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Health | By [Bridget Leonard](#)

Number of people having sex with horses on the rise in Switzerland



I "It (The animal foundation group) points out that the number of animal abuse cases more than tripled in the past 10 year and was five times larger compared to 15 years ago".

Swiss animal rights workers fear there are 10,000 people roaming the nation with an unnatural sexual interest in [horses](#).

Andreas Rüttimann said: Compared with cases concerning other species, prosecutions for crimes committed against horses a strikingly high percentage relate to zoophilia offenses'.

The organization drew particular attention to the maltreatment of horses, with almost ten percent of the cases (with horses) involving zoophiles.

Switzerland is in the grip of a horse sex crisis - according to an official report.

Animal rights activists in Switzerland say there are up to 10,000 people with sexual feelings towards the animals.

The group said there are now more than 110,000 horses at 18,000 farms in Switzerland.

The group said the number of unreported horse abuse cases is likely much higher than reported, given that so many people in the country are involved with equestrian activities. Figures showed cases of animal abuse rose to 1,709 in 2014, an increase of 1,542 from the previous 12 months. One of the reasons cited as a possibility to this rise in numbers is the lack of a substantial fine when caught and convicted.

A total of 105 cases of animal cruelty to horses were registered last year, up considerably from previous years but probably below the actual number of incidents, Rüttimann said. In February, 45-year-old Cirilo Castillo Jr. was arrested for having sex with a horse, reports The Huffington Post.

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