



European Falabella Studbook

Breeding Programme 2025

European Falabella Studbook

Breeding programme Falabella

1 Organization details

Name organization: European Falabella Studbook
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Studbook of Origin:

MiniFalabella' Caballos miniature
Olavarria. Buenos Aires, Argentina
Director: Mister Evaristo Falabella

Mr. Evaristo Falabella has continued the work of his ancestors Julio Falabella (Julio Falabella was his great-uncle, the brother of Evaristo's grandfather) in the studbook 'MiniFalabella'. His website www.miniFalabella.com.ar gives an impression of what the horse stands for and how it differentiates itself from other horse breeds. The conditions for cooperation are laid down in an agreement.

Recognition:

'MiniFalabella' in the person of Mr. Evaristo Falabella has recognised the EFS as a daughter studbook. The studbook of origin keeps the register in Argentina for the horses born there. Parallel to that, the EFS itself keeps the register of the horses born here and the horses born in the member states of the European Union where the EFS will apply for recognition. Data relating to DNA and other findings as well as the horses registered in the EFS register are exchanged and coordinated where necessary.

Minifalabella and EFS will work together to protect the purity of the Falabella breed and improve the quality of the horse.

Database:

- The contents of the EFS database will include:
- a unique identification number of each registered horse;
- the horse's data (date of birth, mating date, sex, colouring, withers);
- the pedigree data;
- information about the breeder;
- information about the owners;
- information about the offspring;
- photos where available;
- DNA data, like
 - parent verification;
 - Information about hereditary diseases where present;
 - information about the colour genes where available;
- covering certificate, birth announcement;
- information about semen quality;
- results of inspections;
- results of performance tests.

Method of Establishing the Breeding Programme:

The breeding programme contains all matters specific to breeding and includes guidelines for breeding evaluations and standards to be used at inspections. The procedures for inspections will be included in the inspection regulations. Breeding goals will be coordinated with the director of 'MiniFalabella' at all times.

EFS conforms to the studbook of origin.

Proposals to adjust, enrich, clarify or deepen the breeding goals and the breeding program will be prepared by the members of the breeding committee. The chairman of the breeding committee, who is also a member of the EFS board, will present the proposals to the board. When approved, the proposals will be presented to the General Members Meeting to be voted on. The breeding committee has to stick to the agreement made with 'MiniFalabella'.

2 The Breeding Goal

The breeding goal is to preserve and improve the breed.

The breeding programme is intended to prevent the extinction, preservation and improvement of the purebred Falabellarace. In order to achieve this goal, the studbook will continue to register purebred Falabellas and promote breeding in horses with a healthy constitution, a pleasant character, and a correct, functional model and appealing exterior.

Selection of horses is based on the results of the inspection system, genetic information and estimated breeding values. In this way, the studbook aims to achieve genetic progress and monitor the registered horses.

Stallions and mares used in breeding must be free of contagious diseases. We also strive to keep genetic deviations from the breeding lines as much as possible and as far as known. Proof of parentage of breeding animals is based on DNA analysis.

3 Breed Name

In Dutch, Falabella mini horse. In English, Falabella mini horse. In Argentina, Mini Falabella.

4 Detailed Description of the Falabella Minihorse

The breeding goal of the Falabella Minihorse is a noble, intelligent, fine, and harmoniously built mini-horse with a balanced conformation. Thus, it is a correctly, functionally, and harmoniously built horse, exuding health and vitality, with a sweet, gentle nature.

The Falabella breeding is an internationally based closed studbook breeding based on the registration of genetically purebred Falabellas.

Origin:

The breed originally came from the herd of horses of the Señor Falabella ranch in Argentina. The Falabella is a true miniature horse and not a small pony like the Shetland pony. The Falabella horse is Argentinean. Its origin is closely related to the first horses that inhabited this part of America. The Spaniards brought horses to Argentina in the 15th century with the aim of conquering Argentina. These were descendants of the Andalusian horses, which were known as the most rustic and resilient breed, whose strength and resistance enabled them to perform in harsh conditions.

The Spaniards were defeated and the horses were left to their fate on the pampas in the wild. Over several centuries, harsh weather conditions and a sober living environment reduced their size and resulted in a natural group of small horses. The surviving horses necessarily underwent a series of structural changes so that they could survive in the new conditions that were so different from those in their homeland. All these factors, combined with continuous inbreeding and isolation, caused the mutations in the genetics of successive generations, resulting in the kind of horse that a horse trader, J. Newtall, saw southwest of the province of Buenos Aires in the herds of the Indians.

Around 1840, these small horses were first seen by Newtall, who took the smallest horses from the herd and began selective breeding with them, with the aim of developing a truly small horse. For many years, they used a variety of horse breeds in their breeding programme including the native Argentine Criollo horse, and equines with Pinto and Appaloosa markings. Newtall had no male offspring and his only daughter married the son of an Italian immigrant family called Falabella.

The knowledge that Newtall gained over the years was passed on to his son-in-law Juan Falabella, who thus inherited from his father-in-law not only several dozen of this young breed of horses, but also a rich passion for horses. Because of this passion, the locals began to name these curious horses "Those of Falabella" or "Falabella".

Juan Falabella then passed the knowledge on to his son Emilio, and he to his son Julio Falabella. The goal was to create a very small domestic breed. He tried to make the horse smaller and smaller through crossbreeding, and still retain the warmblooded type of the breed. The final result was a stable breed, harmonious and well-structured horses, characterised by their intrinsic nature and just over a metre in height, with which it was possible to continue breeding with predictable results, including special colours such as mottled and palomino.

The Falabella family and their descendants continued the selection process, with some specimens of European breeds (Pur - sang, Welsh Ponies and, to a lesser extent, Shetland Ponies) less than eighty centimetres in height.

In 1950, Julio Falabella took over his father's farm and by now there was a serious herd of small- and medium-sized Falabellas in all colours, including the Pinto, and some very rare and colourful Appaloosa's that were their favourites.

In the 1960s, Julio Falabella sent his miniature horses to the US and other countries. In the US, they were used, among other things, to run in front of a stagecoach as a four-horse and a six-horse carriage in order to advertise.

In the 1970s, Falabellas were imported in small groups; at the time, Julio had a large number of the smallest Falabellas on his enormous ranch, with perfect muscling in all colours. It was during these years that the imported Falabella miniature horses were registered in America by the Falabella Miniature Horse Association. Less than 1900 Falabellas have been registered with the association since its establishment in 1973.

When Julio passed away in 1980, his life's work was continued in Argentina by his daughter Maria Angelica Falabella, his brother together with his son (father of Evaristo Falabella) and his wife Maria Louisa Falabella. Maria Angelica Falabella moved to the United States and took with her a group of the better small and most colourful Falabellas. All farms remained primary producers and exporters. Maria Angelica Falabella retired in 2006 and sold her herd to Toyland.

The Height

A Falabella mare or stallion of 3 years of age measures a withers height between 70 cm and 106 cm (when measured without shoes). Height at withers is measured at the last mane hair of the horse.

Colour

All coat and eye colours are possible and allowed.

Body conformation/Exterior

- General: Harmonious, balanced and well proportioned. Fine bone structure and slender belly and flanks.
- Head: The head is fine and noble with a large and expressive eye. A straight forehead or slightly concave below eye level. A slender nose.

- Ears: Well-placed small ears, carried attentively with tips slightly pointed towards each other.
- Neck: The neck is long and slender, well carried, supple, well-muscled and not too deep from the chest.
- Shoulder: The shoulder is long, sloping, with well-developed withers.
- Legs: Good square conformation, well-developed joints without defects, not too long-pastern, with best feet.
- Back, loins: Well-muscled, nice transitions, not too long, and not too round ribbed.
- Croup, tail: Long, slightly sloping with well-set tail in flowing line with croup and carried straight.
- Movement: Correctly active foreleg from the shoulder. With use of well-placed hind leg under the body with lots of power and suppleness.
- Character: The Falabella horse is a tender horse with a particularly fine character. They are special, honest, sweet, and intelligent in character. This is one of the most important characteristics of this breed.

Performance

The Falabella horse is a beautiful small horse which can be used as a companion horse, cuddle horse, pet, for freedom dressage, for driving and as a therapy horse.

Life Expectancy

The Falabella horse lives to be 25 to 30 years old on average, but some even live to be 45 years old. The studbook states that the horses are mature from the age of three. Only after that age, if all other conditions are met, may the horse be used for breeding. Foals born out of younger parents can be refused by the studbook.

Rarity

There are approximately 4,000 purebred registered Falabella horses worldwide. These small numbers indicate that the horse is threatened with extinction.

Health

The Falabella horse is a healthy and vital little horse which, like a horse and not like a pony, needs concentrated feed in addition to hay.

Genetic Peculiarities

The Falabella horse is a 100 % genetic descendant of the Falabella horses in Argentina from the herd of Julio Falabella.

The exact number of Falabella horses in the world is not entirely known, but is estimated to be around 3,000. This means that the breed should be considered a vulnerable animal breed (according to FAO guidelines, number of female breeding animals <5,000). In addition, the most recent figures on the presence of the ACAN dwarf gene in the breed are such that the risk to the breed can be considered even greater. The ACAN dwarf gene is a lethal abnormality.

In the future, the herd book wishes to conduct more research into specific genetic characteristics and, through this research, to be able to provide a better image of the various genetic bloodlines that have developed over the years.

In Argentina, no DNA research was conducted to determine ancestry until 2024. The studbook wishes to collaborate with the studbook of origin in Argentina to achieve a comprehensive registration based on DNA data for all Falabella horses in the world.

In addition, the studbook wants to work with the studbook of origin in Argentina to collect data on the numbers of the breed worldwide, figures on threats and diseases, and the desired breeding programme.

WUR has been asked to support the studbook in this endeavour.

Genetic Disorders:

Various genetic disorders have been identified within the Falabella breed, including

- Underbite;
- Overbite;
- Leg deformities or incorrect leg positions, such as cow hocks;
- Deformities of the head, including water head;
- Dwarfism;

By recording these abnormalities, the aim of the studbook is to encourage breeders to select parent animals more consciously for breeding purposes.

5 Selection and Breeding Objectives

The official breeding goal is:

- A healthy, fertile and strong horse:
 - Breeding a horse with a healthy constitution will be encouraged by, among other things, recommending genetic research into hereditary defects.
 - Become pregnant (more) easily.
 - Foaling as trouble-free as possible.
 - The foals are healthy.
 - Without/with as few genetic defects as possible.
 - Genetically diverse
 - Foals stand correctly on their legs straight away (no weak legs, crooked legs, etc.).
- Striving to preserve all possible colour variations within the breed.
- The height at the withers is between 70 cm and 106 cm.

The following characteristics are important for quality

The exterior which is aimed for is described under point 4. The assessment of the breed characteristics will take place during an inspection.

The character of the horse is a specific characteristic.

The horse is curious and constantly interested in contact with and the company of people. In addition to adaptability, the horse's temperament is docile and gentle. The horse's character is particularly fine, tender and sweet but also playful. Its intelligence is noticeable and is especially striking when learning tasks and routines, which are mastered in a surprisingly short time. Character is partly nature and partly nurture. The studbook therefore strives to ensure that horse owners stimulate these character traits so that the natural transmission of character between parents and foals is strengthened. Foals are scored linearly according to the attached score form. The studbook does not currently describe any official selection. This means that no purebred horses are compulsorily excluded from the main studbook on the basis of the breeding rules nor are any horses specifically selected for exclusive use in breeding. The breeder is responsible for the selection of breeding animals. The studbook advises, informs, motivates and enforces the regulations. After DNA-reporting has taken place, a foal is registered in the studbook's foalbook. The studbook will issue a BVI-



certificate. For the final certification, the foal can be considered for an exterior and veterinary inspection at the age of three. When registering a 3-year-old or older mare or stallion, the Falabella in question will undergo a veterinary examination and subsequent linear scoring in order to assess the health and other aspects of the Falabella horse. The regulations will be listed in the inspection regulations.

Progeny Control

Before mares, stallions, and foals are entered into the studbook register, DNA testing is used to verify the parentage of both parents.

No research has been conducted in the past into the reasons breeders use for selection within the breed. In practice, the manner and result of the assessment of the horse during an inspection have a significant influence on the choice of breeding stock by breeders, and thus on the development of the breed.

Because the population of Falabella horses is small worldwide, the studbook strives to avoid close blood relationships. To this end, the studbook currently uses the listing of the inbreeding coefficient on the BVI and provides information about this coefficient and its significance. An important point is to preserve the genetic variation in the population. For sure in a closed breeding studbook such as that of the Falabella horse, it is important to limit the increase of inbreeding.

Inbreeding may be a cause of hereditary defects, reduced fertility, and reduced longevity.

Example of the BVI with the inbreeding coefficient:

FALABELLA HOOIDONKHOF F. ALEGRIA		Register: Hoofdstamboek Goud 1ste premie DNA: P261297/dwerggroei N/N	
LIJN 528026150051201	Geslacht - Sexe VROUWELIJK - FEMALE	Kleur - Color Widkleur bruin pinto	Stoekmaat - Height 0,78 m
Chipnummer - Chipnumber 981100004198692	Geboortedatum - Date of birth 19 mei 2015	Intechtoëfficiënt - Inbreeding 0.00000 (0.000%)	Afgiftedatum - Date of distribution 2020-02-28
TYCHO 3 219 goud 1ste premie/kampioen 528026040244 ; ster Pinto zwart wit-tobiano negro / 85 cm	MORDAZ 2 128 5280260612102 Valk bayo cabos negro / 80 cm	GILBERTO 1 356 ASPERARIA 1 122	BROWBAND CANONICA BINPHIA DESVELADA
AMAZON OF OHE goud 1ste premie 5280260403255 ; ster blackkin-bayo cabos negro	ANABELN 1 923 5280260507109 Vos-alazan dorado / 90 cm	ATALAYA 0 956 CLIMBREADA 1469	EAUSTINO ALAGURIA TROMPHAI BRANESA BONNA ASTERODE
	EQUILEUS TALISMAN 528026000004160 Appaloosa black leopard / 82 cm	MILINCHE 5280260109142 CHARLOTTE OF KILVERSTONE 5280268904077	BRANESA BONNA ASTERODE CHICO CAROLTA OF KILVERSTONE
	INES 1 959 goud 1ste premie 528026058031 ; ster Zwart negro / 84 cm	REVELADO 1 87 DABLEJA 1 332	PINTURERO LAPSI AZULI BROWBLA GIOPINA
Fokker - Breeder: Stoeterij Hooidonkhof Edmond Dewil & Gilberte Wouters (EFS006) Grensstraat 22 BE - 2280 GROBBENDONK	Eigenaar - Owner: Stoeterij Hooidonkhof Edmond Dewil & Gilberte Wouters (EFS006) Grensstraat 22 BE - 2280 GROBBENDONK		

Behaalde resultaten / Achieved results



European Falabella Studbook

Bewijs van Inschrijving / Certificate of Registration

Dit Bewijs van Inschrijving (BVI) is alleen geldig in combinatie met het voor de Falabella afgegeven paspoort. Dit bewijs is en blijft eigendom van het EFS stamboek en moet op eerste aanvraag vanuit EFS stamboek worden ingeleverd. Voor het stamboek geldt degenen op wiens naam de Falabella in dit Bewijs van Inschrijving is gesteld als de eigenaar/gezaghebbende van de Falabella.
This certificate is only valid in combination with the passport of the Falabella. This certificate is the property of the EFS studbook and must be hand in on the first request of the EFS studbook. The person whose name is mentioned on this certificate as owner of holder of the Falabella is the person in charge of the Falabella for EFS.

Registratiebewijs van het unieke en zeldzame raszuivere Falabella-lapaardje in Europa.
Registration of the unique and rare purebred Falabella Argentina.

www.europeanfalabellastudbook.com

6 Geographical Area of the Breeding Programme

Lidstaat 1	Nederland
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	26
Aantal fokdieren	164
Datum start activiteiten	15 april 2021
Lidstaat 2	België (Vlaanderen)
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	2
Aantal fokdieren	18
Datum start activiteiten	25 augustus 2021
Lidstaat 3	België (Wallonië)
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	1
Aantal fokdieren	2
Datum start activiteiten	5 oktober 2021
Lidstaat 4	Zweden
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	1
Aantal fokdieren	3
Lidstaat 5	Duitsland
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	2
Aantal fokdieren	5
Datum start activiteiten	28 februari 2022
Lidstaat 6	Denemarken
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	1
Aantal fokdieren	6
Datum start activiteiten	12 augustus 2022
Lidstaat 7	Italië
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	1
Aantal fokdieren	35
Datum start activiteiten	23 februari 2023
Lidstaat 8	Bulgarije
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	1
Aantal fokdieren	3
Datum start activiteiten	13 april 2023
Lidstaat 9	Polen
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	1
Aantal fokdieren	30
Datum start activiteiten	27 september 2023

Lidstaat 10	Portugal
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	1
Aantal fokdieren	2
Datum start activiteiten	20 november 2023
Lidstaat 11	Tsjechië
Activiteit(en)	Inschrijven dieren, afgifte paardenpaspoorten, organiseren keuringen en workshops
Aantal fokkers	1
Aantal fokdieren	10
Datum start activiteiten	7 oktober 2025

7 Identification of Breeding Animals

Falabella horses born in or staying in the EU must be identified in accordance with the Horse Passport Regulation. A request for the issue of a passport or duplicate passport is processed in accordance with the 'Identification and Registration of Animals Regulation' (Animal identification and registration scheme) Regulation (EC) No 2015/262 article 9. The President of the EFS is mandated to issue equine passports.

A request for the issue of a passport must be accompanied by a chip form completed and stamped by a veterinarian. You can download and print the chip form from our website or request it from the secretariat. Your veterinarian can fill in this form after he has microchipped the horse. Stamping must be done in two places, namely at the top of the form, partly over the barcode sticker and at the bottom of the form. This form must be returned to the secretariat within 7 days of the horse being chipped. You are obliged to have your foal chipped within 6 months. A request for issue of a duplicate passport must be accompanied by a statement from the veterinarian who read the Falabella's transponder number. A copy of the report of loss or theft must also be enclosed. Upon registration of a horse in the register, the horse will be assigned a UELN number (Universal Equine Life Number).

8 System for Registration of Parentage

The EFS assesses a Falabella horse offered for registration as purebred when all ancestors can be traced back to horses descended from the original group of horses belonging to Mr Falabella's herd in Argentina. This will be done in accordance with the regulations set out in point 12, classification of the studbook. The breed description of the mother studbook is leading.

The parentage will be verified by a DNA test performed by an institution designated by the EFS. DNA testing carried out by other institutions may be refused by the EFS.

The EFS itself will maintain a database of approved horses in which the parentage has been verified.

Based on the DNA, it will be determined whether the ancestry can be traced back to parent animals registered in the main section of the herd book or another recognised herd book or breeding organisation of the same breed listed at:

https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/zootechnics/information-eu-countries-norway-13-and-switzerland_en. or at: https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/zootechnics/non-eu-countries-information_en.

If the pedigree is found to be incorrect, the horse will not be included in the studbook.

The aim is to continue breeding exclusively purebred Falabellas in order to produce purebred offspring.

9 Plan for the creation or reconstruction of the breed

Not applicable.

10 Performance testing

The basis for the breeding value estimation is a veterinary examination and an exterior inspection. The latter could be considered a kind of performance test. The result of the veterinary inspection, if declared unsatisfactory, will result in the horse being excluded from the main studbook. The assessment of the horse during the exterior inspection does not affect admission to the main studbook.

In addition to the exterior, the horse's movement is also examined.

Components of the Veterinary Examination

Registration number (UELN), Chip number, Colour, Sex: mare / stallion / gelding, Height

- 1 Identity
 - 2 Mouth
 - 3 Eyes
 - 4 Tail and mane eczema
 - 5 Umbilical hernia and inguinal hernia
 - 6 Heart and lungs
 - 7 Legs and leg positions
 - 8 Hoof shape corrections
 - 9 Joints - knees
 - 10 Movement straight line
 - 11 Movement full circle right
 - 12 Movement full circle left
 - 13 Character
 - 14 Genitals
 - 15 Semen analysis
- TNB value of 600

Components of the Exterior Inspection

Feature	route	Score										Reference part H4
1 Condition	A lot - Restricted	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Health part	
2 Muscling	A lot - Restricted	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point A and others	
3 Main & tail	A lot - Restricted	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point H	
4 Expression head	A lot - Restricted	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point B+C	
5 Length of Neck	long - short	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point D	
6 Head-neck connection	Light - heavy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point D	
7 Position of neck	Vertical - horizontal	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point D	
8 Height of withers	High - flat	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point E	
9 Shoulder length	long - short	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point E	
10 Position of Shoulder	Sloping - straight	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point E	
11 Length back & loins	long - short	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point G	
12 Line of Back	Roached- weak	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point G	
13 Breast depth	Not deep - deep	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
14 Shape of the Croup	Sloping - flat	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
15 Length of the Croup	long - short	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
16 Stance of Forelegs	Over at the knee - back at the knee	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point F	
17 Stance of Hindlegs	Carpal valgus - Carpal varus	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point F	

18 Stance of Fetlocks	Over-extended - upright	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point F
19 Heels	High - Low	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
20 Shape of Feet	Wide - narrow	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point F
21 Leg size	heavy - thin	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point I
22 Correctness walk hind	narrow - wide	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point I
23 Correctness walk front	Toed in - Toed out	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point I
24 Width of the Chest	small - wide	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point A and D
25 Walk: Length of stride	long - short	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point I
26 Walk: souplesse	strong - stiff	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point I
27 Trot: : Length of stride	long - short	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point I
28 Trot: souplesse	strong - stiff	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point I
29 Character	good - bad	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	H4 point J

10a Method of Data Collection

The studbook organises annually at least 1 inspection in the Netherlands. In consultation with the members the number of inspections can be extended to other countries. If there are a lot of applications, the studbook can decide to organise an extra inspection. Inspections will always be organised with the approval of the studbook and we will try to keep the composition of the jury as much as possible the same. The studbook will appoint a jury consisting of 3 jury members and one honorary jury member. Jury members have had recognised training to be jury-member. The veterinary inspection will be organised by the studbook on the same day as the inspection takes place. To this end, they will appoint a veterinarian to carry out the veterinary inspection.

When breeders want this inspection to take place at another time, this is allowed provided that the veterinarian is an independent veterinarian. The studbook will check this inspection by means of random checks and there is a possibility that photographs of certain parts of the horse will be requested. The studbook will have this information assessed by the veterinarian assigned by the studbook. When in doubt, the studbook can ask the breeder/owner to present the horse for a veterinary examination at a next inspection.

Pending the results, the horse will not be entered in the main studbook. The results will be noted on the appropriate forms. The studbook will take care of the organisation, the registrations, the announcement, the processing of the results, the archiving of the inspection reports, the entering of the data into the studbook database and the distribution of the results to the breeder. The ringmaster supports the studbook in the practical implementation and has no role in measuring conformation. Rules and manner in which the exterior characteristics of foals, yearlings, 2-year-old and adult horses are assessed and data collected are described in the Inspection Rules.

10b Method of Recording, Validating and Communicating Data

The following application forms are used:

- DNA research
- breeding certificate
- transfer
- import
- notification of death

Registration in the studbook is possible by means of:

- Sign up form and registration form
- Registration of birth with birth certificate/birth announcement
- Registration of birth without a birth certificate/birth announcement. The horse can be registered by means of the parentage check
- Registration import horse

In addition to the paper forms, there will also be digital forms. Checklists are used for registering new horses. Data of the horse that is registered can only be entered or changed by the studbook. All members can request data from the studbook's database from the secretary. When a member finds a mistake, he has to report it to the secretary of the studbook who will check the data and if necessary, adjust, complete or correct it.

Breeders and/or owners of the horse can apply for a passport by means of an application form or digitally. Upon registration of the horse in the foal register or the main register, the studbook will issue a certificate of registration. Inspection results will be entered directly into a laptop, computer or tablet by the studbook. After an inspection, all data will be checked again for possible incorrect entries. The results are final after 5 working days. The inspection results will also be handed over on paper to the owner after the inspection. During the inspection, the awarded primings will be announced and the corresponding ribbons and/or cups handed over.

10c Application of Data Collection in the Context of Selection Objectives

The inspection results are used by the studbook to estimate a horse's breeding value. To this date, there have been no breeding value calculations. In the future, the studbook intends to develop a breeding value calculation adapted to the breed and to have this calculated digitally in their software system. Further research is necessary for this and coordination with the studbook and the ALV. Characteristics which will be taken into account when calculating the breeding value:

- 1 The linear score of the inspection of the animal in question, the parents and any offspring.
- 2 The results of the veterinary inspection, including genetic data.
- 3 The genetic relationship between the horse in question and all other horses.

11 Genetic evaluation

Not applicable.

12 Structure of the Studbook

12a Subdivision into main section and supplementary section

The studbook consists solely of a main section.

12b Subdivision of the main section into classes

Class Foal Book

Class Main Studbook

12c Regulations, criteria and procedures for the inclusion of animals in the main section

Purebred Falabellas have original pedigree papers: proof of registration (BVI) including the passport, which shows the original origin of the Falabella. It is also a requirement that both the father and mother and the preceding generations must be 100% purebred. Horses may only be registered if they can be traced back to ancestors from Argentina through DNA research.

By comparing the DNA of the horses presented for registration with the known DNA profiles of parent pairs that have previously been recognised as 100% descendants of the Falabella horse, kinship can be demonstrated and pedigree established.

From 1 May 2024, the studbook will only include those horses in the main register or foal register whose parents are registered in one of these two registers of the studbook or are registered in the main section of another recognised studbook or breeding organisation of the same breed listed at:

https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/zootecnics/information-eu-countries-norway-and-switzerland_en%20of%20https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/zootecnics/non-eu-countries-information_en.

12d Regulations, criteria and procedures for inclusion in classes within the main section

Foal book

Horses younger than 3 years of age will be registered in the foal book.

Main studbook

Horses older than 3 years of age can be registered directly in the main studbook after a veterinary examination has declared the horse to be healthy.

The breeding stallions registered in the main section that have been approved by the FSE are recognised by the EFS, provided that the necessary documents are submitted: golden BVI and DNA parentage verification.

12e Regulations for the inclusion of horses of other breeds or specific stallion lines or mare lines within that other breed in the main section

The Falabella studbook is a closed studbook, which means that no horses of other breeds are admitted to the studbook or may be used for breeding.

12f Conditions for acceptance of breeding animals for natural mating and artificial insemination

In the interest of mare well-being, mating before the age of three is not allowed. This also applies to stallions. They may not be used for breeding before the age of three. The studbook only issues stud certificates for those animals that have reached this adult age. The parent animal is preferably already registered in the main studbook. Furthermore, the studbook does not make demands concerning the permission of natural mating or other reproduction techniques such as artificial insemination or embryo transfer.

The studbook tries to stimulate the breeding of healthy horses by advising and rewarding research of animals by actively sharing this information. It is assumed that breeders have the same goal as the studbook to avoid dangerous hereditary defects and that they are able to make the right choice when selecting their breeding combinations.

It is possible that the studbook will lay down more stringent requirements in the future. A stallion is recognised by the studbook after he has been admitted to the main studbook. When a certificate of semen analysis has been issued, this will be mentioned on the website. Dwarfism screening and screening for other genetic defects will only be stimulated as such by offering this possibility through the studbook and by providing good information.

12g Prohibition of reproduction techniques

Not applicable.

13 Sufficient Breeding Stock and Breeders

13a Number of animals registered in the herd book

Number M: 79 F: 150

13b Number of matings

Number 48

13c Number of inseminations

Number 0

13d Number of male animals used for breeding
Number 49

13e Number of animals born
Number 35

13g. Number of active breeders
Number 30

13h Number of members/affiliates
Number 32

14 Policy on Inbreeding Problems and Hereditary Defects

The EFS uses a software package to calculate the inbreeding coefficient. Parentage data is needed to calculate the inbreeding coefficient. The more generations that are included, the more reliable the figure will be. The inbreeding coefficient is indicated by **F**:

F=> 25 % incest

F= 12,5 % - F< 25 % close inbreeding

F= 5 % - F< 12,5 % moderate inbreeding

F= < 5 % slight inbreeding

The information on inbreeding is printed on the registration certificate.

The possible hereditary defects and faults are carefully noted by EFS. It is of vital importance that the breeder takes his responsibility and takes care of the notification via the birth notification.

At the moment, there are no exclusive criteria regarding this data.

Inbreeding coefficients per year	Average	Lowest	Highest
Complete file of 1131 minihorses	1.233 %	0.000 %	28.125 %
Horses registered in the Netherlands (529)	1.996 %	0.000 %	25.147 %
Year of birth 2017	2.012 %	0.000 %	12.915 %
Year of birth 2018	2.742 %	0.000 %	9.705 %
Year of birth 2019	1.823 %	0.000 %	13.867 %
Year of birth 2020	2.738 %	0.000 %	19.531 %
Coverages 2020 (expected in 2021)	1.974 %	0.000 %	9.680 %
With EFS (listed in the database)	1.875 %	0.000 %	15.626 %

Data collected in ZooEasy based on registration certificates received from members.

Date: October 31th, 2020

The data from the former studbook, FSE, doesn't seem correct. As such, we cannot rely on this data. In the meantime, by entering the pedigrees of the animals registered with us and the BVI's of animals that are no longer in their possession, provided by the members, we have entered 1131 animals in our database. This data processing is something we will continue to do in the coming period in order to realise a file that is as complete as possible.

In contrast to the old FSE data, which indicated a decrease in the inbreeding coefficient, we have to conclude that there is rather a slight increase. Within the entire population of Falabella horses, the average inbreeding percentage is approximately 1.233% and there are currently no indications that this percentage is decreasing. The inbreeding percentage of foals born in the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany in 2019 and officially registered was 1.823 % on average. In the year 2020, this inbreeding percentage is 2.738%. For 2021 the expectation is

1.974 %. The highest determined inbreeding percentage in the entire database is 28.125%. The highest inbreeding percentage estimated for the coverages of 2020 is 9.680%. Falabella breeders should check the inbreeding coefficient before using the breeding stallion for the mare in question. The studbook prefers the lowest possible inbreeding coefficient. The studbook aims to achieve its goal of the lowest possible inbreeding percentage by providing good information and support to breeders.

15 Zootechnical Certificates

15a. Description of the documents issued

The EFS issues horse passports for registered Falabella horses in accordance with the rules of the RVO and the underlying EU Horse Passport Regulation. No zootechnical certificates are issued as no artificial insemination or embryo transfer has been used to date. When members ask for such certificates in the future, the studbook will take further measures for this.

15b. Issuing of certificates by sperm centre/embryo team

No certificates will be issued by a sperm centre and/or embryo team.

16 Implementation of Breeding Programme

16a. Description of employees

A Studbook staff:

The EFS is run by volunteers. There are no special training for the board members or members of the breeding technical committee or the PR committee.

We strive for a versatile composition of the board and the committees.

The board has subdivided the studbook tasks as follows:

- 1 Chairman: leads the meeting, maintains contacts with external parties, negotiates with external parties, in case of a tie the Chairman takes the lead.
- 2 Secretary: receives and deals with mail, post and other information, questions. The secretary ensures that specific questions to certain board members, committees or commission members are adequately brought to the attention of the board member concerned and monitors their follow-up.
The secretary takes care of the delivery of information to external parties with regard to the execution of DNA research and with regard to the production of the passport and the BVI. The secretary also keeps in touch with the members and draws up and sends out the bills.
- 3 Treasurer: makes the payments and checks the bank details. The treasurer also draws up the annual accounts and the budget.
- 4 Board member PR: maintains the website, organises events, manages the events committee, writes newsletters and supports the secretary. Plus, other PR activities.
- 5 Board member breeding-technical matters: manages the breeding-technical committee, prepares proposals for adjustments in the breeding programme and breeding goals, consults with judges about the feasibility of measuring characteristics during inspections, maintains contact with the studbook of origin, initiates scientific research in the interest of the Falabella horse, and other breeding-technical matters.

With respect to passport production, the studbook will outsource this task to the AES. Should the secretary have any questions, the AES office can be contacted for support.

B Judges

The members of the jury of the EFS have completed the training for breeding jury via Koepelfokkerij. Efforts are made to achieve a versatile composition of the jury, as the Falabella horse is a member of the horse breed on the one hand, yet small on the other. In cooperation with the members of the jury, among others, we will seek to expand the components of the assessment so that the balance of the linear assessment does even more justice to the

breeding goal pursued by the studbook. Among other things, the characteristics will be better subdivided and we will look for more concrete ways to measure character objectively. Before the inspection, the members of the jury will consult with each other and with members of the breeding committee and, if desired, with other members of the board.

C Ringmaster

A ringmaster will be used to instruct members during the inspection so that the inspection proceeds in a structured manner.

D Veterinarian

The EFS will make use of a recognised veterinarian, specialised in horses, for their veterinary inspections. The veterinarian will have a university education and at least 5 years of working experience.

16b. Description of available Facilities and Equipment:

A For the studbook administration, the software of the AES will be used.

a The EFS has the option to have the software adjusted at its own expense to suit the specific purposes of the studbook.

B The administration office has a suitable computer and printer at its disposal.

C At the inspection, a tablet, a laptop, a printer and internet connection will be used.

D During the inspection, the veterinarian will make use of a microchip reader and a size stick.

E Third party facilities will be used during the inspection. The location can differ per inspection, but we strive to make the situation as equal as possible.

F Communication with members and breeders is done through the website, e-mail and through modern media like Facebook, Instagram etc. If necessary, the secretariat can contact one of the members by telephone when a request is made through e-mail or when there is an urgent reason from the studbook.

17 Outsourcing Activities

Activity	The studbook will outsource the production of passports to the AES when it is recognised as a passport-issuing body.
Name:	Stichting AES Kantoor
Contact details	De Heikampen 9; 5482 ZR Schijndel; Netherlands E. info@aesbenelux.com ; P. +31(0) 73 690 75 73

Declaration of no conflict of interest