



Animal Spirit – True animal rescue stories # 1

## **Juna, The shining spark mare saved from starving**



We heard about an extremely emaciated old mare in Upper Austria, whose owner could no longer pay for the entry fee and feed costs. The mare needed special feed (meadow cobs), her teeth were so worn down by years of untreated malocclusion that there were hardly any teeth left at the top of her incisors. She had scars all over her body, new and old. We don't know what happened to her.

Eating hay is hardly possible without teeth, which is why the mare was so terribly thin. There was already another interested party who wanted to slaughter her and turn her into dog food! However, we were able to save her from this at the last minute and immediately picked her up from the dealer where she had been standing in the meantime.

She was really extremely skinny and weak, at first she kept lying down in the pasture to rest because she was too weak to stand for more than two hours. We were very afraid that she would not make it. But she ate her soaked meadow cobs with great appetite right from the start. Now she neighs at us when feeding time approaches. We have named her "Juna" and hope that she will be able to trust people again under our loving care.

Today Juna is in the best of health, enjoys her life every day, has found friends at our Engelberg sanctuary and her daily special food always tastes particularly good!





## Animal Spirit – True animal rescue stories #2

### **Amelie, The pregnant Jenny rescued from slaughter**

Once again we were informed by animal friends that three donkeys, one of them a pregnant mare as well as two stallions, were standing at a dealer in Upper Austria, who would soon have to "get away" from the pasture and go to the market (to the butcher?), because no stable would be available for them in the coming autumn and winter.

Since our oldest donkey mare Paulina recently passed away at "Hendlberg", we had a place for a mare again, and so the 15-year-old "Amelie" - that's how we christened her - is now with us at the farm.



We could expect donkey offspring in the near future . We have been waiting for this special day for weeks and months, and last night the time had finally come: Our well-behaved donkey mare Amelie, whom we had ransomed from the butcher only last autumn - pregnant from the donkey stallion Schecki who was rescued together with her - gave birth to the sweet spotted filly "Aurora" early this morning at animal shelter "Hendlberg" all by herself and without having shown any signs before. She is well and healthy and both of them are allowed to stay in their spacious box for the first few days before they can go out to pasture with the others.



### Animal Spirit – animal story #3

## Faggi, The female pig rescued from cruelty and neglect



For a long time, Sadat, our animal keeper, had been observing the far from species-appropriate keeping of a four-year-old lady pig by a hobby farmer whom he sometimes supported with farm work, but who did not want to give up the pig. Sadat felt sorry for the lady pig, especially when he secretly went to the property to provide Faggi with food, which she greedily ate. He couldn't bear to see the little pig huddled on the freezing concrete floor in the worst cold, with no warm bedding and no mates to keep her warm. Sadat had even built a stable for Faggi and shown him that pigs prefer to sleep on straw, in the hope that the hobby farmer would then take better care of Faggi. However, during the visits he had to find out that nothing had changed in the way the pigs were kept... And so our keeper couldn't get Faggi out of his head and talked to the owner again, asking him if he wouldn't sell her to him, which he categorically refused at first - he would rather give her to the butcher (unfortunately a frequent answer that animal welfare activists hear from farmers). Autumn came, the nights became colder and more merciless. Now it was getting too much for Sadat.

During one of his home inspections, he found the pig again without bedding and starving. Sadat had a stern word with the owner, with the slight threat of turning him in, and lo and behold: Sadat was finally able to buy the gilt for €100. On 31 October was Faggi's lucky day: Sadat came with the horse trailer, the piggy got on without any problems and the short journey to paradise - to the "Esternberg" sanctuary - was quickly accomplished. Once here, Faggi can now look forward to a large stable with thick straw bedding, fresh water and a tasty meal - what could be better in a pig's life? At the moment, we are still making plans on how to integrate Faggi, who had to live her life without any other pigs, into the herd.



Reference Website:

[Animal Welfare Society](#)