

**Table 2a. Questionnaire variables and their proportions, subset of data.**

Cases= pure EGGD; controls= healthy horses; n= number of responses for each variable; CI = confidence interval.

N o	Variable	Cases		Controls	
		n	% (95% CI)	n	% (95% CI)
<b>1</b>	Age (years)	43		22	
	1-3	1	2.3 (0.3-10.4)	1	4.5 (0.5-19.3)
	4-6	8	18.6 (9.2-32.1)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
	7-10	14	32.6 (20.0-47.3)	7	31.8 (15.5-52.6)
	11-15	11	25.6 (14.4-39.9)	8	36.4 (18.9-57.1)
	16-20	7	16.3 (7.6-29.3)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
	21-25	2	4.7 (0.1-14.1)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
<b>2</b>	Breed	43		22	
	Icelandic horse	1	2.3 (0.3-10.4)	1	4.5 (0.5-19.3)
	Standardbred	1	2.3 (0.3-10.4)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
	Other breed	2	4.7 (1.0-14.1)	4	18.2 (6.5-37.6)
	Pony	0	0.0 (0.0-5.6)	6	27.3 (12.3-47.8)
	Warmblood	31	72.1 (57.6-83.7)	9	40.9 (22.5-61.5)
	Finnhorse	8	18.6 (9.2-32.1)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
<b>3</b>	Sex	43		22	
	Male	25	58.1 (43.3-72.0)	15	68.2 (47.4-84.5)
	Female	18	41.9 (28.0-56.7)	17	31.8 (15.5-52.6)
<b>4</b>	Forage location	43		22	
	Ground	5	11.6 (4.6-23.6)	1	4.5 (0.5-19.3)
	Bucket	36	83.7 (70.7-92.4)	19	86.4 (67.9-96.0)
	Haynet	2	4.7 (0.1-14.1)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
<b>5</b>	Eating habits	43		22	
	With other horses	11	25.6 (14.4-39.9)	3	13.6 (4.0-32.1)
	Alone	29	67.4 (52.7-80.0)	18	81.8 (62.4-93.5)
	Other	3	7.0 (2.0-17.5)	1	4.5 (0.5-19.3)
<b>6</b>	Water source at the stable	42		22	
	Ground well	24	57.1(42.1-71.2)	11	50.0 (30.2-69.8)

	Communal	18	42.9 (28.8-57.9)	11	50.0 (30.2-69.8)
<b>7</b>	Water source at the paddock	40		21	
	Ground well	21	52.5 (37.3-67.3)	12	57.1(36.2-76.3)
	Communal	17	42.5 (28.1-57.9)	7	33.3 (16.3-54.6)
	Other	2	5.0 (1.1-15.1)	2	0.1 (0.0-11.1)
<b>8</b>	Water	43		22	
	From a bucket	10	23.3(12.6-37.3)	6	27.3 (12.3-47.8)
	From an automat	33	76.7 (62.7-87.4)	16	72.7 (52.2-87.7)
<b>9</b>	Living location	43		22	
	Loose housing system	3	7.0 (2.0-17.5)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
	Stable	39	90.7 (79.4-96.8)	20	90.9 (73.9-98.1)
	Other	1	2.3 (0.3-10.4)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
<b>10</b>	Stable cleaning freq.	42		22	
	Once a day	28	66.7 (51.7-79.4)	19	86.4 (67.9-96.0)
	Twice a day	13	31.0 (18.6-45.8)	3	13.6 (4.0-32.1)
	Less than once a day	1	2.4 (0.3-10.6)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
<b>11</b>	Bedding material	43		22	
	Other	2	4.7 (1.0-14.1)	1	4.5 (0.5-19.3)
	Peat	25	58.1 (43.3-72.0)	12	54.5 (34.3-73.7)
	Shavings	5	11.6 (4.6-23.6)	5	22.7 (9.2-42.9)
	Straw/straw pellets	10	23.3 (12.6-37.3)	4	18.2 (6.5-37.6)
	Woodchips	1	2.3 (0.3-10.4)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
<b>12</b>	No of horses in the stable	43		22	
	15	10	23.3 (12.6-37.3)	8	36.4 (18.9-57.1)
	21	19	44.2 (30.1-59.0)	4	18.2 (6.5-37.6)
	3	5	11.6 (4.6-23.6)	4	18.2 (6.5-37.6)
	7	9	20.9 (10.9-34.7)	6	27.3 (12.3-47.8)
<b>13</b>	No of caretakers	43		22	
	1	1	2.3 (0.3-10.4)	1	4.5 (0.5-19.3)
	2	14	32.6 (20.0-47.3)	9	40.9 (22.5-61.5)

	3	14	32.6 (20.0-47.3)	10	45.5 (26.3-65.7)
	4	14	32.6 (20.0-47.3)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
<b>1</b>	No of owners (horse's	39		19	
<b>4</b>	history)				
	1	5	12.8 (5.1-25.8)	4	21.1 (7.6-42.6)
	2	14	35.9 (22.3-51.5)	7	36.8 (18.2-59.1)
	3	14	35.9 (22.3-51.5)	7	36.8 (18.2-59.1)
	4	6	15.4 (6.7-29.0)	1	5.3 (0.6-22.1)
<b>1</b>	Contact with other	42		21	
<b>5</b>	stables				
	No	10	23.8 (12.9-38.1)	3	14.3 (4.2-33.4)
	Yes	32	76.2 (61.9-87.1)	18	85.7 (66.6-95.8)
<b>1</b>	Stable change	42		21	
<b>6</b>					
	No	23	54.8 (39.8-69.1)	10	47.6 (27.7-68.1)
	Yes	19	45.2 (30.9-60.2)	11	52.4 (31.9-72.3)
<b>1</b>	Traveling abroad	43		22	
<b>7</b>					
	No	41	95.3 (85.9-99.0)	21	95.5 (88.9-100.0)
	Yes	2	4.7 (1.0-14.1)	1	4.5 (0.5-20.2)
<b>1</b>	Transporting frequency	43		22	
<b>8</b>					
	Very seldom	9	20.9 (10.9-34.7)	4	18.2 (6.5-37.6)
	Less than once/month	14	32.6 (20.0-47.3)	9	40.9 (22.5-61.5)
	Once/month	18	41.9 (28.0-56.7)	8	36.4 (18.9-57.1)
	Once/week	2	4.7 (1.0-14.1)	1	4.5 (0.5-19.3)
<b>1</b>	Time spent outdoors at	43		22	
<b>9</b>	one time/h				
	2	2	4.7 (1.0-14.1)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
	4	14	32.6 (20.0-47.3)	8	36.4 (18.9-57.1)
	6	24	55.8 (41.0-69.9)	12	54.5 (34.3-73.7)
	Free access	3	7.0 (2.0-17.5)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
<b>2</b>	Sand paddock	43		22	
<b>0</b>					
	No	32	74.4 (60.1-85.6)	18	81.8 (62.4-93.5)

	Yes	11	25.6 (14.4-39.9)	4	18.2 (6.5-37.6)
<b>2</b>	Grass paddock	43		22	
<b>1</b>	No	8	18.6 (9.2-32.1)	5	22.7 (9.2-42.9)
	Yes	35	81.4 (67.9-90.8)	17	77.3 (57.1-90.8)
<b>2</b>	Access to pasture	43		22	
<b>2</b>	No	8	18.6 (9.2-32.1)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
	Yes	35	81.4 (67.9-90.8)	22	100.0 (89.3-100.0)
<b>2</b>	Other paddock type	43		22	
<b>3</b>	No	5	11.6 (4.6-23.6)	2	9.1 (1.9-26.1)
	Yes	38	88.4 (76.4-95.4)	20	90.9 (73.9-98.1)
<b>2</b>	On paddock	43		22	
<b>4</b>	With many other horses	12	27.9 (16.7-43.3)	3	13.6 (4.0-32.1)
	With one other horse	13	30.2 (18.6-45.8)	5	22.7 (9.2-42.9)
	Alone	17	39.5 (26.7-55.5)	14	63.6 (42.9-81.1)
<b>2</b>	Summer pasture	42		22	
<b>5</b>	No	7	16.7 (7.8-30.0)	3	13.6 (4.0-32.1)
	Yes	35	83.3 (70.0-92.2)	19	86.4 (67.9-96.0)
<b>2</b>	Time at pasture/months	37		19	
<b>6</b>	0,5	8	21.6 (10.8-36.7)	3	15.8 (4.7-36.4)
	1	4	10.8 (3.8-23.7)	2	10.5 (2.3-29.7)
	2	8	21.6 (10.8-36.7)	5	26.3 (4.4-10.8)
	3	13	35.1 (21.3-51.2)	6	31.6 (14.4-53.9)
	4	4	10.8 (3.8-23.7)	3	15.8 (4.7-36.4)
<b>2</b>	Trained while on pasture	36		19	
<b>7</b>	No	7	19.4 (9.1-34.4)	4	21.1 (7.6-42.6)
	Yes	29	80.6 (65.6-90.9)	15	78.9 (57.4-92.4)
<b>2</b>	Actively competing	43		22	
<b>8</b>					

	No	25	58.1 (43.3-72.0)	13	59.1 (38.5-77.5)
	Yes	18	41.9 (28.0-56.7)	9	40.9 (22.5-61.5)
<b>2</b>	Discipline	26		11	
<b>9</b>	Showjumping	11	42.3 (25.0-61.3)	4	36.4 (13.7-65.2)
	Dressage	11	42.3 (25.0-61.3)	5	45.5 (20.0-73.0)
	Trotting	2	7.7 (1.6-22.5)	0	0.0 (0.0-20.0)
	Icelandic horse gaited test	1	3.8 (0.4-16.6)	0	0.0 (0.0-20.0)
	Eventing	1	3.8 (0.4-16.6)	2	18.2 (1.9-26.1)
<b>3</b>	Use at riding school	42		22	
<b>0</b>	No	37	88.1 (75.9-95.3)	22	100.0 (89.3-100.0)
	Yes	5	11.9 (4.7-24.1)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
<b>3</b>	No of riders	41		20	
<b>1</b>	1	12	29.3 (17.1-44.2)	8	40.0 (21.1-61.6)
	2	16	39.0 (25.3-54.3)	10	50.0 (29.3-70.7)
	3	10	24.4 (13.3-39.0)	2	10.0 (2.1-28.4)
	4	1	2.4 (0.3-10.8)	0	0.0 (0.0-11.7)
	5	2	4.9 (1.0-14.7)	0	0.0 (0.0-11.7)
<b>3</b>	Previous diagnosis of	37		21	
<b>2</b>	EGUS				
	No	20	54.1 (38.2-69.3)	17	81.0 (60.8-93.2)
	Yes	17	45.9 (30.7-61.8)	4	19.0 (6.8-39.2)
<b>3</b>	Sand enteropathy	37		21	
<b>3</b>	No	28	75.7 (60.3-87.2)	11	52.4 (31.9-72.3)
	Yes	9	24.3 (12.8-39.7)	10	47.6 (27.7-68.1)
<b>3</b>	Weight loss	36		20	
<b>4</b>	No	20	55.6 (39.4-70.8)	12	60.0 (38.4-78.9)
	Yes	16	44.4 (29.2-60.6)	8	40.0 (21.1-61.6)
<b>3</b>	Colic	42		21	
<b>5</b>	No	25	59.5 (44.5-73.3)	6	28.6 (12.9-49.7)

	Yes	17	40.5 (26.7-55.5)	15	71.4 (50.3-87.1)
<b>3</b>	Diarrhoea	39		22	
<b>6</b>	No	19	48.7 (36.0-66.4)	11	50.0 (30.2-69.8)
	Yes	20	51.3 (36.0-66.4)	11	50.0 (30.2-69.8)
<b>3</b>	Positive FEC	38		20	
<b>7</b>	No	31	81.6 (67.2-91.4)	17	85.0 (65.1-95.6)
	Yes	7	18.4 (8.6-32.8)	3	15.0 (53.6-89.8)
<b>3</b>	Deworming freq.	42		22	
<b>8</b>	Less often than twice/year	3	7.1 (2.1-17.9)	1	4.5 (0.5-19.3)
	Twice/year	24	57.1 (42.1-71.2)	13	59.1 (38.5-77.5)
	4 times/year	13	31.0 (18.6-45.8)	8	36.4 (18.9-57.1)
	More often than 4 times/year	1	2.4 (0.3-10.6)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
	No deworming	1	2.4 (0.3-10.6)	0	0.0 (0.0-10.7)
<b>3</b>	Use of antihelminthics	43		22	
<b>9</b>	No	13	30.2 (18.1-44.9)	5	22.7 (9.2-42.9)
	Yes	30	69.8 (55.1-91.9)	17	77.3 (57.1-90.8)
<b>4</b>	EHV vaccination	21		12	
<b>0</b>	No	12	57.1 (36.2-76.3)	8	66.7 (38.8-87.5)
	Yes	9	42.9 (23.7-6.8)	4	33.3 (12.5-61.2)
<b>4</b>	Rabies vaccination	21		11	
<b>1</b>	No	14	66.7 (45.4-83.7)	9	81.8 (53.3-96.0)
	Yes	7	33.3 (16.3-54.6)	2	18.2 (4.0-46.7)
<b>4</b>	Botulism vaccination	16		10	
<b>2</b>	No	15	93.8 (74.3-99.3)	10	100.0 (78.3-100.0)

	Yes	1	6.3 (0.7-25.7)	0	0.0 (0.0-21.7)
<b>4</b>	Use of NSAIDs	43		22	
<b>3</b>					
	No	16	37.2 (24.0-52.1)	8	36.4 (18.9-57.1)
	Yes	27	62.8 (47.9-76.0)	14	63.6 (42.9-81.1)
<b>4</b>	Use of nutraceuticals	41		21	
<b>4</b>	for prevention of EGUS				
	No	31	75.6 (61.0-86.7)	17	81.0 (60.8-93.2)
	Yes	10	24.4 (13.3-39.0)	4	19.0 (6.8-39.2)
<b>4</b>	Hay type	43		22	
<b>5</b>					
	Hay	18	41.9 (28.0-56.7)	7	31.8 (15.5-52.6)
	Haylage	13	30.2 (18.1-44.9)	7	31.8 (15.5-52.6)
	Hay & haylage	12	27.9 (16.3-42.4)	8	36.4 (18.9-57.1)
<b>4</b>	Hay amount kg/d	34		20	
<b>6</b>					
	5-7	1	2.9 (0.3-12.9)	6	30.0 (13.6-51.7)
	8-9	8	23.5 (11.8-39.5)	4	20.0 (7.2-40.8)
	10-12	15	44.1 (28.5-60.7)	5	25.0 (10.2-46.4)
	>12	10	29.4 (16.2-45.9)	4	20.0 (7.2-40.8)
<b>4</b>	Concentrate amount l/d	32		19	
<b>7</b>					
	0.2-0.9	4	12.5 (4.4-27.0)	4	21.1 (7.6-42.6)
	1.0-1.5	6	18.8 (8.2-34.6)	4	21.1 (7.6-42.6)
	1.6-2.0	5	15.6 (6.2-30.9)	4	21.1 (7.6-42.6)
	2.1-2.5	1	3.1 (0.3-13.7)	0	0.0 (0.0-12.2)
	2.6-3.0	4	12.5 (4.4-27.0)	1	5.3 (0.6-22.1)
	3.6-4.0	5	15.6 (6.2-30.9)	0	0.0 (0.0-12.2)
	4.1-4.5	3	9.4 (2.7-23.0)	0	0.0 (0.0-12.2)
	4.6-5.0	1	3.1 (0.3-13.7)	2	10.5 (2.3-29.7)

	> 5.0	3	9.4 (2.7-23.0)	0	0.0 (0.0-12.2)
<b>4</b> <b>8</b>	Gastroscopy	43		22	
	Hospitalized	10	23.3 (12.6-37.3)	9	40.9 (22.5-66.5)
	Outpatient	33	76.7 (62.7-87.4)	13	59.1 (38.5-77.5)