



## **THE EUROPEAN FARRIER IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

*Final approved version of the new European Farrier in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century standards (AGM Saumur 15/11/2008) as amended in June 2012*

1. Qualification
2. Units
3. Performance criteria
4. Basic standards
5. Knowledge requirements

### **THE EUROPEAN FARRIER IN THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY**

#### *Qualification*

The qualification is based on the skills, the knowledge and the attitudes required to practice the profession

#### *Units*

The units form the different parts of the qualification

#### *Performance criteria*

The performance criteria describe what you see the person actually doing

#### **Qualification**

The basic standards for the qualification of a European farrier

#### **Units**

- A. Equine knowledge
- B. Determining care requirements of the equine foot
- C. Tool maintenance
- D. Producing and modifying shoes
- E. Trimming and shoeing equine feet
- F. Health, safety and security

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## EFFA

### A. Equine knowledge

#### Performance criteria

The student can:

1. Correctly identify the equine to be moved, and move it carefully using an appropriate method
2. Approach and control the equine in a manner that is likely to eliminate stress and alarm at any time the equine is handled
3. Assess the gait of the equine in relation to its conformation
4. Correctly use the equipment appropriate to the situation, the equine and its temperament
5. Adopt working methods that promote good professional ethics and are consistent with and relevant to legislation and codes of practice

### B. Determining care requirements of the equine foot

#### Performance criteria

The student can:

1. Discuss the condition of the equine and agree upon the shoeing or trimming requirements with the person in charge of the equine
2. Clean the feet, examine and accurately assess their condition
3. Propose a foot care and trimming or shoeing plan that takes all the equine's needs into account
4. Agree to and, where appropriate, amend the proposed foot care and trimming or shoeing plan with the person in charge of the equine, following examination of the hoof and again after trimming or shoeing
5. Advise the person in charge of the equine of any variations from the usual foot care plan and consult the veterinary surgeon when conditions exceed the students expertise and authority

### C. Tool maintenance

#### Performance criteria

The student can:

1. Shape sections to meet the specifications, thereby using appropriate techniques
2. Keep the tools in a serviceable condition
3. Check that the tools are suitable for the purpose they are to be used for and rectify any deficiencies
4. Carry out routine maintenance on equipment in accordance with the instructions
5. Identify the need for advice and assistance, and seek this from the relevant person

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## EFFA

### D. Producing and modifying shoes

Performance criteria

#### *Producing basic shoes*

The student can:

1. Select appropriate materials and tools for the shoes to be made
2. Maintain the fire at the necessary temperature to work the selected materials
3. Cut metal sections to lengths suitable for the manufacture of the specified shoe
4. Handle materials safely using the appropriate tongs
5. Shape sections to meet the specifications using appropriate forging techniques
6. Check the finished item against the specifications and make any necessary adjustments to meet the specifications

#### *Modifying shoes*

The student can:

7. Check that the equipment is safe and fit for use
8. Take action to correct faulty and unsafe equipment
9. Prepare suitable materials for the purpose of the welding operation
10. Work materials so as to incorporate ancillary features in accordance with the specifications
11. Check that the output conforms to the specifications and correct where necessary

#### *Ancillary features*

1. Rolled toe
2. Stud holes
3. Fullered shoe with additional nail holes outside the fullering
4. Square toe
5. Basic bar shoe

### E. Trimming or shoeing equine feet

Performance criteria

#### *If the horse is shod, remove shoes and assess wear*

The student can:

1. Remove the shoes safely using tools appropriate for the task
2. Examine the shoes and assess the state of wear on all surfaces
3. Advise the person in charge of the equine of any need to adjust the foot care and shoeing plan as a result of the state of wear of the old shoes

#### *If the horse is bare footed, clean the foot and assess wear and shape*

The student can:

4. Clean the foot safely using tools appropriate for the task
5. Examine the hoof and assess the state of wear and the shape of the hoof wall
6. Advise the person in charge of the equine of any need to adjust the foot care and trimming plan as a result of the state of wear and the shape of the hoof wall

#### *Trimming equine feet*

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## **EFFA**

The student can:

7. Select tools that are suitable for the work to be carried out
8. Trim the hooves safely in accordance with the agreed upon foot care plan
9. Balance the feet of the equine in accordance with its condition, needs and conformation
10. Amend the agreed foot care plan in consultation with the person in charge of the equine, to take account of conditions in the feet which were not previously identifiable, if appropriate

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### *Fitting shoes*

The student can:

11. Select shoes of the correct type, material and size
12. Select tools suitable for the purpose of fitting shoes
13. Shape selected shoes incorporating ancillary features as determined by the foot care and shoeing plan
14. Fit the shoe to the shape and size of the foot as determined by the foot care and shoeing plan in order to achieve the final fit
15. Add any ancillary features to the shoe as determined by the needs of the equine

### *Attaching shoes*

The student can:

16. Select tools and nails suitable for the purpose of attaching and finishing shoes
17. Attach the shoe safely, securely and in the correct position according to the foot care and shoeing plan

### *Finishing the farriery process*

The student can:

18. Finish the hoof according to the specifications
19. Assess the finished job and the welfare of the equine
20. Assess its soundness when moving
21. Inform the person in charge of the equine of the actions taken and advise on the equine's future foot care requirements

## **F. Health, safety and security**

Performance criteria

### *Human and equine*

The student can and must

1. Determine the risks of the operation (risk assessment)
2. Use relevant personal protective equipment at all times according to local regulations
3. Maintain the health, safety and welfare of the equine, oneself and others throughout the process
4. Adopt a working position ensuring personal and equine comfort is achieved

### *Equipment and area*

The student can and must

5. Maintain the working environment and equipment at a standard of health, safety and security that is consistent with good practice and legal requirements
6. Handle materials safely using the appropriate tools
7. Carry out cleaning routines regularly and effectively
8. Use equipment and materials in accordance with manufacturers' instructions
9. Keep the area free from waste at all times and dispose of waste safely in the designated area

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## EFFA

### European standards

#### Basic shoe (Unit D)

The student must be able to make a basic shoe.

##### *Basic shoe elements*

1. The shoe has at least six nail holes
2. The nail size and type is appropriate to the material section
3. The nail position is before the widest part of the shoe and at the correct angle
4. The distance between the nail holes and the outside edge is appropriate to the section and size of the shoe
5. The shoe is hand fullered
6. The heels are finished appropriate to the task and without sharp edges
7. The shoe has at least one clip
8. When finished, the shoe will lie level on the foot surface

##### *Modifications*

1. Rolled toe
2. Stud holes
3. Fullered shoe with additional nail holes outside the fullering
4. Square toe
5. Basic bar shoe

#### Trimming (Unit E)

Any equine should be assessed and trimmed as an individual and according to its own conformation

The standards are:

1. The hoof is level
2. A correct medio-lateral balance imposes minimum strain on digital joints; for this purpose the trimming should not modify the inter-phalangeal axis when the horse is standing on its feet, the axis that can be observed when the foot is kept in the air.
3. A correct hoof pastern axis imposes minimum strain on digital joints; for this purpose the trimming should not modify the hoof pastern axis when the equine is standing on its feet.
4. The solar surface is close to symmetrical
5. The length of the hoof wall is safe for the application of the shoe
6. The hoof wall is not flared
7. The sole and the frog must be cleaned but kept strong

#### Basic shoeing (Unit E)

The standards are:

1. The shoeing is safe and does not cause discomfort or lameness
2. The shoe is of an appropriate weight and section to fulfil its tasks
3. The shoe conforms to the shape of the hoof and is fitted for length and expansion

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## EFFA

4. After shoeing the shoe lies level on the bearing surface
5. The clip(s) fit to the hoof wall
6. The shoe is fitted with no sole pressure
7. The centre of the shoe conforms to the centre of the hoof
8. The nails fit correctly in the shoe section
9. The nails are driven into sound horn
10. The clenches and the hoof wall are finished smoothly
11. The clenches are at suitable height and in a straight line

### Knowledge requirements

#### A. Equine knowledge

##### *Generalities*

1. Breeds
2. Colours and marking
3. General marks of good health
4. Non-pathological qualities and defects
5. Ethology (behaviour)
6. Activities

##### *Equine care*

7. Healthcare
8. Feeding
9. Habitat
10. Restraining
11. Sedatives
12. Reportable diseases

##### *Functional anatomy*

13. Skeleton (basic knowledge)
14. Joints
15. Main muscular groups (basic knowledge)
16. Distal limb functional anatomy below the knee and hock (skeleton, ligaments, tendons, blood circulation system, nervous system, cartilages, synovial bursae, sensitive foot, horny box)
17. Gaits

##### *Pathologies of distal limbs (description, aetiology, management, shoes mainly used)*

18. Osteo-articular system pathologies
19. Desmitis
20. Tendinitis
21. Podotrochlear syndrome (navicular disease)
22. Laminitis
23. Other foot pathologies

##### *Limb conformations*

24. Generality

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25. Conformations
26. Front limb deformities
27. Hind limb deformities
28. Foot and digit deformities

### **B. Determining care requirements of the equine foot**

29. Care of the limbs
30. Hoof care
31. Communication (with the person in charge)

### **C. Tool maintenance**

#### *Materials and equipment*

32. Tools relevant to the task
33. Materials relevant to the task
34. Properties of the materials
35. Working parameters of the equipment
36. Maintenance of tools and equipment

#### *Working methods*

37. Forging techniques
38. Hardening techniques
39. Annealing techniques
40. Sharpening techniques

### **D. Producing and modifying shoes**

#### *Producing shoes by forging*

Basic shoes (standard)

#### *Welding process and equipment powered by any one of the following:*

41. Gas
42. Arc (electric)
43. Fire

### **E. Trimming or shoeing equine feet**

#### *Planning*

44. Pulling off the shoes
45. Assessment of the wear of the shoe and the state of the hoof
46. Foot care and shoeing plan

#### *Trimming (assessment, realization, standards)*

47. Length



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## EFFA

- 48. Balance
- 49. Level
- 50. Wall rasping
- 51. Frog and sole cleaning

### *Shoe preparation*

- 52. Shaping
- 53. Level
- 54. Ancillary features and modifications
- 55. Clips
- 56. Balance
- 57. Rasping and finish

### *Shoeing*

- 58. Fitting (hot, cold)
- 59. Nailing
- 60. Clenches and finish
- 61. Modern materials

### *Techniques and reasons*

- 62. For clipping
- 63. For shaping
- 64. For boxing up
- 65. For clenching

### *Tools and materials*

- 66. Tools
- 67. Use of welds, pins, plugs and studs
- 68. Pads

## **F. Professional ethics, health, safety and security**

### *Professional practice according to local rules*

- 69. Professional integrity
- 70. Ethics
- 71. Codes of conduct
- 72. Legislation
- 73. Insurance
- 74. Environment

### *Health*

- 75. Ergonomics
- 76. Toxic products
- 77. Zoonoses (any bacterial, microbial or fungal infection that can be transmitted from animal to human)
- 78. Tetanus and general infections

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*Safety requirements, personal and others*

- 79. Personal protective equipment
- 80. Equipment, workshop, vehicle, materials and shoeing area
- 81. Storage
- 82. First aid

*Risk-assessment*

- 83. Risk agents and exposure
- 84. Hazards
- 85. Risks
- 86. Insurance (personal and professional)