

American Quarter Horse Association Position Paper

AQHA's Position on Unwanted Horses

The American Quarter Horse Association recognizes the rights of all horse owners to manage their horses, in their best interests as long as their horses are treated humanely, with dignity, respect, and compassion. To that end, AQHA believes horse owners should have all legal options available when relinquishing ownership of an unwanted horse.

AQHA's Position on the Euthanasia of Horses

Horses should be euthanized in a humane manner in accordance with the guidelines established by the American Veterinary Medical Association and federal and state law.

AQHA's Position on Horse Adoption and Retirement Facilities

Currently, AQHA recognizes adoption and retirement facilities as an option for owners of unwanted horses. However, at this time, AQHA will not endorse any specific facilities, as there are no regulations governing the operation of these businesses.

AQHA's Position on the Human Consumption of Horsemeat

AQHA recognizes that the human consumption of horsemeat is a cultural and personal issue and does not fall within the purview of the association.

AQHA's Position on the Transportation of Horses to Processing

Horses destined for processing should be:

- ◆ Treated humanely and with dignity
- ◆ Transported to the production facility according to the federal regulations adopted and enforced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 2002
- ◆ Euthanized in a humane manner in accordance with the guidelines established by the American Veterinary Medical Association and federal and state law.