

Centre for Racehorse Studies; Annual Report 2010



The start of 2010 saw the opening of the CRS for business as the British Horseracing Authority's facility for administration studies.

A total of 14 study sessions have been accomplished on under nine separate protocols. All the studies were peer reviewed for both scientific value and ethics relating to welfare of the horses involved prior to being conducted, and have direct relevance to racing. Results available can be accessed via this link: <http://www.britishhorseracing.com/resources/equine-science-and-welfare/medication-control-research.asp>

Fifteen horses have been donated to the Centre over the period it has been in operation, with twelve passing the initial trial for soundness and temperament: not all have the temperament to settle into the Centre's regime and it is essential they are sufficiently sound to be maintained at a good level of fitness. All these horses have taken part in several studies.

Two of these horses have been rehomed for a useful 'third' career: one to a private home via her original owner and another by the Moorcroft retraining centre, with whom we maintain links.

One horse had to be euthanased due to degenerative arthritis which we fully investigated. This meant we could not maintain him free of discomfort and offer an acceptable quality of life.

Whilst in our care horses are both be exercised by the British Racing School and also undergo retraining so when they come to rehoming they are well prepared for their new lives.

We gratefully acknowledge the support of trainers and owners for their generosity in providing these horses and trust that we can call on continued support for the facility which exists to provide much needed information on medication to the racing industry.

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Equine Science & Welfare Department: 020 7 152 0000 eswadmin@britishhorseracing.com

British Horseracing Authority Limited 75 High Holborn, London, WC1V 6LS, UK

Tel: 020 7152 0000 Fax: 020 7152 0001

Web: britishhorseracing.com Email: info@britishhorseracing.com

Registered Number: 2813358 England. Calls may be recorded