period of time, but not now owned
- 4 Never owned

Q2. What does the equine eat?

- 1 Only factory produced food and / or hay
- 2 Mainly factory-produced food, supplemented by naturally growing grass(es)
- 3 Mainly factory-produced food, supplemented by a variety of naturally growing vegetation
- 4 Mainly hay, supplemented by naturally growing grass(es)
- 5 Mainly hay, supplemented by a variety of naturally growing vegetation
- 6 Mainly naturally growing grass(es), supplemented seasonally by hay and factory-produced food
- 7 Mainly a variety of naturally growing vegetation, supplemented seasonally by hay and factory-produced food
- 8 Mainly naturally growing grass(es), supplemented seasonally by hay only
- 9 Mainly a variety of naturally growing vegetation, supplemented seasonally by hay only
- 10 Only a variety of naturally growing vegetation

Q3. How often does hay or factory-produced food supplement the equine's diet?

- 1 For nine to twelve months each year
- 2 For six to nine months each year
- 3 For three to six months each year
- 4 For up to three months each year
- 5 In emergency situations only (e.g. illness, injury, extreme weather)
- 6 Never

Q4. Where was the equine born?

Approximate areas:

1 acre = 64 metres x 64 metres. 10 acres = 200 metres x 200 metres. 100 acres = 635 metres x 635 metres. 1,000 acres = 2010 metres x 2010 metres. 10,000 acres = 6360 metres x 6360 metres.

- 1 Inside a building (e.g. foaling box)
- 2 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre, with man-made shelter
- 3 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre, with natural shelter only
- 4 In a field or paddock of 1 to 10 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries
- 5 Within an area of 10 to 100 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries

- 6 Within an area of 100 to 1,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries
- 7 Within an area of 1,000 to 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries
- 8 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded wholly or partly by man-made boundaries
- 9 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural boundaries only

[Note: For Questions 5-8, If the equine has (or had) more than one grazing area, please cross EACH option and indicate the period (months) next to each option.]

Q5. What is the equine’s present grazing area throughout the year?

- 1 Inside a building or restricted to an area without natural vegetation _____
- 2 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre, with man-made shelter and rotational grazing _____
- 3 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with man-made shelter _____
- 4 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with natural shelter only _____
- 5 In a field or paddock of 1 to 10 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 6 Within an area of 10 to 100 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 7 Within an area of 100 to 1,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 8 Within an area of 1,000 to 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 9 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded wholly or partly by man-made boundaries _____
- 10 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural boundaries only _____

Q6. In what environment did the equine live for months 1-6 of its life?

- 1 Inside a building or restricted to an area without natural vegetation _____
- 2 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre, with man-made shelter and rotational grazing _____
- 3 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with man-made shelter _____
- 4 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with natural shelter only _____
- 5 In a field or paddock of 1 to 10 acres surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 6 Within an area of 10 to 100 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 7 Within an area of 100 to 1,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 8 Within an area of 1,000 to 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 9 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded wholly or partly by man-made boundaries _____
- 10 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural boundaries only _____

Q7. In what environment did the equine live for months 7-12 of its life?

- 1 Inside a building or restricted to an area without natural vegetation _____
- 2 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre, with man-made shelter and rotational grazing _____
- 3 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with man-made shelter _____
- 4 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with natural shelter only _____

- 5 In a field or paddock of 1 to 10 acres surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 6 Within an area of 10 to 100 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 7 Within an area of 100 to 1,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 8 Within an area of 1,000 to 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 9 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded wholly or partly by man-made boundaries _____
- 10 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural boundaries only _____

Q8. In what environment did the equine live for the second year of its life?

- 1 Inside a building or restricted to an area without natural vegetation _____
- 2 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre, with man-made shelter and rotational grazing _____
- 3 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with man-made shelter _____
- 4 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with natural shelter only _____
- 5 In a field or paddock of 1 to 10 acres surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 6 Within an area of 10 to 100 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 7 Within an area of 100 to 1,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 8 Within an area of 1,000 to 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries _____
- 9 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded wholly or partly by man-made boundaries _____
- 10 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres, surrounded by natural boundaries only _____

Q9. When might there be (or has there been) routine (usual) human intervention?

- 1 For shoeing / hoof care or any vaccinations or worm / bots / fluke treatments
- 2 For any vaccinations or worm / bots / fluke treatments (but not for shoeing / hoof care)
- 3 Only for any of micro-chipping, other identification procedure or genetic testing
- 4 Never

Q10. When might there be (or has there been) non-routine (unusual) human intervention to prevent distress?

- 1 For any of foaling, if the equine is in danger from physical geography or due to illness (including dental decay and minor injury)
- 2 Only after severe injury and at near death
- 3 Only at near death
- 4 Never

Q11. To what extent was there planned breeding of the equine?

- 1 Bred for specific characteristics that are not related to living outside throughout the year
- 2 Bred partly for specific characteristics that will allow the pony to live outside throughout the year
- 3 Bred only for specific characteristics that will allow the pony to live outside throughout the year
- 4 No planned breeding (no intervention) by any breeder

Q12. In what environment has the equine's dam (mare) lived for the first year of her life?

- 1 Inside a building or restricted to an area without natural vegetation
- 2 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with man-made shelter and rotational grazing
- 3 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with man-made shelter
- 4 In a single, fenced field or paddock of less than one acre with natural shelter only
- 5 In a field or paddock of 1 to 10 acres surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries
- 6 Within an area of 10 to 100 acres surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries
- 7 Within an area of 100 to 1,000 acres surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries
- 8 Within an area of 1,000 to 10,000 acres surrounded by natural or man-made boundaries
- 9 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres surrounded wholly or partly by man-made boundaries
- 10 Within an area exceeding 10,000 acres surrounded by natural boundaries only

Q13. How much time did the equine spend with its sire (stallion) during the first year of its life?

- 1 0 months
- 2 0 to 6 months
- 3 6 to 12 months

Q14. What is the current training / handling status of the equine?

- 1 Fully trained for specific human purpose(s)
- 2 Partially trained for specific human purpose(s)
- 3 Untrained but handled for specific human purpose(s) (e.g. during breeding, 'conservation grazing')
- 4 Untrained and unhandled

Q15. How often has the owner or overseer handled the equine during the last 2 years?

- 1 Very frequently (every day)
- 2 Frequently (most days of the year)
- 3 Often (at least one day each week, but not every day)
- 4 Occasionally (at least one day each month, but not every week)
- 5 Rarely (at least three days each year, but not every month)
- 6 Very rarely (one or two days each year)
- 7 Never (no confirmed contact or no owner)

Q16. How often has the equine seen or heard the owner or overseer during the last 2 years?

- 1 Very frequently (every day)
- 2 Frequently (most days of the year)
- 3 Often (at least one day each week, but not every day)
- 4 Occasionally (at least one day each month, but not every week)

- 5 Rarely (at least three days each year, but not every month)
- 6 Very rarely (one or two days each year)
- 7 Never (no confirmed contact or no owner)

Q17. What was the closest distance between the equine and human(s) other than the owner or overseer during the last 2 years?

- 1 Within 5 metres
- 2 5-50 metres
- 3 50-100 metres
- 4 100-500 metres
- 5 Greater than 500 metres

Q18. How often has the equine seen or heard any human(s) apart from the owner or overseer during the last 2 years?

- 1 Very frequently (every day)
- 2 Frequently (most days of the year)
- 3 Often (at least one day each week, but not every day)
- 4 Occasionally (at least one day each month, but not every week)
- 5 Rarely (at least three days each year, but not every month)
- 6 Very rarely (one or two days each year)
- 7 Never (no confirmed contact or no owner)

Q19. What was the closest estimated distance between the equine and any human equipment (e.g. car, quad bike, tractor, helicopter) during the last 2 years?

- 1 Within 10 metres
- 2 10-50 metres
- 3 50-100 metres
- 4 100-500 metres
- 5 Greater than 500 metres

Q20. Was more than 90% of the equine's herd born to parents and grandparents that have (i) existed in an untamed (very wild) state, (ii) not been subject to any routine handling?

- 1 No
- 2 Yes

COMMENTS: _____
