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# WBFSH

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WORLD BREEDING FEDERATION  
FOR SPORT HORSES



## State of the Industry 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

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## OBJECTIVES

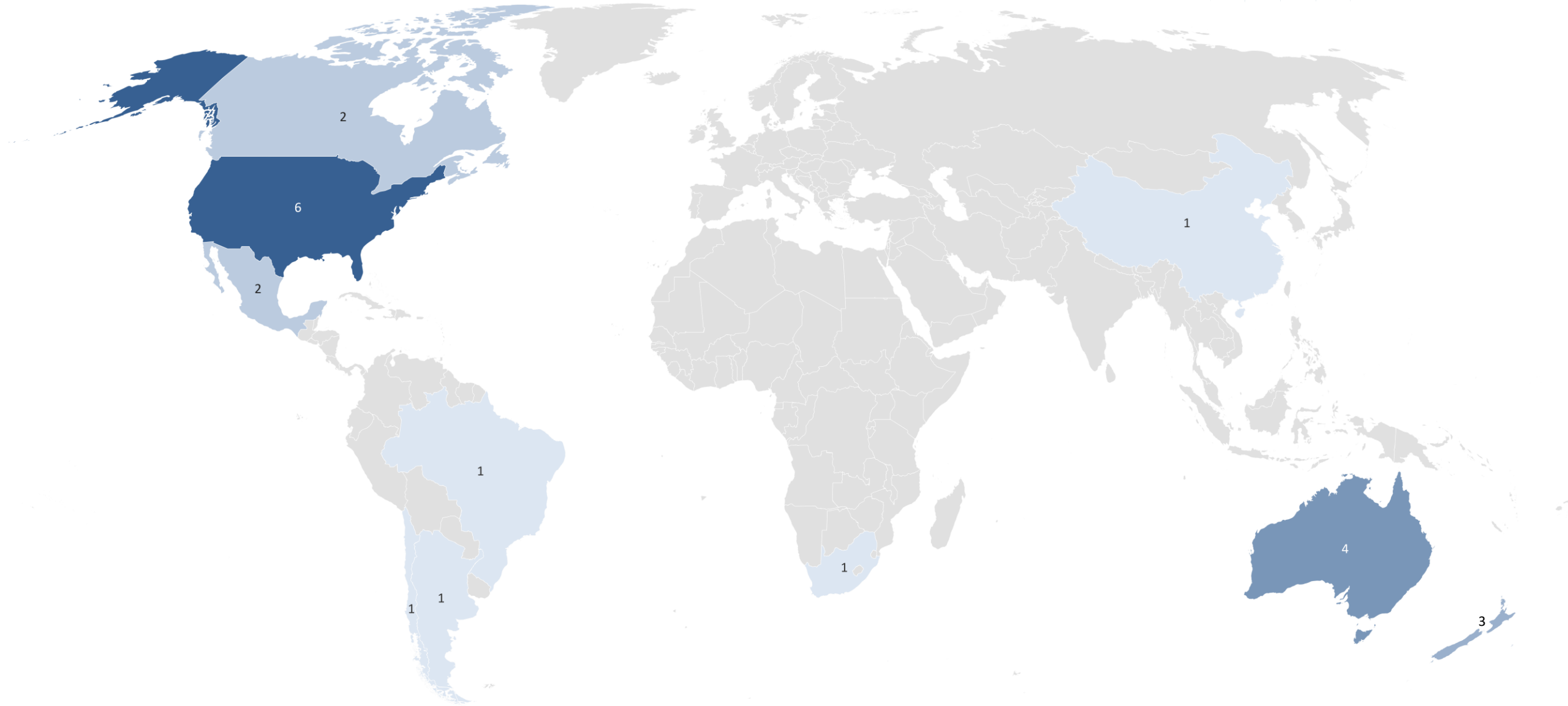


- Create constructive and productive engagement between WBFSH, Studbooks, Breeders, FEI, National Federations
- Provide the current State of the Industry
- Identify emerging challenges – welfare and social licences to operate
- Provide relevant information to further develop the industry

# WBFSH MEMBERS - NON-EUROPEAN COUNTRIES 2022



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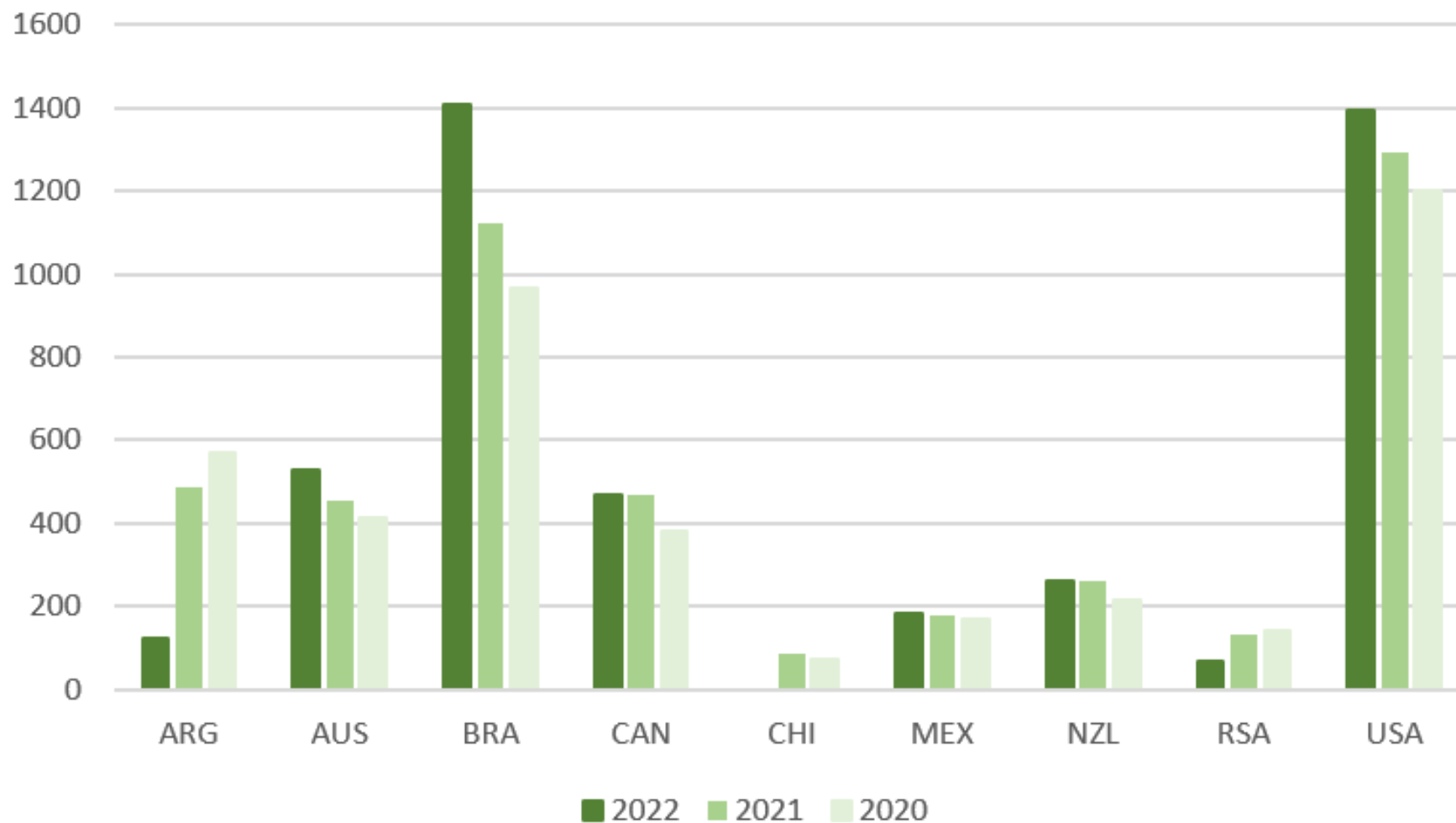




# NUMBER OF FOALS NON-EUROPEAN COUNTRY 2020-2022

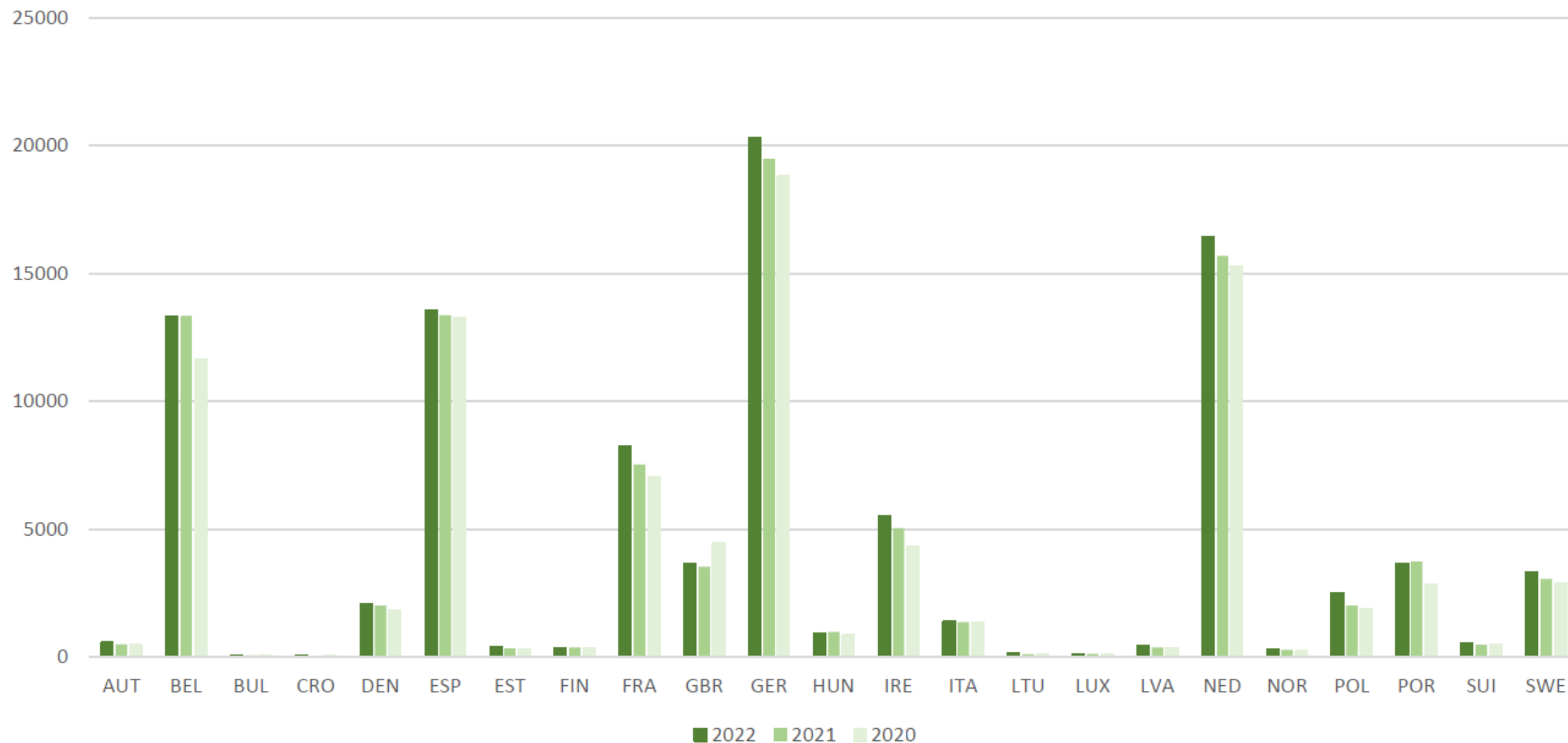


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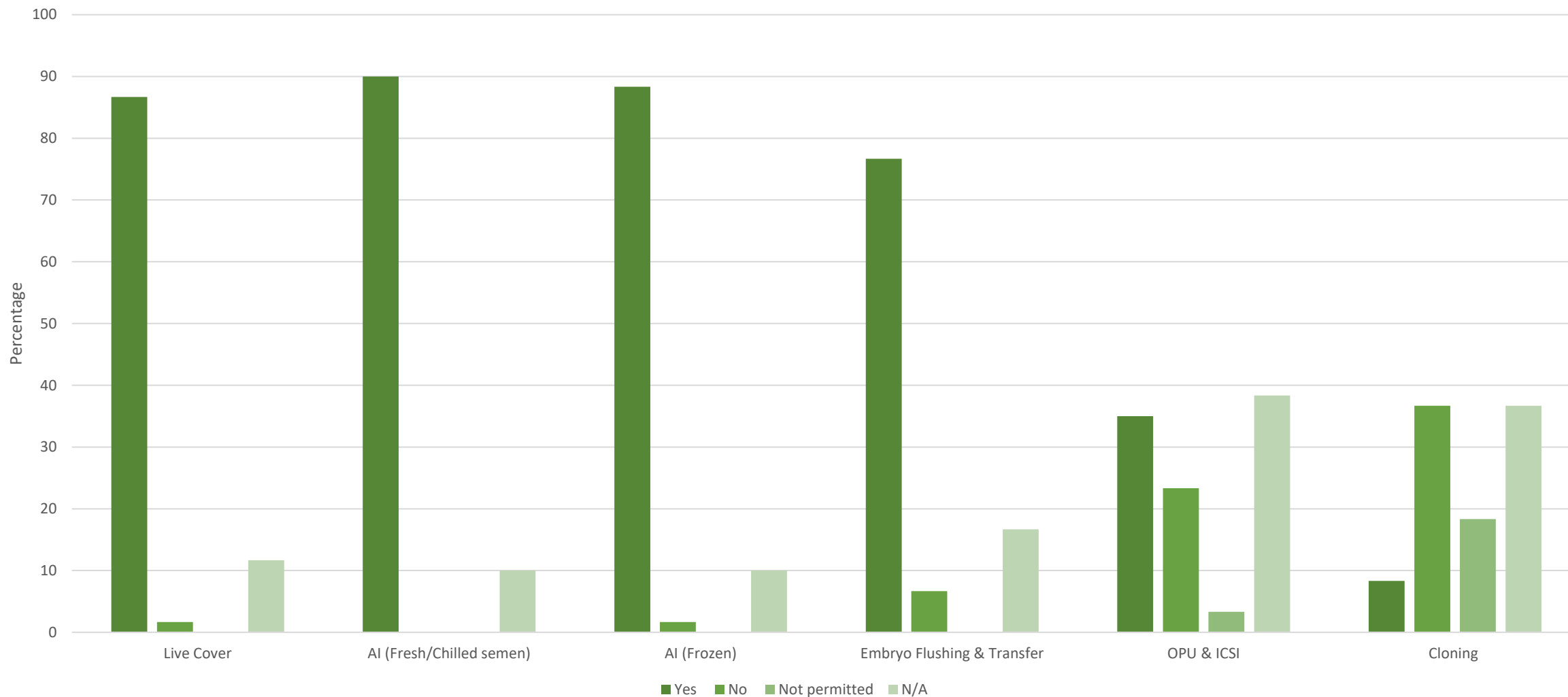




# NUMBER OF FOALS EUROPEAN COUNTRY 2020-2022



# EUROPEAN BREEDING TECHNIQUES 2022





## STATE OF THE INDUSTRY – 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION

- Highlights the snapshot of our industry today
- If every studbook returns accurate and complete data for the annual report then even more value, through improved interpretation, can be given to the State of the Industry reports
- Additional valuable data collection comes from other entities such as breeders and national federations





# HORSE HEALTH



- Horse health is a welfare issue
- Healthy horses leads to longevity of both horses and sport
- Promotion and practice of good life for horses



## HORSE HEALTH - SHIVERS



- Specific pelvic limb moving pattern
- Selective distal atonal degeneration in the cerebella  
Purkinje cells within the deep cerebella nuclei
- Evidence for and against a genetic predisposition for Shivers
- No proven effective treatment

# HORSE HEALTH – FRAGILE FOAL SYNDROME



- Inherited defect of connective tissue
- Monogenetic defect (PLOD1 gene)
- Single copy of the mutation do not show clinical signs
- Positive effect of FFS carriers of movement-related traits
- Untreatable

# HORSE HEALTH – TYPE 1 POLYSACCHARIDE STORAGE MYOPATHY



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- Autosomal dominant genetic mutation in GYS1
- Presents in continental Belgian breed crosses including Warmbloods
- Abnormal accumulation of the normal form of sugar stored in the muscle
- Untreatable but managed through diet and exercise

# HORSE HEALTH – TYPE 2 POLYSACCHARIDE STORAGE MYOPATHY



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- Specific cause of PSSM2 has not been identified
- PSSM2-ER and PSSM2-MFM
- Reluctance to go forward under saddle and engage and display exercise intolerance
- No genetic test available
- Increased amino acid and fat intake and exercise regimes show some positive results



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## STATE OF THE INDUSTRY – 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION

- Using peer-reviewed scientific research allows WBFSH members to continue to breed and produce healthy horses
- Through education and information we can improve our overall horsemanship, for the long term well-being of the horse



## ANIMAL WELFARE



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- Understanding needs of members and public expectations, obligations of Studbooks and Federations, legislation and codes of practice around animal welfare
- Creating a snapshot of global perception of animal welfare
- More transparency to appeal to a more welfare conscious industry



## ANIMAL WELFARE - SPOTLIGHT ON WEANING



- Scientific basis to alleviating “weaning stress”
- Study of feral and semi-natural herds
- Decreasing maternal deprivation, social isolation, abrupt environmental and nutritional changes
- Decreasing stress hormones and long-term adverse behaviours
- Prof. Natalie Waran’s weaning webinar on WBFSH YouTube channel

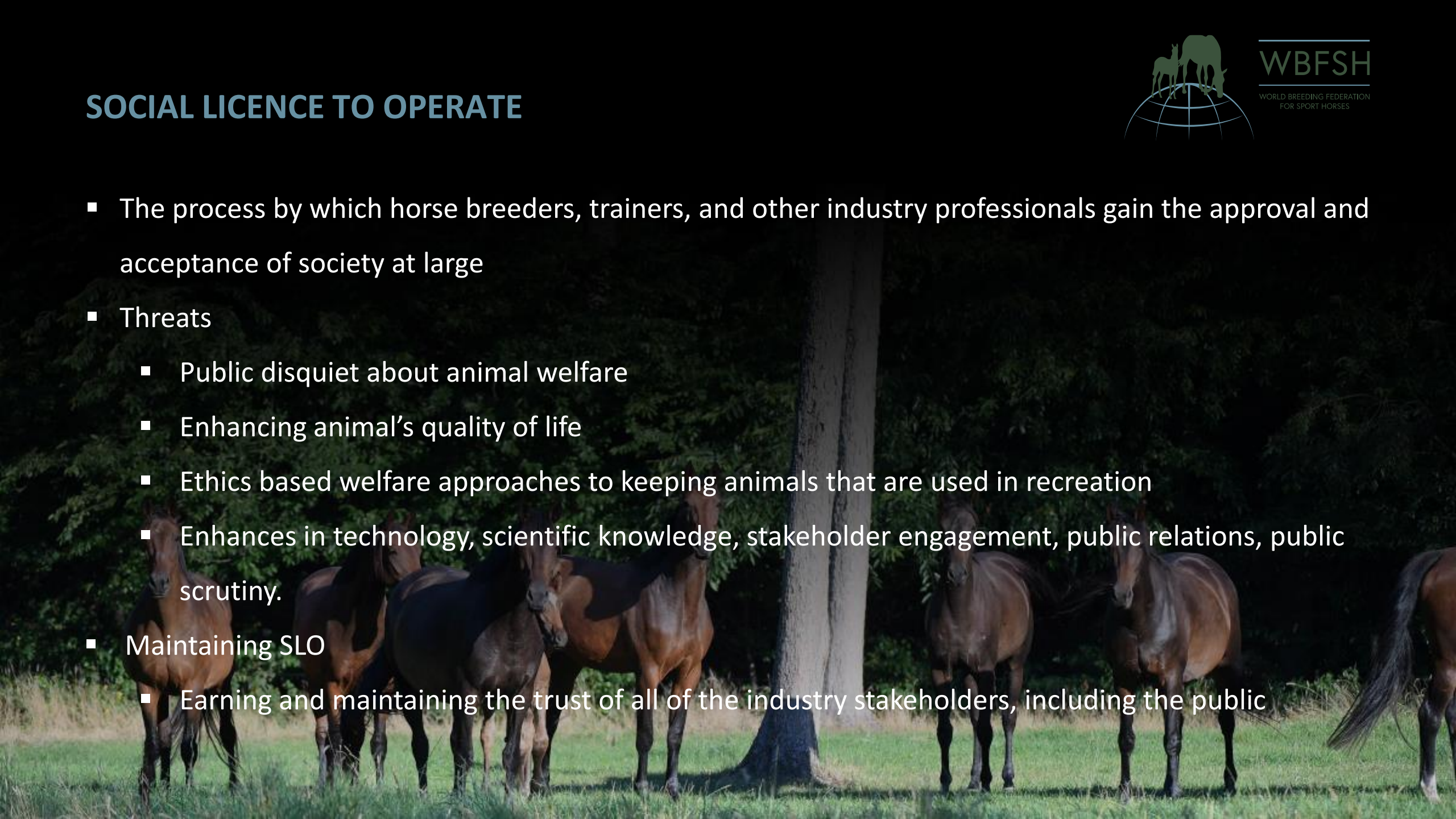
*Image courtesy of Thomas Bach Jensen*



## SOCIAL LICENCE TO OPERATE



- The process by which horse breeders, trainers, and other industry professionals gain the approval and acceptance of society at large
- Threats
  - Public disquiet about animal welfare
  - Enhancing animal's quality of life
  - Ethics based welfare approaches to keeping animals that are used in recreation
  - Enhances in technology, scientific knowledge, stakeholder engagement, public relations, public scrutiny.
- Maintaining SLO
  - Earning and maintaining the trust of all of the industry stakeholders, including the public





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## STATE OF THE INDUSTRY – 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION

- Want to create a world environment for the good life of the horse
- Create sustainability for our industry through good leadership and positive practices
- Be able to have open and honest discussions to allow our industry to survive and evolve



# STATE OF THE INDUSTRY – 2<sup>ND</sup> EDITION



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*Image courtesy of Dirk Caremans*