

Animal By-products

On 23 March 2011 the new Animal By-Products (Enforcement) (England) Regulations No.2011/881 came into force. These Regulations will enforce the directly applicable requirements of the new EU Animal By-Products Regulation 1069/2009 (ABPR), and EU implementing regulation 142/2011, which entered into force on 4 March 2011. In relation to thoroughbred breeding this has relevance to both fallen stock and manure.

In relation to manure, this is classified as a Category 2 material and may be applied directly to land without processing provided that there is no risk of transmitting a disease.

All horses when they die must be disposed of without delay in accordance with the EU Animal By-Products Regulation 2002. This means they must be delivered to a premises approved under the regulation for proper collection and disposal (e.g. hunt kennels, knacker yard, incinerator operator).

Article 16(d) and Article 19(1)(a) of the new Regulations signal a change in relation to the burial of equidae. The UK intends to take advantage of this derogation and the burial of pets remains permissible. Previously, horses could be buried where they were pets but not in other circumstances. Regulation (EC) 1069/2009 now widens this and Article 19(1)(a) provides a derogation for the burial of all equidae. Burial should take place in accordance with Article 15 and Annex VI Chapter III Section 1 of Regulation (EC) 142/2011. Article 17 and Annex VIII Chapter IV Section 6 set out record keeping requirements.

The burial of horses must follow local authority and Environment Agency guidelines. These are likely to require horse burial sites to:

- be at least 250 metres away from any well borehole or spring that supplies water
- be at least 30 metres from any other spring or watercourse, and at least 10 metres from a field drain
- have at least 1 metre of subsoil below the bottom of the burial pit, allowing a hole deep enough for at least 1 metre of soil to cover the carcass
- be free of water at the bottom of the hole, when first dug. You may also dispose of your pet horse at a pet crematorium, or if you are a member of NFSCo you can use their collection service for your horse.

The National Fallen Stock Scheme is a voluntary scheme open to all farmers, horse owners, businesses and establishments and assists horse owners with meeting their obligations under the regulations. It is being run by the [National Fallen Stock Company Ltd \(NFSCo\)](http://www.nfsco.co.uk) (www.nfsco.co.uk) on a not for profit basis.