

Effective July 31, 2010, it will be mandatory for all Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) inspected facilities in Canada engaged in the slaughter of equine for edible purposes to have complete records for all animals (domestic and imported) presented for slaughter. These records will include unique identification for each animal, a record of illness and a record of medical treatments administered to the animal for the six-month period preceding slaughter. The template entitled "Equine Information Document" (EID) of this annex (see [E.2](#)) shall be used by equine owners for this purpose.

A completed EID contains a standardized description of the animal or unique lot identification, as well as a comprehensive record of the equine's medical treatment for at least the preceding six months. The various options for identification, including visual and written descriptions, are listed in the document. The document is intended to accompany the equine, at the time of ownership transfer, to the buyer of the animal. The EID requires a signed declaration by the owner of the equine as to the accuracy of the information recorded in the EID.

E.3 Equine Written Description Terms

The Equine Information Document (EID) requires an accurate standardized written description and visual identification that may include a completed equine outline instead of picture identification. The following terms shall be used to complete the written description portion of the EID. In addition to brands or tattoos that the horse may bear, look for and identify unique distinguishing marks such as scars. A copy of descriptive nomenclature for colouring and markings as well as instructions for filling out the equine diagram have been produced by the International Equestrian Federation has been adapted for use, and is included on the following pages.

Height

The height of a horse is normally recorded in "hands", measured at the top of the withers. One "hand" equals four inches.

Colour

Black: Black pigment is general throughout the coat, limbs, mane and tail, with no pattern factor present other than white markings.

Brown: There is a mixture of black and brown pigment in the coat, with black limbs, mane and tail.

Bay-brown: The predominate colour is brown, with muzzle bay, black limbs, mane and tail.

Bay: Bay varies considerably in shade from dull red approaching brown, to a yellowish colour approaching chestnut, but it can be distinguished from the chestnut by the fact that the bay has a black mane and tail and almost invariably has black on the limbs and tips of the ears.

Chestnut: A Chestnut may be any shade of red with no black points like the bay. Think of the different colors of a penny from brand new to very old and tarnished; chestnuts can come in all these colours. Also chestnuts may be described as follows if applicable:

- Liver Chestnut** is very dark red like a very old tarnished penny.
- Dark Chestnut** is mahogany red.
- Light Chestnut** is light red to yellow.
- Sorrel** is yellowish to reddish to a brownish shade body coat. The mane and tail are usually the same or darker than the body.
- Chestnut or sorrel with a flaxen mane and tail** is a chestnut/sorrel colour body coat with a light coloured to almost white mane and tail.

Grey: The body coat is a varying mosaic of black and white hair, with black skin. With advancing age, the coat grows lighter in colour. The flea-bitten grey may contain three colours or the two basic colours and should be so described. A pure white is exceptional.

Roan: Mixture of white hairs with one or two other hair colours in the coat. May be described as Red Roan (white and chestnut hair), Blue Roan (white and black hair) as applicable.

Strawberry: The coat is chestnut with a mixture of white hairs.

Piebald: The body coat consists of large irregular patches of black and white. The line of demarcation between the two colours is generally well defined.

Skewbald: The body consists of large irregular patches of white and of any definite colour except black. The line of demarcation between the colours is generally well-defined.

Dun: The body coat is cream colour with black mane and tail.

Cream: The body coat is of a cream colour, with nonpigmented skin. The iris is deficient in pigment and is often devoid of it, giving the eye a pinkish or bluish appearance.

Palomino: The body coat is a newly-minted gold coin colour (lighter or darker shades are permissible) with a white mane and tail.

Appaloosa: Body colour is grey, covered with a mosaic of black or brown spots.

Unique Coat Marking Additional Identifying Terms

Grey-ticked: White hairs are sparsely distributed through the coat or any specified part of the body.

Flecked: Small collections of white hairs occur distributed irregularly in any part of the body. May be further qualified as Lightly Flecked or Heavily Flecked depending on the amount of white hair.

Black Marks or Dark Marks: Small areas of black or dark hairs occur together with the basic (usually lighter colored) body colour hairs.

Spots: Small, more or less circular, collections of hairs differing from the general body colour occur, distributed in various parts of the body. The position and colour of the spots must be stated.

Leopard: The term Leopard may be added when the horse has many more or less circular collections of hairs of differing from the general body colour.

Patch: This term should be used to describe any larger well-defined irregular area (not covered by previous definitions) of hairs differing from the general body colour. The colour, shape, position and extent shall be described.

Zebra Marks: Dark or black striping on the limbs, neck or quarters. The affected part of the animal must be stated.

Withers Stripe: Zebra band across the withers.

List: A dorsal band of black hair which extends from the withers backwards to the base of the tail.

White Marks

The characteristics of all white marks must be described.

A white mark can be regular or irregular. It can be mixed with the hair of the coat, completely or in part, or at the edge. It can be bordered, a band of black skin shows under the white hair at the edge of the mark (the area appears bluish).

Head

The description should begin at the forehead, followed by the nasal bone, the muzzle, lips and chin.

Star: Any white mark on the forehead. Size, shape, intensity, position and coloured markings (if any) on the white to be specified. Should the markings in the region of the centre of the forehead consist of a few white hairs only, it shall be so described and not referred to as a star.

Stripe: The narrow white marking down the face not wider than the flat anterior surface of the nasal bones. In many cases, the star and stripe are continuous and should be described as star and stripe connected. When the stripe is separate and distinct from the star it shall be described as interrupted stripe. When no star is present the point of origin of the stripe shall be indicated. The termination of the stripe and any variation in breadth, direction and any markings on the white shall be so stated, e.g. broad stripe, narrow stripe, inclined to left, etc. Any markings in the white area shall be stated.

Blaze: A white marking covering almost the whole of the forehead between the eyes and extending beyond the width of the nasal bones and usually to the muzzle. Any variations in direction, termination and any markings on the white shall be stated.

White Face: When the white covers the forehead and front of the face, extending laterally towards the mouth. The extension may be unilateral or bilateral, in which case it shall be described accordingly.

Snip: An isolated white marking, independent of those already named, and situated between or in the region of the nostrils. Its size, position and intensity shall be specified. When a snip is connected with a stripe it shall be recorded as such, e.g. star, stripe connected snip.

Flesh Mark: Lack of pigmentation. A flesh mark is described as such and not as a white mark. Black spots within the flesh mark are to be indicated. All lip markings, whether flesh marks or white marks, shall be accurately described.

White Muzzle: When the white embraces both lips and extends to the region of the nostrils.

Limbs

All white markings on the limbs must be accurately defined and the upper limit precisely stated with reference to points of the anatomy, e.g. white to mid-pastern, white to upper third of cannon. The use of such terms as "sock" or "stocking" are not acceptable. The exact location must be specified, examples are listed below:

Examples:

- White coronet, white pastern, white fetlock, white to knee, white to hock, white to hind quarter;
- White patch on coronet (anterior, lateral, medial, posterior);
- White ring around limb: does not extend down to the coronet.

The presence of coloured spots in white marks shall be recorded. Black spots in a white coronet are referred to as Ermine marks.

Hoofs: Any variation in the hoof pigment shall be noted.

Whorls - Cowlicks

Whorls or cowlicks are changes in the hair pattern, and may take various forms simple, tufted, feathered or sinuous. Their position must be clearly specified with an "X" at their location on the horse.

Illustrations of White Markings

Equine Face Markings



STAR



SNIP



STRIPE



STAR, STRIPE



WHITE FACE



INTERRUPTED STRIPE

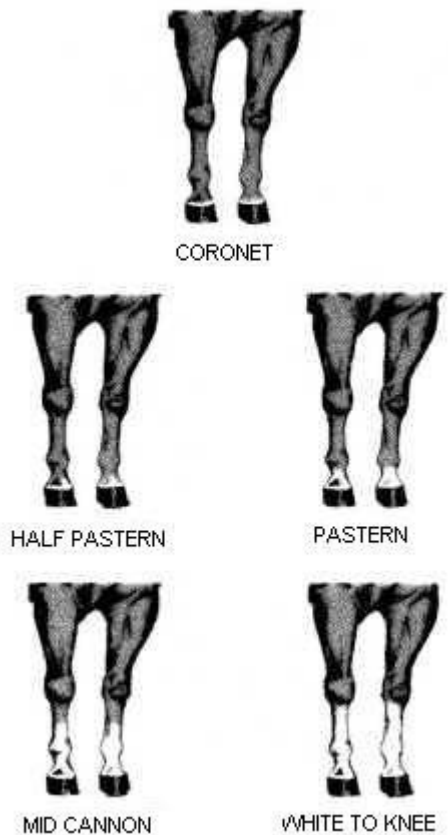


BLAZE



STAR, STRIPE, SNIP

Equine Legs Markings



The Diagram

The diagram may be filled in by a qualified individual as defined on the Equine Information Document in lieu of picture identification.

General

The diagram must be filled in using both a red ballpoint pen and a black ballpoint pen. Blue ink must never be used because it is difficult to photocopy. Inks which run must be avoided (e.g. felt pens, ink pens). Coloured pencils which can be erased must not be used. The ballpoint pen used must have a broad point.

Procedure

The narrative should be completed first using a black ballpoint pen, followed by the diagram indicating all the distinctive marks. Ensure that the diagram and the narrative agree.

A careful check must be made to ensure that all reference to left and right agree and no ambiguity exists.

Red Ballpoint Pen

Everything which appears **in white** on the horse must be shown **in red** on the diagram.

1. White Marks

White marks must be clearly outlined, with irregularities indicated, without shading but lightly hatched-in if desired.

2. **Bordered Marks**

A white bordered mark has a definite outline, which is bluish and corresponds to the black skin under the white hairs. Bordered markings are indicated by a **double line**.

3. **Mixed Marks**

Mixed hairs are indicated by **cross-hatching**.

4. **Few White Hairs**

Few white hairs or grey-ticked areas are indicated by **single short lines**.

5. **Unpigmented Areas**

Unpigmented areas such as flesh marks, wall-eyes, or stripes on the hoofs are entirely coloured in red.

6. **White Patches**

Large white patches on piebald or skewbald horses should be **cross hatched-in** or line-shaded to differentiate them from other patches.

7. **Various**

- The presence of white hairs in the mane and tail should be indicated with red lines.
- Permanent white marks in the coat acquired through trauma, freeze branding, surgery, etc. should be indicated in the diagram as for other white marks and by an arrow pointing at their location.

Black-ballpoint Pen Identifying markings which are not white on the horse must be shown in black on the diagram.

1. **Whorls**

Whorls are indicated **by an "x"**, if the whorl is elongated, it is shown by a **continuous line** from the "x". The exact location of the whorls is very important.

2. **Black Spots and Marks**

Black spots or marks on the coat or within a white mark or flesh mark must be **outlined in black** and left unshaded.

3. **Scars**

Scars due to surgery, treatment or accidents are indicated by **arrows pointing** at their location.

4. **Brand Marks**

Brand marks should be **drawn** in black; if the shape is not visible the brand is to be considered as a scar and indicated by an arrow.

5. **Zebra Marks, Wither Stripes and Lists**

Zebra Marks, wither stripes and lists are indicated by **thick black lines** following the mark(s).