

# **CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THE WELFARE OF HORSES**

## **1. Food and Water**

### **1.1 Food**

Horses should have available a diet which is nutritionally adequate to maintain health and meet the appropriate physiological requirements for growth, pregnancy, lactation and to withstand cold exposure.

In all systems of management, continual assessment should be made of the needs of horses in relation to the amount, quality and continuity of feed supply.

### **1.2 Water**

Horses should have access to water; regular assessment should be made of the quality and quantity of water supply. Watering points should be of sufficient capacity and allow safe access.

Mechanical equipment controlling the delivery of water should be inspected regularly, and frequently in hot weather, and kept in good working order.

**The quality of water provided should be adequate to maintain horse health.**

### **1.3 Surgical Procedures**

All castrations of horses are to be performed by a veterinary surgeon.

### **1.4 Foot Care**

Horses should have their feet trimmed whenever necessary in order to prevent overgrowth and deformation of the hoof.

### **1.5 Identification**

The hot branding of horses is unacceptable.