



BEVA TRUST ANNOUNCES EQUINE TRANSPORT ENFORCEMENT AWARD

Vets attending the first veterinary-led European Equine Transport Forum, held in Brussels on 29th November 2010, agreed that their profession needs to take a leading role to help enforce current regulations governing the long-distance transport of horses, in order for equine welfare standards to be improved. In support, the BEVA Trust has announced the introduction of the BEVA Trust Equine Transport Enforcement Award of €1000, to be given annually to the individual working in the field doing the most to improve the enforcement of equine transport regulations. Nominations will be judged by the members of the FVE Working Group on Transport.

The Forum was jointly organised by BEVA and the Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE), and sponsored by the BEVA Trust and World Horse Welfare. It attracted representatives from 38 nations, including a strong turnout from Eastern Europe, where slaughter horses often start their journeys and Italy, which is the end destination for most slaughter horses.

The plight of the slaughter horse was the main focus for discussion and four key problem areas were highlighted: the practical enforcement of regulations at control points; the ongoing Italian consumer requirement for fresh, locally sourced meat; the obstacle presented by the increased profits in raising horses in Eastern Europe and then transporting them for slaughter and the increased risk of transmission of infectious diseases associated with non-compliant shipments.

The BEVA Trust award is designed to publicise the work of individuals who are making equine welfare their absolute priority, and to raise consumer awareness of the appalling non-compliant conditions in which many equids are being transported. The closing date for the 2011 award is November 1st 2011.

Further information about the forum, the award and application forms can be obtained by contacting wither nancy@fve.org or nadine@beva.org.uk