

SIGNS OF FEAR AND DISTRESS IN HORSES FACTSHEET

Corresponds with Requirement 11.1

Signs of fear and stress in horses include, but are not limited to the following:

- Tail swishing/wringing in the absence of flies or other insects
- The whites of the eyes are more visible
- Sweating with minimal physical exertion
- Flared nostrils or wrinkling at the mouth or nose
- Both ears laid flat back
- Pawing or striking
- Running away or charging at the handler
- Vocalizations (e.g., snorting, squealing, calling)
- Head held very high
- Kicking or turning the hindquarters towards the handler

Refer to the NFACC Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Equines (2013) for more information about low-stress horse handling.

Adapted from the NFACC Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Equines (2013)