

THE IFCE:

THE ORGANISATION DEDICATED
TO THE EQUINE SECTOR

PRESS KIT

Communication

EXPERTISE DEDICATED TO THE EQUINE SECTOR

The Institut Français du Cheval et de l'Équitation (IFCE) is the public body which supports the professional development of the equine sector. It arose from the merger of two entities in 2010: the Haras Nationaux (French National Stud) and the Cadre Noir de Saumur.

The IFCE is a technical institute which provides support and expertise and undertakes applied research. It works to produce and promote knowledge about horses in all the aspects and ways in which they are used: genetics, agriculture, the environment, economic, social, sporting, leisure and animal well-being.

The main activities of the IFCE are:

- Research, innovation, development and passing on knowledge;
- Training to develop professional skills;
- Promoting French equestrian heritage;
- Providing expertise and supporting the equine sector;
- The health and zootechnical traceability of horses.
- Contributing to policies to support equestrian sports.

The IFCE received its qualification as an Institut Technique Agricole through the Ministerial Decree of 8 February 2018. This recognition strengthens the IFCE's activities regarding research and development, technical support and training for all those involved in the equine sector. The recognition as an Institut Technique Agricole opens the organisation and the equine sector up to other agricultural sectors and professional networks.

Its mission as a technical institute is to organise and make economic and social data available to stakeholders to enable the development of strategies and decision-making tools.

The site's inclusion in the Grand INSEP network, obtained in 2016 and renewed in 2021, demonstrates the quality of the welcome given to sportsmen and women, and makes the establishment the benchmark for equestrian sports in this network.

The IFCE is present in France through its six regional delegations. This territorial network enables it to carry out its missions in the regions in contact with local players and local authorities. Correspondents in France's overseas territories ensure the relay of regulatory and technical information.

In Europe and internationally, the IFCE monitors regulations and carries out actions to support exports and promote French know-how, with other organisations in the sector.

Table of contents

RESEARCHING, INNOVATING, DEVELOPING, PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE

<u>Applied research and expertise</u>	6
<u>Passing on knowledge</u>	7

TRAINING TO DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

<u>Professional training</u>	8
------------------------------------	---

PROMOTING EQUESTRIAN HERITAGE

<u>The Haras nationaux</u>	9
<u>The Cadre noir de Saumur</u>	10

PROVIDING EXPERTISE AND SUPPORTING THE EQUINE SECTOR

<u>Responding to the needs of the equine sector</u>	11
---	----

GUARENTEEING THE HEALTH AND ZOOTECHNOLOGICAL TRACEABILITY OF HORSES

<u>SIRE</u>	12
<u>Identification and health inspections</u>	12

CONTRIBUTING TO POLICIES TO SUPPORT EQUESTRIAN SPORTS

<u>Supporting high-level sport</u>	13
--	----

<u>KEY FIGURES</u>	14
--------------------------	----

<u>PRESENCE IN FRANCE</u>	15
---------------------------------	----

CONTACTS





RESEARCHING, INNOVATING, DEVELOPING, PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE

Applied research and expertise

The **scientific advice** that IFCE provides to the equine sector brings together professional representatives and scientists. It defines R&D needs and funds research proposals for the Fonds Eperon¹, the French Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and the IFCE.

IFCE researchers have joined internationally-recognised research teams, including INRA. At the same time, the organisation's own applied research continues to be developed at the four technical platforms at Chamberet and Le Pin for breeding, and Saumur and Uzès for riding and other uses of horses.

The IFCE's areas of competence cover the following fields:

- breeding and upkeep of horses (managing sires, agro-ecology, well-being, etc.);
- riding (teaching, performance) and other uses of horses (harnessing, traction, equine-assisted therapy sessions, etc.);
- stakeholders in the sector (economics, sociology)

¹ A general interest financial organisation for the benefit of the horse industry. It can provide financial support for innovative and structuring projects, thanks to a tax on racing betting (source: équipédia)



Find out more

The IFCE's technical platforms

www.ifce.fr/ifce/appui-filiere/plateaux-techniques/

RESEARCHING, INNOVATING, DEVELOPING, PASSING ON KNOWLEDGE

Passing on knowledge

The knowledge obtained is promoted in the form of scientific publications and communicated to users through the work of development engineers.

The economic and social horse observatory promotes research and uses all the sector's databases to provide decision-making tools for bodies and companies.



© B. Lemaire / IFCE

The results are transformed into tools which can be appropriated by users and are presented during information days. They are also available in the form of books, practical guides and on-line resources. Thus, *équipédia* offers more than 760 files on eight different themes, providing technical information from the work of the institution's development engineers. These provide links to the various tools available for the equine sector: web conferences, simulation tools, conferences, books, etc.

Communication also takes place through training for professionals in the sector.

Consult the portal
équipédia.ifce.fr

IFCE - *équipédia*, sciences
et innovations équinés



équipédia
ifce

TRAINING TO DEVELOP PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Professional training

The IFCE offers a range of training courses leading to certificates and diplomas at three of its national sites: Saumur, Le Pin-au-Haras, Uzès and an annexe in Rosières-aux-Salines. This range covers a large number of riding and driving disciplines, reproduction and breeding, and saddlery. This offer responds to the needs of the equine sector, expressed in particular by the employment and training committee.

The organisation offers continuous professional training and apprenticeships. In total, there were 1,755 trainees in 2020, all training courses combined, i.e., 151,406 trainee hours.

In **Saumur**, the IFCE develops equestrian training leading to a qualification or diploma as well as development courses for professional riding instructors. Lessons are given by trainer-instructors and Cadre Noir riders. In partnership with ESTHUA - University of Angers, the IFCE offers a unique double degree course in France to become a senior manager in the equine industry.

The IFCE site at the **Haras National du Pin** provides training and courses in the fields of breeding, the development of young horses, reproduction, saddlery, driving and riding.

The **Uzès site** provides specialised training in harnessing and saddlery.

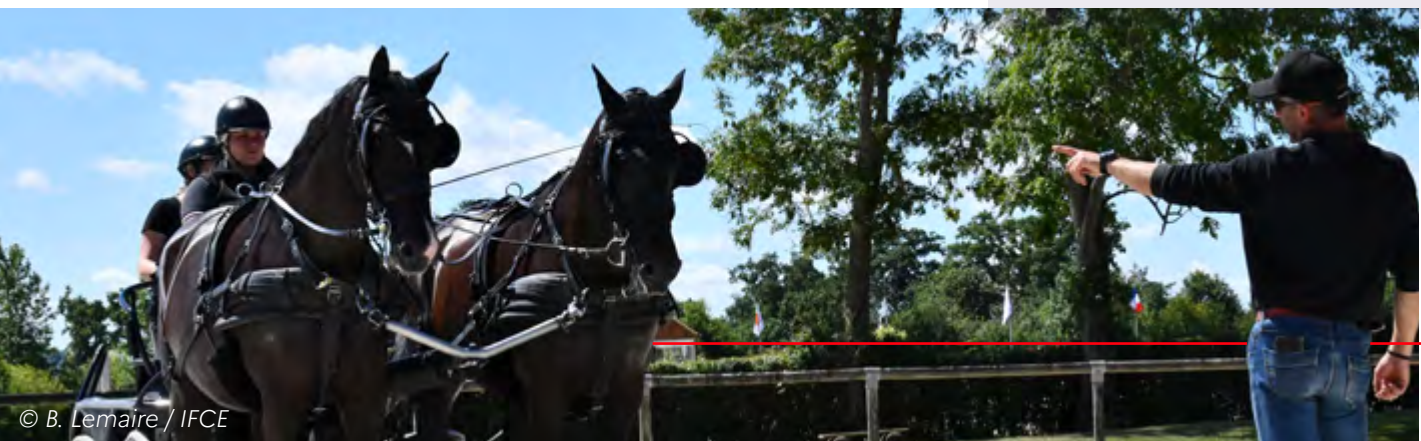
The **Rosières-aux-Salines** annexe offers specialised training in driving, horse riding and the development of young horses.

The teaching teams of these two sites consists of qualified trainers, whose skills come from the expertise and knowledge of the Haras Nationaux.

New work, approaches and research are monitored to refine knowledge in all fields relating to pedagogy, didactics, sport and breeding. This involves investing in different scientific fields and the human sciences to cement the organisation's position as the cutting-edge body in the field of riding and horses. This indispensable connection between scientists and front-line professionals generates new knowledge (research, observations, expertise) which is transmitted through training work.

Find out more
IFCE Training Courses

www.ifce.fr/ifce/formations/



PROMOTING EQUESTRIAN HERITAGE

As the heir to a unique equestrian heritage, the IFCE cultivates and transmits knowledge and expertise for future generations. Ensuring that expertise regarding the traditional trades of the Haras Nationaux and the Cadre Noir, such as saddlery, riding and harnessing, does not die out, allows skills to be developed through training and the communication of knowledge. This work contributes to showcasing French culture around the world.

The «**Culture, Heritage and UNESCO**» committee was created in 2020. Its objective is to allow the creation and collective expression of guidelines and action plans for the IFCE, suitable for preserving and enhancing French equestrian heritage to benefit as many people as possible.

The Haras nationaux

The Haras Nationaux brand can be identified through history as a government authority which has received public funding since its creation in 1665. Its heritage is both tangible, with the premises that have been built or transformed, and intangible, with knowledge and expertise regarding the trades of breeding, stallion handling and training horses and other horse-related techniques.

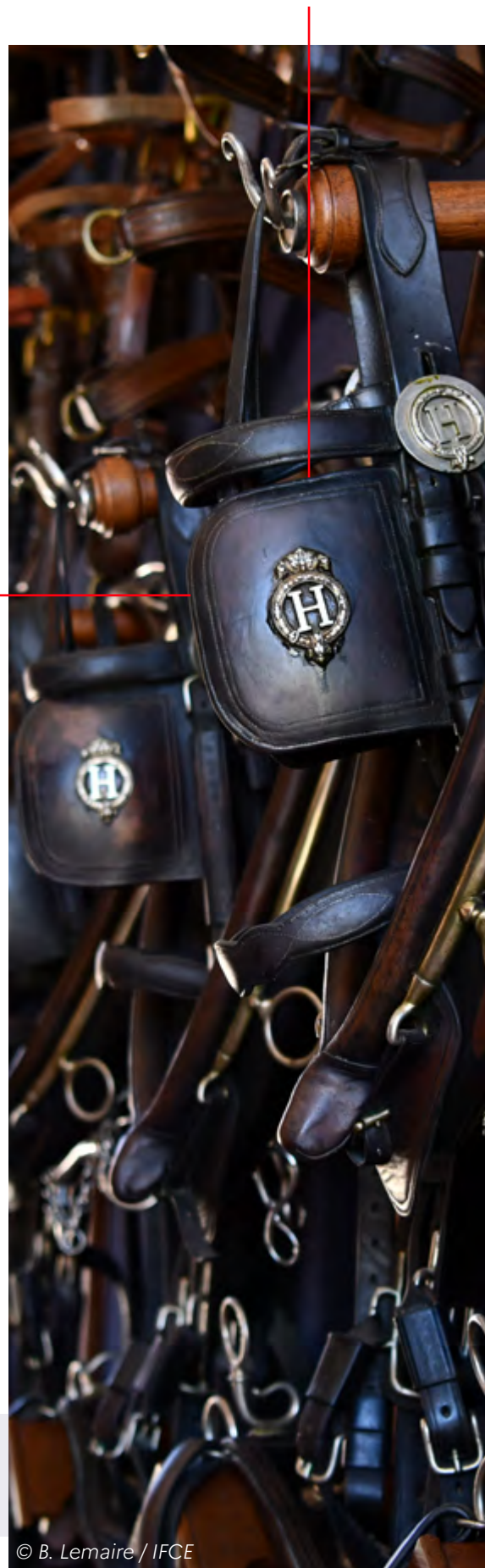
In addition to its historic sites, the intangible and tangible heritage of the Haras Nationaux also consists of expertise relating to the use of traditional harnesses, saddlery and horse-drawn vehicles.

Although the IFCE has now withdrawn from or sold a large proportion of the historic sites of the Haras Nationaux, the majority of new owners are committed to promoting the heritage and tourist value of their site, often related to horses. This promotion takes into account the presence of horse-related vehicles and saddlery.

Follow the latest news
Les Haras nationaux



les Haras
nationaux
ifce



© B. Lemaire / IFCE

PROMOTING EQUESTRIAN HERITAGE

The Cadre noir de Saumur

Inscribed on UNESCO's "Intangible Cultural Heritage" list, Equitation in the French tradition, is performed by the Cadre Noir, in France and around the world. The transmission of exceptional knowledge and part of the French riding identity takes place through performances and galas given by the Cadre Noir.

As the heir to this prestigious heritage, the Cadre Noir performs its functions at the IFCE's Saumur site. The site is open to the public who can visit its facilities and discover its equestrian sports training programmes as well as the work that it does for equestrian cultural heritage. Research and documentation help improve and diversify teaching in both the technical and educational areas.

Through its galas and public performances, the Cadre Noir also contributes to promoting Equitation in the French tradition. Its views on equestrianism are expressed through the teaching it does, its competition results and its public performances in France and abroad.

Discover
Le Cadre noir de Saumur
www.ifce.fr/cadre-noir/



PROVIDING EXPERTISE AND SUPPORTING THE EQUINE SECTOR

Responding to the needs of the equine sector

One of the IFCE's major roles is to support the industry. It focuses on expressing the needs of the industry, in close collaboration with the players. To do so, the IFCE leads five national cross-disciplinary committees with professionals: **the sectoral committee, scientific advice, employment and training advice, the SIRE committee, the cultural, heritage and UNESCO committee**. Within these committees, the IFCE supports the chairmen of these committees and contributes, through its expertise, to providing decision-making tools for the players grouped together within the horse industry, an appointed spokesperson for the main areas (racing, sport and leisure, work). These five committees either take action on their own themes (scientific, SIRE, employment-training, heritage and UNESCO), or on cross-cutting issues (industry committee). They are consulted on technical or societal issues at the request of one or other of the sector's players or the State.

National and regional IFCE experts are mobilised to respond to questions raised by the sector.

The public organisation provides expertise and monitoring of European regulations, carries out export support actions or other actions to promote expertise internationally.

Lastly, the IFCE manages the *équi-ressources* service. The *équi-ressources* centre was created in 2007, as the result of a partnership between the IFCE, Pôle Emploi, the Pôle Hippolia, the Conseil des Chevaux de Normandie and the Conseil Régional de Normandie is the free national benchmark for employment and orientation in the equine sector, all sectors and all professions. A genuine "employment centre for horse-related activities" now supported by the IFCE and the Conseil Régional de Normandie, it has four aims: to match supply and demand through its employment service, to guide and advise future professionals and, through its observatory, to analyse the match between employment and training and suggest areas for reflection and improvement to the relevant stakeholders.



© M. Dhollande / IFCE

Consult the
équi-ressources website
www.equiressources.fr



équi-ressources
ifce

THE HEALTH AND ZOOTECHNICAL TRACEABILITY OF HORSES

Managing the SIRE database and associated services

The horse information system (SIRE) is the central health and zootechnological resource for horses in France. A genuine health risk management tool, the SIRE issues identification documents for non-breed horses and provides support to the State on regulatory aspects related to the horses.

It is responsible for the horse registry and ensures the following tasks by delegation to selection bodies: assistance with selection, keeping genealogical books and transmitting ID documents, for 56 managed breeds and 18 breeds on an agreement basis. The SIRE is a hub of interaction within the equine sector: a basis for exchanging information from numerous databases, and is also the financial collector on behalf of its partners.

Collaboration with the **SIRE committee**, consisting of bodies in the industry, allows this shared and self-financing tool to continue to evolve while taking into account the shared opinions of the various stakeholders and their specific needs.

Ensuring compliance with identification and inspection regulations

The IFCE plays an important role on the ground in terms of the health traceability of the equine sector. Through its identification teams and inspection work, the IFCE secures the information recorded in the central database, which is essential in the event of a health crisis.

The IFCE continues to be involved in field identification, supporting vets with the objective of maintaining quality and expertise.

Knowledge of all horses in the country and the people connected to them is essential to enable health actions to be taken in the event of an epidemic. In this context, the Ministry for Agriculture and Food strengthened health prevention work for horses by giving the IFCE the role of policing the identification of horses. A body of approved inspectors researches and identifies violations relating to the identification of horses and the health obligations of horse owners.



Find out more
SIRE & Procedures

www.ifce.fr/ifce/sire-demarches/



© M. Dhollande / IFCE

CONTRIBUTING TO POLICIES TO SUPPORT EQUESTRIAN SPORTS

Supporting high-level equestrian sports

The IFCE's high-level sport mission takes place within a partnership context with the Fédération Française d'Équitation (FFE).

In close connection with the FFE and the management teams, the IFCE hosts or supports clusters on its Saumur site:

- The French future and senior eventing cluster,
- The French FFE vaulting cluster,
- The expert para-dressage centre.

These are leading facilities for applying policies relating to high-level sport developed by the IFCE. Supporting athletes from a "double project" perspective is a major objective of the scheme: bringing high-level sport together with a professional project.

In this context, the Saumur site hosts a support project for para-dressage, making facilities, horses and human resources available, in particular the riders of the Cadre Noir de Saumur.

A key establishment for riding within the "Grand INSEP" network, the IFCE promotes technical and behavioural innovation. The IFCE contributes towards the performance of French riders by developing its scope, particularly by helping the riding world to benefit from good practices and training procedures or preparation sessions developed in other sports and applying them to riding.



KEY FIGURES IN 2020

MISSIONS

- 66 projects submitted to the Scientific Committee
- 29 R&D projects carried out on the IFCE's technical platforms
- 860 technical files on équipédia, including 200 translated in English.
- 7,700 participants in web conferences
- 1,755 trainees in training
- 151,406 trainee hours
- 3,030 job offers on equi-ressources
- 23,529 horses checked
- 842,841 administrative operations in the SIRE

GENERAL REMARKS

- Created in 2010
- 30 locations in France
- 4 national sites
- 6 territorial delegations
- 4 technical platforms
- 5 thematic councils and committees

RESOURCES


- 43,908,528€ in subsidies for public service costs
- 17,151,610 € of its own income
(excluding grants, other public funding and FAFSEA)
- 633 full-time equivalents (FTE)





PRESENCE IN FRANCE (2020)




UPDATE IN MARCH 2021

 Headquarters

 Four national sites

 Presence of agents in the six territorial delegations

 Training centres

30 locations

 Research and development centres

Le Pin au Haras :

Reproduction and genetics

Saumur :

equitation and sports performance

Chamberet :

breeding, nutrition and health

Uzès :

endurance, driving and working horses

In partnership, the IFCE is present at the INRAE centres:

Val-de-Loire (Nouzilly) : 3 agents

Clermont-Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes (Theix) : 1 agent

Occitanie-Toulouse (Toulouse) : 2 agents

Occitanie-Montpellier (Montpellier) : 2 agents

Seconded to the SFET:

3 agents

Acting for the equine sector of the future



www.ifce.fr



Press contact

Anne-Sophie Azzos - 07 63 04 48 08
annesophie.azzos@ifce.fr

Publication date: April 2021
Publication Directo : Jean-Roch Gaillet, Directeur général

Institut français du cheval et de l'équitation
Avenue de l'ENE, BP 207 - 49411 SAUMUR Cedex
www.ifce.fr