EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING IN THE FRENCH EQUINE INDUSTRY

A DYNAMIC SECTOR EMPLOYMENT

In France, the definition of “equine jobs” is built on closeeness with horses: Direct jobs (47,200) represent the jobs “in contact” with the animal (breeder, trainer…). Indirect jobs (29,800) represents the jobs of those who play a role in the economic sector but have no direct link with the horse (administrative staff of an institution dedicated to the horse, etc.). There are a very large number of jobs in the equine industry. Most require basic skills but some positions require high skills (engineers, project or study).

Hence, the scope of opportunities is very large, including a lot of fields such as agriculture, sports, government, commerce, leisure and even art. Within the context of the economic crisis and the increasing rate of unemployment in France, the employment rate in the equine sector is dynamic. These jobs are highly concentrated in the north-west of France (50% of jobs in the sector).

Normandy and Pays de la Loire account 25% of agricultural equine jobs.

Source (data from Annuaire ECUS 2012)

MORE THAN THIRTY JOBS

Jobs in the equine industry are structured as following: there are about 30 jobs in the equine industry, 5 of them accounted 75% of this sector overall (data from Equi-Ressources 2007-2011)

A YOUNG AND FEMINIZED POPULATION

The profile of the population in the industry is rather young and feminized. Nearly 50% of the employed population is less than 25 years old. In the equine industry, the average age is less than 9 years of average age in general employment.

In ten years, the proportion of women in the sector rose from 38 to 49.4% of the equine jobs. Women, who represent more than 80% of riders, equestrian centers are highly focused on the business of riding (monitor, jumper trainer). [data from rapport national emploi et formation dans la filière équin, Equi-Ressources 201]

MANY TRAININGS FROM LEVEL V (CAPA) TO LEVEL 1 (BAC +5)

Trainings for careers in the horse is characterized by great diversity, affecting both organizations, institutions, content and method of training (initial, continuous learning). Two families share the training equine industry sector. Agricultural training under the Ministry of Agriculture (76% of the workforce) and non-agricultural training (Ministry of sports, education …). In connection with a labor market whose jobs require more than 80% of them skills level V and IV, learners equine industry are mainly (96%) concentrated in these levels of training.

ACTIVITY SECTORS OF TENSIONING

As always, in a dynamic industry, tensions can occur: some are of “quantitative nature” (lack of applications to satisfy an offer (riding instructors, training riders, farriers)), some are of “qualitative nature” (despite many candidates, employers do not find the skills they are looking for (professional equestrian riders, grooms, farriers for some specialties, etc.).

The French equine industry includes various activities ranging from show to « horses bets » through breeding, sport and education. Structured around four sectors (breeding, sports / recreation and meat) the equine industry have 55,000 companies that generate a yearly revenue over 12 billion euros. In 2011, the Economic and Social Observatory of Horses (OESC) estimated that the equine industry generates about 77,000 jobs or 0.25% of total employment in France. For 20 years, jobs in the equine industry progress between 1.5 and 2% each year, particularly due to the development of equestrian sports and recreation.

EQUI-RESSOURCES AND THE OBSERVATORY OF BUSINESS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING IN THE EQUINE INDUSTRY

The equine industry has created a specialized equine institution: Equi-ressources. Founded in 2007 in partnership with many institutions of the industry, Equi-ressources aims at making the supply and demand meet in terms of employment. Equi-ressources is also a “lab” which aims at observing and analyzing employment in the equine market. Finally, Equi-ressources stands as the institution which can provide a young public with information, advice and orientation, which is to choose training or starting a career in the equine industry.

FEW EXAMPLES

- Rapport national « Emploi, métier et formation dans la filière équine » (2011)
- Pilâtre soigneurs : un métier en mutation ? (2011)
- La traction animale dans les collectivités territoriales (2011)
- Le métier de cavaliers professionnels : bilan et perspectives d’avenir (2013)
- Les cadres intermédiaires de l’élevage (2013)

INSTRUMENTS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC:

- rubrique Internet : accès aux données brutes (Stats & Cartes) et à toutes les publications du réseau Références
- Annuaire ECUS : un tableau économique annuel du cheval en France
- Panorama économique de la filière (2011)

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL OBSERVATORY OF HORSES

Within IFCE, the Economic and Social Observatory horse (OESC) contributes to economic knowledge of the equine industry in the production and dissemination of information on markets and companies. The OESC provides the industry numerical indicators and monitoring developments. For this, it maintains a database of economic data, runs a network of regional economic monitoring, conducts and coordinates investigations and national studies.