

## Equinia and Equestria, Comparing and Contrasting

### Military:

#### Navy:

Equinia has no navy because it's land locked and has very few rivers. Your guess on Equestria's navy as good as mine, considering that it has never been mentioned before in the show.

#### Army:

Equestria's army is just the royal guard, which is well disciplined and well trained in melee spear combat, ranged spear throwing, and security on a castle sized scale, but have never been pushed to become anything stronger than it is. The Equinian army, however, has been forged by the hardships of fighting off dragons and having to hunt for food, and is therefore much larger in size, much better disciplined, better at offensive and defensive strategies against aerial combatants, and are great at security on a city sized scale. Among the average strengths of Equinians, thrown weapons (knives, javelins, and axes) and artillery (ballistas) are their strongest. Equinians are equal to Equestrians when it comes to archery, because although Equinians have a higher taken opportunities/total opportunities ratio to practice archery than Equestrians do, feathers are harder to come by in Equinia than Equestria and therefore Equinians have less total opportunities to practice, so the skill ratio between the two countries remains balanced. The Equinian army is primarily used to fight off dragons, with law enforcement being secondary. Therefore, the Equinian army will be better trained at weapons and armor used against dragons than they are at weapons and armor used against other horses, and will be somewhere in between when it comes to weapons than can be used in hunting. Equinians, unlike Equestrians (save for the princesses, the six main characters, and Shining Armor) also incorporate magic into their army.

#### Air force:

The large majority of the Equestrian royal guard consists of pegasi who can easily go from infantry to aerial combatants on a moments notice, while the only things Equinians have to work with are hot air balloons, weather balloons (which Equestrians have yet to develop), and Guardian Angel Orionshy. The first two options are just too impractical to use for anything; while Orionshy, no matter how capable he may be, is just one horse (or pony).

#### Preferred choices of weapons/armor:

General Notes: Unless otherwise specified, Equinians use metals varying from standard iron, pig iron, titanium, titanium alloy, aluminum alloy, and steel in their weapons and all of the metals previously mentioned including aluminum in their armor. It is unknown what metal(s) Equestrians use. Equestria may have other weapons and armor, but it cannot be confirmed; the royal guard is underexposed in the show.

#### Melee:

Equinia: Various types of swords, daggers, and knives against other horses; and long, heavy halberds and greatswords against grounded dragons.

Equestria: Spears.

Notes: Particularly strong Equinian horses use lead filled, steel halberds and greatswords with two hooves while fighting dragons for extra impact. Dragonslayer Henry has been known for using one of these heavy, lead filled halberds with only one hoof.

Archery:

Equinia: Recurve bows/crossbows and hollow, aluminum arrow/bolt stocks with the usual metals for the tip.

Equestria: Standard bows and wooden stocked arrows with metal for the tip.

Notes: Equinian bows will generally need more force to pull back the string than Equestrian bows, meaning a faster, more powerful shot; but have less accurate arrows because they aren't as skilled at crafting arrows than Equestrians because of the scarcity of bird feathers. Equinia doesn't use aluminum over wood for the arrow stocks because wood is too weak and will get damaged by the bow, but it's simply because wood is saved for other things such as fire in Equinia.

Thrown weapons:

Equinia: Knives, javelins, and axes.

Equestria: Spears.

Note: It's not considered poaching to use thrown weapons for hunting in Equinia, since arrows there are expensive.

Artillery:

Equinia: Ballistas.

Equestria: From what I've seen, none.

Vehicles:

Equinia: A motorized vehicle that runs off of powdered coal has been developed by Marvelous Tesla, but it has yet to go mainstream or even be used for military purposes. Other than that, Equinians are ever-so-slightly over the level of Equestrians when it comes to vehicles, with the quite significant exception being the invention of the train.

Equestria: Carriages for the princesses. Other than that, nothing. Save for civilian carriages, trains and racing chariots, but those aren't used for military purposes, so I don't think they should be considered.

Notes: Equinia's rocky terrain has caused Marvelous Tesla to also develop shock absorbers for carriages and chariots, and it has been released to the Equinian military and the general public.

Armor:

Equinia: Leather studded with aluminum, titanium, aluminum alloy, and titanium alloy studs, and aluminum, titanium, aluminum alloy, and titanium alloy bracers designed for parrying; or chain mail or semi-plate armor with all the same metals and parrying bracers when fighting other horses. Equinian soldiers who fight dragons wear a heavy set of metal plate armor, with heavy fire resistant paddings all over the armor's kinks. The armor is usually very fire resistant, and ranges from aluminum to heavy steel and pig iron. Only particularly strong Equinians, who can wield a non-lead filled halberd or greatsword with one hoof, can use a shield to go along with their armor. Dragonslayer Henry is able to use a shield while wielding a heavy, lead filled halberd.

A word concerning the advancement of bow, crossbow, and ballista technology for Equinians:

Recently, Equinian horses have noticed that sinews from dragons were a lot stronger and harder to pull back than that of regular animals. Too hard, in fact, to be used in normal bows and crossbows. However, this does not mean it can't be used in ballista technology. Engineers (Tesla stayed out of this one, seeing that the project would be too easy for him) have developed a ballista that used a dragon sinew bow string that was pulled back by a steam engine attached to a system of gears that slowly pulled back the string. The ballista took just about as long to load as normal, but the range and power of it increased dramatically, allowing dragons to be picked out of the sky from a much farther distance

than normal. Currently, only a few of these ballistas have been made, and they've been strictly reserved to the military.

There is one particularly strong horse, Dragonslayer Henry, who made a large recurve bow out of steel and dragon sinew and was able to pull it. He fires lead filled, steel arrows from the bow that are somewhere in between the size of Equinian javelins and Equestrian spears. As you can tell, the bow is practically a hoof held artillery weapon, one that's strong enough to pierce dragon hide.

#### Magic:

Equinians started to study magic later than Equestrians did, but progress on their half has been faster because the dragon bone wands, staves, and horseshoes they have opened up the practice for every horse (and the two countries are pretty much the same in terms of population). But when it comes to interests of study, the two countries have their differences. Because of this, Equinians are better at magical combat, while Equestrians are better at utility spells.

#### Schooling:

Equinia takes education far more seriously than Equestria, believing that it's an important pillar that keeps civilization civilized. Therefore, while Equestrian foals only have to go through five years of school, Equinians have to go through twelve. However, there are less opportunities for higher education in Equinia than Equestria because of the money that's required.

#### Values:

Equinians value unity, society, civilization, wisdom, productivity, contributions to society, and intelligence while Equestrians value the components of friendship (magic, laughter, kindness, honesty, generosity, and loyalty) and overall happiness.

#### Diet and Physique:

Equinians eat plenty of meats, which are rich in proteins. This means that the average Equinian is stronger than the average Equestrian. However, the average Equestrian's fruit, vegetable, and grain rich diet allows them to have more energy than the average Equinian.