

Jim Power Economics



Teagasc Equine Conference
**‘Potential for Sport Horse
Sector’**

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Jim

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SCOPE OF STUDY

Evaluation of Sport Horse Industry

Interviews with many and varied stakeholders (ongoing)

Meeting with politicians

Assessment of where the industry is at

Assessment of what the issues are

Assessment of where it should/could go

Assessment of what needs to be done

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SOME ECONOMIC/FINANCIAL FACTS

2011 statistics from UCD (being updated)

Economic contribution €708 mln

12,512 full-time job equivalents

47,096 people involved in Sport Horse sector

Expenditure on goods & services €454 m

Sport Horse population 124,000

Strong rural/regional spread

Makes a significant contribution to regional activity

SECTORAL BREAKDOWN

Breeding €226 million (32% total expenditure) – 15,110 active breeders

Competition Sector €135 million

Affiliated leisure Sector €119 million

Exports 6,599 sport horses €26 million

119,000 equine classes at national country shows

SIGNIFICANCE OF SPORT HORSE INDUSTRY

Ireland has a strong reputation in equine

Strong rural/regional contribution

Employment & Economic Activity

High value added indigenous sector

Regional economic development key element of Programme for
Partnership Government

Sport Horse industry does make, and can make an even greater
contribution



SOME REALITIES

Brexit poses significant challenges for Agri-Food sector and rural economic activity

The Thoroughbred sector provides a template for what can be done

Largely a 'neglected' sector

Strong economic potential

Strong social impact and potential

Standards are slipping – this must not be tolerated



IMPACTS

Breeding/Training/Grooming

Equine Centres

Pony Clubs

Feed Companies

Horseware Products

Equine Sales

WHAT IS NEEDED?

Government funding is miniscule

Quality of equine facilities such as jumping arenas etc

Prize Money

Education – Create Centres of Excellence

Knowledge Transfer Programme – strong track record

Genetics & Breeding

Objective should be to exploit full potential and create world class industry



**Thank You for
Listening!**