

Media Release

28th April, 2009 For Immediate Release:

Essential information for horse owners

A new edition of the publication 'Farewell – making the right decision', a guide for horse owners on the humane destruction of aged, sick or injured horses, has been produced by the Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) and is available for free download at www.hsa.org.uk/Publications.htm.

Most horse owners will at some time be faced with needing to have a horse put down, due to old age, sickness or injury. At these times it is in the owner's interest and in the interest of the horse's welfare to know what options are available. This publication sets out the various questions which owners need to consider in order to reach the right decisions about where, how and by whom the horse should be put down, and what to do with the body. It also provides contact information for organisations you may find useful.

The HSA is an independent registered charity working to promote the welfare of livestock during transport, in markets and at destruction or slaughter. It provides education, training and advisory services – including to vets, police and RSPCA officers, veterinary/agricultural students and the food industry as well as to the general public – and undertakes research and technical development.

For your free copy of the booklet, visit www.hsa.org.uk. Further details of the HSA's work can also be seen at the website or contact the HSA on 01582 831919, email info@hsa.org.uk or write to The HSA, The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AN.

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Note to Editors:

As an independent registered charity, the HSA is unique in working exclusively to achieve the highest worldwide standards in food animal welfare at markets, during transport and at slaughter through scientific and technical advances, education and training. Its work includes researching, refining and demonstrating humane slaughter methods, publishing material such as guidelines, best practice, books and videos, funding research projects and the development of equipment. Specialist technical staff provide expert and practical advice on all welfare issues relating to food animals.

The HSA is funded by voluntary donations, subscriptions and legacies.

For more information about the HSA's work call 01582 831919, email <u>info@hsa.org.uk</u> or visit www.hsa.org.uk

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