

MARCH 2020

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**WORLD BREEDING NEWS**  
*for Sport Horses*



BN #279

Breeder interviews

Stallion profiles

Bloodline analysis

# New Stallion La Silla in France

## Honduras LS La Silla

**Congratulations to  
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for the successful presentation of Honduras LS La Silla  
in the Saint Lo, SF Stallion's Approval !**



CHAMPIONNAT DE FRANCE - SALON DES ETALONS - SAINT LO - FEVRIER 2020

### HONDURAS LS LA SILLA 2017

Lic.: SF

Father



**MYLORD  
CARTHAGO**  
Lic.: HOLST, SF  
CSI5\*-W  
CSI GP 2012  
CSI GP  
WC  
WEG 2010

**CARTHAGO Z**

Lic.: ZANG, HOLST, SF, RHEIN

CSIO, WC, WEG  
1996, 2000,



**FRAGRANCE  
DE CHALUS**  
SF

**CAPITOL I**

HOLST  
WBFSH\*

**PERRA**  
HOLST

**JALISCO B**

SF  
CSIO, 1988

**NIFRANE**  
SF

Mother



**CONCORDIA  
LA SILLA**  
HOLST  
(STAMM 318D2)  
CSIO5\*  
CSI GP  
CSI

**CORRADO I**

Lic.: HOLST, SF

CSIO  
CSI GP  
WC  
NATCH

**COR DE LA BRYERE**  
SF

**SOLEIL**  
HOLST

**KIMBERLY III**  
HOLST

**CONTENDER**  
HOLST

**OPTION**  
HOLST

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*On March 21, the Estonian Sport Horse breeders will gather to elect a new board, as well as its chairman for the next three years. This year, however, is going to be rather different. Raigo Kollom, chairman of the board for the past 20 years, and the man who has built the ESH studbook from zero, has announced that he will retire.*



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*The Salon des Etalons de sport de Bordeaux has just completed its fourth edition. We spoke to Henry Brugier, a former breeder and stallion owner with the affix d'Adriers [i.e. Apache d'Adriers (Double Espoir SF x Felix XX)], who conceived the idea and brought the concept to the organizers of the jumping de Bordeaux.*



CORRESPONDENTS IN THIS ISSUE: GEMMA ALEXANDER | CLAARTJE VAN ANDEL | SONJA GROB  
CHRISTOPHER HECTOR | ADRIANA VAN TILBURG

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COVER PHOTO – MONTGOMERY (KWPN) STALLION PRESENTED DURING THE KWPN SHOW AND BRED BY OUR OWN WORLD BREEDING NEWS CORRESPONDENT CLAARTJE VAN ANDEL (STAL VAN VLIET)

CONTENTS PHOTOS – PG 3 (TOP TO BOTTOM): MONTGOMERY (STAL VAN VLIET); RAIGO KOLLOM (LIIS IRA); EQUINE REPRODUCTION SYMPOSIUM VET HOLDING FLUSHING TUBE; FIBONACCI DE LESSAC\*HDC (ARTISTE ASSOCIÉ)

## WORLD BREEDING NEWS

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**WWW.BREEDINGNEWS.COM**

# EDITORIAL

## IS IT NOT THE SAME FOR HORSES, AS FOR TOMATOES?



**W**hile time is stirring, the sport horse crossings described as 'the best with the best' is based solely on the lessons of sport competition as it is today, without the tried and tested rules of marketing. So, why do some studbooks persist in trying to preserve a so-called 'original' reservoir, namely free of foreign blood, and what

does this mean for future generations? Admittedly, among these studbooks, there are a few that are rather uncompetitive at the highest level.

In dressage it is, however, interesting to note that the pure-bred Lusitano has pulled out all the stops (seventh), followed to a lesser degree by the Trakehner. And in showjumping the Selle Français Original (SFO) is still very present.

This is what Marc Verrier points out to us this month on his return from the winter stallion show of Saint Lô. Year after year, despite the fact that it is quite far from the golden triangle of sport horse breeding, with Belgium at its heart, this event attracts more and more people, professionals as well as the general public.

Thus, our colleague pointed out that 'among the six Selle Français taken into account for the last world studbook ranking established by the WBFSH, where the Selle Français stood in fifth place, two are SFO: Usual Suspect d'Auge (Jarnac x Papillon Rouge x Narcos II x Night and Day), and Urvoso du Roch (Nervoso x Grand d'Escla x Samuel AA x Flor II AA).

'Even better if we take into account the 17 SF classified among the 100 best horses in the world, eight of them are eligible for this SFO label, or nearly half. Among the WBFSH's top-100 stallions worldwide in 2019, eight of the 11 SF (72%) in the standings are also 'Original'. And we can even add Nabab de Rêve (Quidam de Revel - Melodie en Fa x Artichaut), seventh in the world and registered with BWP into the equation as his genetics are exclusively SF.

So stupid, these breeders who continue to preserve their singularity? Originals? Has beens? Or, on the contrary, are they visionaries, long-term speculators?

What is certain is that they did not take the easiest

route. But in a world where standardization of the product is the rule, when selection is carried out using criteria that have been well defined by the evolution of the sport and those who practice it today, according only to these cannons, preserving original qualities in the raw form could be very useful one day. Sometimes the difference is genius!

The tightening of the variety of genetic supply in the coming years will inevitably result in regrets. Is it not the same for horses as for tomatoes? Does the seed industry not ultimately benefit the industrialists more than the genuine tomato enthusiasts who are willing to pay more for yesterday's 'heirloom' plants than are being offered today?

In stirring our memories in St Lô with Jean François Pellegrin, who was the owner and promoter of Galoubet A 30 years ago, it was clear that without the contribution of the blood of the French Trotter Viti (admitted into the fundamentals of the Selle Français selection program) in Galoubet's genetics, the stallion would never have tracked the way he did.

Utopia! It was yesterday! Forget it, promoters assure us...

Maybe.

When I was a child, my grandfather, Emile, walked with wooden hooves and a lot of precaution, that is to say, slowly and in his own footsteps, in the small alleys of his vegetable garden. And when he saw me walking through his turf in sneakers, he would yell at me nicely and always say something that I didn't understand, but returns to me today as I think about his lines: "You know, kid, you always have to be able to walk back to where you've been."

With hindsight and over the years I understood what he meant by this warning, both in the way one conducts personal life and, here, in what is decreed with certainty as progress (genetic in this case).

Make it simple or, as many like to say, adopt the KISS principle: 'Keep it simple, stupid!' and avoid unnecessary complexity.

In a way, as progress unfolds on the planet with ever-increasing speed, don't we sometimes need to leave ourselves open to the possibility of eventually going back a little way?

**Xavier Libbrecht**



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# WBF SH TRIBUNE

## WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?



I read with great interest the related opinion pieces by Xavier Libbrecht, Davis Redvers, and Chris Gould in the last issue. Each article discussed the future of the horse industry from unique perspectives. Mr. Libbrecht described the impact of

global instability on equestrian sport activities, Mr. Redvers issued a call to arms to respond to special interest lobby groups, and Mr. Gould described environmental and geopolitical realities that have marginalized agriculture, and in particular animal production. While these writers recognized the headwinds facing our industry they were not despondent; each recognized the largely silent but nevertheless deep well of support that exists for this 'magical relationship'.

Here, I want to argue that while this goodwill relationship is foundational and necessary, it is an insufficient condition for survival. My thesis is that our industry, beloved or not, will not survive for long against unaddressed economic challenges. Redvers acknowledged as much when he said at the end of his article, 'Then, we should concentrate on the real funding problem that stalks our industry...'. I further postulate that resolving the economic issues can provide liquidity to address the sociological challenges. The economic challenges pervade the entire industry, not just the sport-horse segment. That means solutions must be found by, and work for the whole industry.

Admittedly, it is difficult to discuss this subject since we have, at best, a spotty history of collecting systematic data. If we do not know quite where we are, or even where we were, it is difficult to chart a course for the future. Are we producing enough horses, or a better question might be are we producing the right horses? Is the cost of production (in a well-managed operation) in line with expected returns? Are the by-

products of production managed adequately? Is the market robust and what are the risks. I am unaware of longitudinal data that might be used to answer these questions. Yet, each year we hope that more companies and individuals will invest in the sport-horse industry. Why do we think this will happen? Seriously, would you undertake a business whose potential and direction was unknown?

So I believe that we need to acquire reliable data on the industry. When I say 'we', I am recommending to you that the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses should take on the mantle of acquiring and publishing this data. This means delving into data archives to determine historical precedent, also collecting and analyzing new data.

What kind of data might be important? Obviously production numbers, sales figures, market demand (a tough one), competition entries, revenues of all kinds, market targets, and ancillary markets for a start. Once proper analysis has begun, additional data may be required. I'll bet this is the same kind of information you would want before investing in real estate for example.

Every turnaround begins with that first step, in this case, information. I am pleased to note that the WBF SH has begun to survey its members to get a better handle on the participants. This good start should be expanded to more extensive data mining to reach beyond the studbooks towards other participants and potential participants. In other words, the WBF SH should use its global reach and diverse resources to collect, analyze, and distribute a State of the Industry report.

**Edward Kendall**  
**Executive Committee Director**  
**World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses**

(This commentary is intended to provoke discussion on elements of the sport horse breeding industry. It does not reflect a position of World Breeding News or of the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses.)

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# BRIEFS



*Emmelie Scholtens riding Desperado  
NOP*

Family), ridden by Emmelie Scholtens; Glock's Dream Boy (Vivaldi x Ferro, bred by Tim Coomans), rider Hans Peter Minderhoud; and Glock's Zonik NOP (Blue Hors Zack x Glock's Romanox, bred by Linette Jaeger, Denmark), ridden by Edward Gal. **CvA**

**Two brilliant mares win Amsterdam World Cup qualifier.** For an amazing record-breaking fifth time in a row the best dressage-mare in the world, the 15-year-old Oldenburg-registered Weihegold (Blue Hors Don Schufro x Sandro Hit, bred by Inge Bastian) won the FEI dressage World Cup qualifier with Isabell Werth (90.280%). The following day, the 12-year-old KWPN-mare Sterrehof's Dante (Canturano x Phin Phin, bred by J.W.J Soeter) amazed the home crowd by winning the Longines FEI World Cup qualifier in showjumping after a fantastic jump off. Isabell Werth had nothing but praise for her mare; "She is always very focused, very light and happy, I'm so proud on her. Amsterdam is our place with a fantastic atmosphere as well. I keep my fingers crossed that I can keep her this way for the final coming soon in Las Vegas." Charlotte Dujardin, however, gave it a good shot with her amazing 11-year-old Hanoverian-bred mare Mount St John Freestyle (Fidermark x Donnerhall, bred by Stephan Kurz) to finish as runner-up with 89.505%, saying; "This was only her third indoor show. After her experiences in London-Olympia my task was to give her lots of confidence, so I'm very proud on her indeed. I do hope there is much more to come." With nine combinations in the jump-off, Marc Houtzager proved his speed and efficiency in stretching Sterrehof's Dante's remarkable scope, and was over the moon; "I have never ridden as fast as I did now. I saw a possibility in a distance from one stride less and my mare immediately reacted in the right way. She did her utmost, so I'm very proud of her. She now deserves our ticket for the Final in Las Vegas." It was an all-Dutch party when Harry Smolders and Monaco (Cassini II x Contender, bred by Luetje Ralf, GER) finished second, while Olympian Jeroen Dubbeldam showed his new talent, the 12-year-old Oak's Grove's Carlyle (Casal x Corrado I, bred Sofino Belgium), who placed seventh following two faultless rounds and demonstrating great future promise. **CvA**

**Strong support for Hannoveraner Verband structural reform.** With an overwhelming majority, the delegates and voting members of the Hannoveraner Verband decided on complete structural reform for their studbook. In fact, over 90 percent of those present at the general assembly were in favour of a corresponding revision of the Verband's statutes. The Hanoverian breeders and their horses are at the forefront of interest in the planned structural reform with the goal of allowing broader participation by the breeders in the studbook's decision-making processes. Specific expertise will be integrated into the various committees, and the delegate system will be deliberately retained with responsibilities clearly assigned. The six-member Presidium and the newly created Supervisory Board, comprising five members, will be elected by the Assembly of Delegates. The positive decision for structural reform was preceded by intensive and constructive discussions, which had already been held at district association level since November. As a result, suggestions from breeders have been taken into account for the draft statutes.

**Two new stallions for Trakehner.** The first major Trakehner event of 2020 was dedicated to stallions during the second weekend of February. At this spring licensing, two particularly blood-dominated stallions were recommended as future sires, and at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Trakehner Stallion Show, over 40 sires presented themselves in the Westphalian Horse Center in Münster- Handorf. The three-year-old All Night (Asagao xx - Alana x Agar) was bred in Poland by Monika Machlowicz-Wojsat. With an impressive side profile and excellent topline, this distinctive half-bred with above-average basic gaits was recommended by the commission, especially noting his qualities when walking and galloping. The dark bay movement artist is also genetically very interesting, as he is the first licensed son of Asagao xx, a Thoroughbred that was successful under the saddle of Jens Hoffrogge in jumping, and in Trakehner breeding he's the third licensed son of Alana, following Avatar and Adorator. All Night was presented by Markus Hoffrogge. Recognition for Trakehner breeding was also awarded to an already proven sportsman of special class: Cestuy La de l'Esques AA (King size AA - Gaia of Ultan AA x Ultan AA) who finished fifth in 2019 in the seven-year-old age-group at the eventing World Breeding Championships for Young Horses in Le Lion d'Angers. Also victorious at CCI three-star level, Cestuy La de l'Esques is already approved/licensed by the horse breeding association Baden-Württemberg for the German Sport Horse (DSP) as well as Selle-Français, Anglo-Arab, and Swiss Sport Horses (ZVCH). Bred by Laurent Jamault in France, the stallion is owned by Dr. Andreas P. Gygax from Switzerland. Cestuy La De L'Esques AA will initially return to France, where his permanent rider, Tom Carlile, will continue to ride and promote him.

# Brilliant KWPN show brings outrageous European quality

By CLAARTJE VAN ANDEL

*The KWPN Stallion Show 2020, which as usual took place in 's-Hertogenbosch, was a shining example of a well-visited show which showcased the best young breeding products to an international audience, who also enjoyed many event and competition highlights.*

The quality of the young dressage stallions was especially praiseworthy, while the stallion committee continued the chosen showjumping selection lines from last year, emphasizing size and power. "Not only was there a lot that was good, there was good in a lot," summarized some delighted foreign visitors.

In total 45 dressage stallions and 41 showjumpers were invited for the shortened 35-day stallion test in the spring, although owners can postpone until autumn 2020, or spring 2021.

## *Showjumping's broad European genetics*

Cor Loeffen, stallion selection committee showjumping chairman, explained that nowadays not only power is decisive for a jumper. "The canter has to show lots of balance and be lightfooted. Rideability is defined by that! Nowadays jumpers have to stay clear in the course in a faster canter of 500 meters per minute. This asks for power as well as reflexes and speed."

From the three-year-old selected showjumping stallions their dams mostly proved themselves in (inter)national jumping, while the bloodlines go back to Belgian, German and Dutch basics. "To me the stallion test is the most important part now, still to come. I can't wait for that," Loeffen exclaimed about the most important final phase for approval.

Belgium is probably the best example of worthwhile showjumping mares, as was proven by the selected Illinois BZ (Ideal de Loge - Nusha van de Bisschop ster prok x Elvis ter Putte, bred by E. and M.J. Sleutels, exhibited by M. Blom), and Mojito van de Laren Z (Matisse de Mariposa - Butterfly Z x Samaka de Muze, bred by K. van Weesenbeeck, registered by VDL Stud), who combines four top mares. The third dam, Candy (Nabab de Reve) jumped 1m60 with Pieter DeVos, and was also the mother of 1m60 jumpers Grand Canyon (Cartani) ridden by Dutchman Bart Bles, Important de Muze (Erco van het Roosakker) with Irishman Darragh Kenny, as well as numerous 1m40 and 1m45 jumpers.

Two of the selected stallions in the showjumping direction are the five-year-old King Blue (Zirooco Blue VDL - Gonita elite IBOP-spr PROK x Andiamo, bred by J and G. Hiemstra-Dijkstra) owned by Herman Verhagen, and Kayne (Arezzo VDL - Earl Grey elite IBOP-spr sport-spr pref PROK x Cardento, bred by Alexandra van der Peyl), co-owned by Deborah Kamal. Kayne's dam, Earl Grey, also gave the KWPN-approved Jay Star (Big Star) and NRPS-approved I'm a Star (E-

Star). Following the first selection in Ermelo both stallions were invited to compete in a stallion show in Zuidbroek and a regular showjumping event in De Meern and now can prove themselves through a shortened stallion test.

## *Premium showjumping stallions*

No champion selection took place during this edition of the show as, for the first time, the best stallions received the title 'premium' stallion. The KWPN board, together with both stallion selection committees, explained the reason for this, saying that the champion selection has no breeding value, while the premium stallion title does. Only the most complete stallions in all aspects were declared premium winners, while a new committee called 'Friends of KWPN' raised money to reward the breeders of the premium stallions with an extra €1000, as an additional award and recognition.

In the end, five stallions received the premium-stallion predicate. The first was the extra special Cornet Obolensky son Mr Cornet VG (out of Ezella ster pref x Indoctro, bred by J. van Gestel, registered by VDL Stud). Interestingly, the grey was added to the KSS Sale, but was not sold.

Three Aganix sons also received an invitation for the stallion test, with Mindset ES (Aganix du Seigneur - Hosanne ES keur sport-spr x Kannan, bred by Egbert Schep) being rewarded as a premium stallion. His dam, Hosanne ES, is jumping 1m45 with Kim Hoogenraad, and is related to international jumper and approved stallion Oklund (Holland, ridden by Eric van der Vleuten) and Plot Blue (Mr Blue, ridden by Marcus Ehning).

Manden I Sonderbygaard (Heathrow - Umosa elite pref prest PROK x Cavalier, bred Arjan Roosjen, registered by Reinie Tewis) demonstrated a dressage horse's trot, but also had a greed for technical perfection in his jumping ability, and in many other qualities.

Monsieur VDL (Inaico VDL = Zoklahoma VDL ster pref prest x Emilion, breeder and owned by VDL Stud) showed himself to be a complete and mighty jumper, and also has an impressive pedigree. His dam Zoklahoma VDL (Emilion x Contender) is also the dam of 1m50 jumper Doklahoma VDL (Baloubet de Rouet), while the young stallion Inaico VDL (Indoctro x Quelle) is the full brother to Scott Brash's showjumper Hello M'Lady.

The fifth premium-stallion was My Favorite (Impressive VDL - Heraya elite sport-spr d-oc x Quasimodo van de

Molendreef, bred by D. de Jong, owned by I. de Boer), who impressed spectacularly by his type and rectangular model.

### *The dressage influence of Totilas*

From the slate of 45 selected dressage stallions, no fewer than 11 have Totilas (Gribaldi x Glendale) in their pedigree while 14 have Vivaldi (Krack C x Jazz). Likewise, some 30 stallions have Jazz blood, at least once, sometimes more, flowing through their veins, and 27 of those selected showed Ferro in their pedigree. Chairman Bert Rutten explained: "As our focus is long-lined rectangular models with a good front and uphill movements in combination with a strong use of the hindleg, it's clear that our best internationally proven stallions, Totilas, Jazz and Ferro, also pass on their abilities and make the best products. They are strong progenitors and, after all, that's what breeding is all about."

In 2017 Totilas was represented by 27 sons registered with KWPN, and all three of his sons at this show were selected. Mansion (Totilas - Unassion elite pref prest d-oc x Krack C, bred by the Van der Oord family, owned by Gerard Koks) was the most convincing and was also awarded as a premium stallion. His dam, Unassion, was similarly impressive at the national KWPN mare championships in her time, and finished third.

With 11 sons (out of no fewer than 144 registered in 2017), Toto Jr (out of Desperada HANN x Desperados FRH x Rotspoon), the nine-year-old Totilas son being Grand-Prix educated by Edward Gal, delivered the most sons for the KWPN stallion show. In total, five were selected, including, catalogue number 464, Majestic Taonga (Glock's Toto Jr. - Jamsession Taonga elite IBOP-dres sport-dres PROK x Jazz, bred by Stal 104 and Wijdewormer, registered by Andreas Helgstrand) received a premium stallion award. His Dam, Jamesession, did very well as a young horse, a reserve champion herself, and best mare of the four-year-old generation in 2016 PAVO Cup shown by Vai Bruntink.

Catalogue number 454, the Toto Jr son Morricone VDT (out of Velvet VDT elite pref prest D-OC x Ferro x Calypso I, breeder and registered by A. van de Tillaart) was selected and later became the highlight of the KSS Sale, as Andreas Helgstrand and another bidder didn't stop until the stallion went under the hammer to Helgstrand for €175,000.

From the Totilas son Total US (out of Sondra x Sir Donnerhall x Don Schufro, bred by Paul Schockemöhle's Gestüt Lewitz), three sons were selected. Marian Dorresteijn, a member of the stallion committee, explained why: "As Total US is promising in dressage himself but, unfortunately, is a WFFS-positive stallion, he is not available for breeding, so it will be interesting to test a few of his sons."

Ferdinand, Desperado, Franklin and Johnson all had multiple sons selected. The Desperado son Mowgli VOD (out of Zoriana elite IBOP-dres pref PROK x Jazz, bred and registered by Ad van Os) was awarded as a premium stallion, his dam also being the mother of KWPN-approved five-year-old Kjento (Negro).

Another premium awarded stallion was Merlot (Bordeaux -Hyacinth-Vrouwe ster PROK d-oc x Florencio, bred by the Klinkhamer family, owned by Saskia van Musscher and VDL Stud). He is related to the approved seven-year-old KWPN stallion Incognito, sired by Davino VOD, who died at a young age, while Bordeaux was himself awarded the predicate keur at this show. Also, Monte Carlo TC (Dream Boy - Gina Ballerina ster x United, bred by Tim Coomans, registered by Joop van Uyttert and Nico Witte) who consistently made a perfect impression in all his moments, and also during his first time lunging experience with his power and uphill tendency. He is related to international Grand Prix horse Annette Ballerina (Srnadic) shown by Claire Gallmore (GBR), and Esperanza (Desperados), international GP with Jasmien de Koeijer.

### *Horse of the Year, Johnson*

Maxson (Johnson - Zamora B elite IBOP-dres pref PROK x Negro, bred by W. Verschuren, owned by Van Olst Horses and R. Verschuren) was rewarded a premium certificate. His dam Zamora B is also the mother of KWPN approved stallion and full brother Jayson, and there is a lot of sport in this mare line, also in showjumping. For instance Chellandana Z (Chellano Z) who jumping internationally until 2012 under the saddle of, among others, Britain's JohnWhitaker; Whitman (Rhodium), international GP dressage in the United States from 2009 to 2016 with Lauren Sammis (USA); and Zamora (Krack C) international GP dressage with Lynne Maas.

Another brilliant Johnson son with more or less the same strong bloodlines was Montgomery C (Johnson - Vinea M elite prest d-oc out of Silvano N x Concorde pref, bred by the author of this report, Claartje van Anandel, also registered by Lauw van Vliet). When talking about sport in the pedigree, Montgomery is a full brother to Grand Prix-geldings Ben Johnson (international competitor with Marlies van Baalen) and the very recently deceased Dion Johnson, national GP with the same rider. A full sister of Vinea M, Winea M, is competing in intermediate dressage with Liselotte Rootveld (NED). The pedigree also shows impressive showjumping results.

Montgomery's sire Johnson (Jazz x Flemmingh), already keur and preferent, was highly awarded at this show with title KWPN Horse of the Year by virtue of his impressive character and results both in sport and breeding. "He has the very best of his famous predecessors," an emotional owner Jeannette Nijhoff said. "He is a healthy 18 years old now and we've believed in him from the start, and have given way to his sporting career. I'm so proud of this award, as Johnson was voted by more than 1,800 breeders".

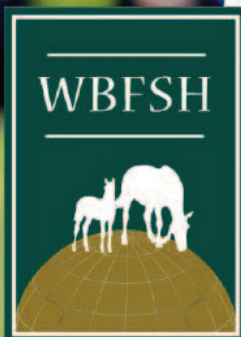
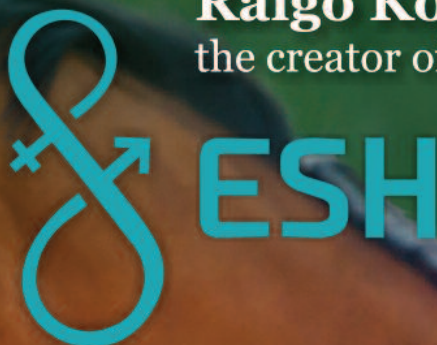
Last year during the KWPN Stallion show Hans Peter Minderhoud said 'goodbye' to sport with his friend and partner in sport, Johnson, following some amazing results, such as team bronze in the 2014 World Equestrian Games in Caen, France, team European gold in 2015 in Aachen, and Olympic participation in Rio 2016 with the Dutch team.

This title is now the icing on the cake of a spectacular career, and a fitting finale to the 2020 KWPN Stallion Show. ■

*Timeo hominem unius libri*  
**WORLD BREEDING NEWS**  
*for Sport Horses*

The Estonian Sport Horse Breeders Society  
honours

**Raigo Kollom**  
the creator of



# Building a studbook from scratch in two decades!

BY LIIS IRA

*On March 21, the Estonian Sport Horse breeders will gather to elect a new board, as well as its chairman for the next three years. This year, however, is going to be rather different. Raigo Kollom, chairman of the board for the past 20 years, and the man who has built the ESH studbook from zero, has announced that he will retire.*

Our small society of Estonian Sport Horse breeders (around 270 members and 250 registered foals per year) celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year (the studbook's official recognition followed one year later). We may be tiny but also quite outstanding. In 2005 we became an associate member of the WBFSH, and a full member in 2010. Compared to some of our eastern European neighbours to the north and south, our studbook is higher placed in online rankings according to competition results.

In 2017, our ESH studbook was represented by its own Ping Pong V (Ponsee V x Calvino Z) at the World Breeding Championship for Young Horses and finished a brilliant sixth in the six-year-old age-group under the saddle of Estonian rider Paul Argus. Then, in 2019, the first Estonian Sport Horse – Caesar (Cash x Agrovorm's Amerigo) – achieved the qualifying standard for the Tokyo 2020

Olympic Games with Chinese rider You Zhang.

ESH Alfons Ra (Aromats x False Pass) is successfully jumping international Grand Prix courses in partnership with Brazilian Yuri Mansur, who purchased the horse in Estonia last summer. It was only 20 years ago that sport horse breeders in Estonia began with a vision of the goals they wanted to achieve.

Although ESH has grown into a group of highly dedicated breeders, much of the studbooks success is due to one man – Raigo Kollom – who created the studbook from nothing and has seen it grow thanks to his work, enthusiasm, and dedication over the past two decades. His efforts to educate breeders, his straightforward manner of communication, as well as his uncompromising respect for functionality in sport horses have led the studbook to where it is today.

Raigo Kollom's personality is an amalgamation of a former top showjumping rider, a trainer, an historian, a writer, as well as a manager of various equestrian organizations. For many years his work has been led by the vision of an Estonian Sport Horse as one of quality, and his lifetime experiences have collectively bonded the Estonian breeders together into a united society that shares this common goal. Kollom himself has said that riding is like leading people, "you can be democratic, an authoritarian, or a liberal leader. Every style has its merits, but democratic leadership means fewer casualties and more joy." With such firmness and transparency he has built the studbook to a point where he has decided to retire at the meeting in March.

## *Becoming a horseman*

Raigo Kollom was a city child and only discovered horses in high school when he accompanied his classmates to riding lessons. He was the only one who stayed with horses, remaining as an active rider throughout his university years from which he graduated as a teacher of Estonian language and literature.

Between 1956 and 1971 he was a member of the Estonian national team and achieved remarkable





*Raigo Kollom jumping with his last competition horse, Glasgow xx (1968: Gay Warrior xx)*

results in both three-day eventing and showjumping at an international level. After graduation he worked for a decade as a studfarm manager and trainer at the historic Tori stud in central Estonia, as well as teaching history and the Estonian language at the local school.

During this period, his skills as an exceptional horseman and trainer were noticed, and he was offered the position as head coach of the Jõud sports club – one of the top three sporting clubs at that time.

When he returned to the capital, thanks to his relationships and perseverance, he was able to obtain permission for a sports club to build an indoor arena – one of the first in Estonia and, for a long time, continued to run their large equestrian complex.

In the nineties, when Estonia became independent from the Soviet occupation, a market economy emerged that also led to the equestrian complex managed by Kollom becoming self-sustaining, and included a large breeding facility. It was around this time that his deeper interest in breeding began. Kollom admits that there was incredibly little knowledge about foreign breeding, there were continuing controversies and

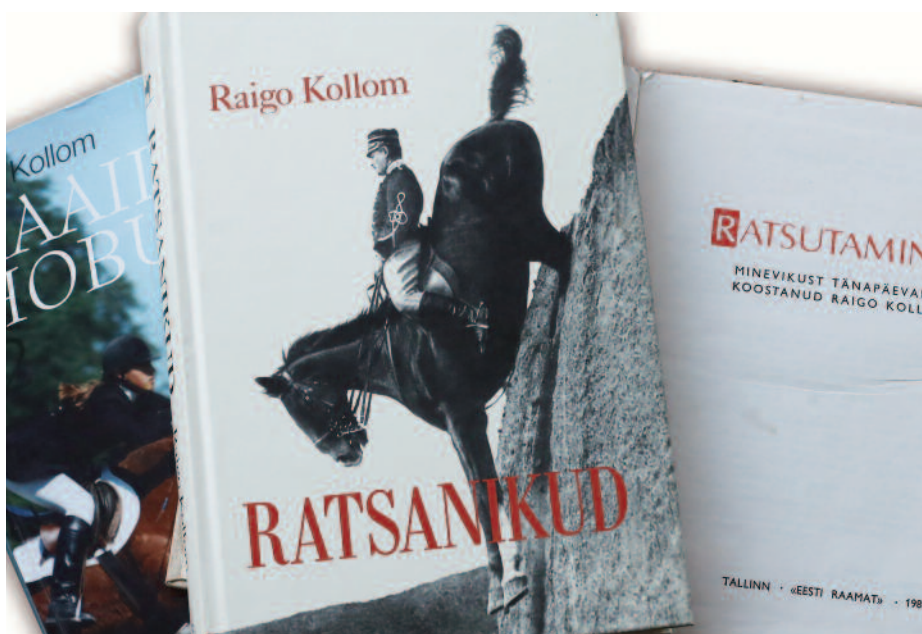
disputes, and something had to change. He recognized that the world was now open, so he took the lead in creating a studbook that conformed to modern European practices in sport horse breeding.

It was as though Kollom's whole life – the experience of managing different ventures and getting to know many different sport horses as a competitive rider – had finally created the person he was meant to be, with the ability to successfully manage the ESH studbook.

Kollom has always strived to improve the education and culture of both riding and breeding, including writing and translating several books. One such book undoubtedly raised the level of riding in Estonia when he translated W. Müseler's *Reitlehre* in 1973. During the same period, he also translated M. von Barnekow's

*Training of a Jumping Horse* (1975) and A.L. d'Endrödy *Give Your Horse a Chance*. In the 1980s he started writing himself: *Riding* (1981, compiled and authored); *Horses of the World*, parts I and II which were published in 1994 and 1998. More recently, in 2017, *Riders*, a book about historical Estonian riders was published, and in March 2020 his latest book about famous Estonian horses will be published.

On a daily basis over the past 20 years, Raigo Kollom has organized events, compiled statistics, and written articles to educate Estonian breeders. He has judged ESH young horses, and belongs to the licensing committee for breeding stallions, and travels around the world representing the studbook. Similarly, he has brought many distinguished guests to Estonia, including foreign judges and breeders such as Willem





*Raigo Kollom receiving the Gold Medal of Honour for outstanding merits in developing the Estonian Sport Horse studbook, from minister Arvo Aller of the Ministry of Agriculture, alongside Chancellor Tiina Saron*

Greve, Stefaan de Smet, Lars Berglund, Henk Njihof.... He has always kept up with the times and introduced the latest trends from the breeding world to our breeders.

As a judge, he appreciates functionality and the ability to achieve above all else. He looks for extraordinary abilities in horses, but is forgiving of minor, insignificant mistakes. Finally, he looks for that certain 'spark', and appreciates breeders' aspirations to produce high-performing horses. As a result, he was instrumental in discovering such talented stallions as Spartacus (Stakkato x Grannus), Pikachu de Muze (Kannan x Chin Chin) – the 2006 of the World Breeding Championship for Young Horses, A Big Boy (Kannan x Cash), and others whose careers began in Estonia. Kollom maintains that the willingness to perform has brought the world closer to our studbook, and brought our studbook closer to the world.

He continued by saying: "It was not easy to establish a sport horse studbook in a country without good riding-horse breeding traditions. Breeding in Estonia had been oriented to horses for hard work and simple keeping conditions."

The volume of horses in Estonia rose exponentially between 1920 and 1940 – virtually the largest number in Europe with 210 horses for every 1,000 citizens. At the time, it was heavy Warmbloods for agriculture – the Toric breed, which were also used for the cavalry. For international sport, horses were non-existent.

Kollom continued by saying; "In Soviet times some

efforts were made to breed trakehnors, and from 1970 Takehner breeding saw good development based mostly on mares and stallions from the Russian Kirov Stud. But following our independence, Trakehnors and Toric horses were no longer popular among riders visiting international competitions. But, there were breeders with bigger ambitions, too, and the knowledge of breeding methods in KWPN, BWP, Holstein and other breeds activated our minds to launch a new studbook with the goal of breeding for performance using the best genes available. Twenty-five breeders founded the Estonian Sport Horse Breeders Society in April 2000, and received state recognition to keep the Estonian Sport Horse Studbook. Now our members number over 200 breeders.

"As the popularity of sport horse breeding increased, the number of foal registrations in our studbooks, ESH and ERP (Estonian Riding Pony) exceeded all the other studbooks in Estonia combined. It seems maybe strange for most European countries, but to this point in Estonia the biggest studbook had been the Estonian aboriginal horse.

Although he is not a breeder himself, Raigo Kollom has left an indelible mark on sport horse breeding in Estonia. Certainly, his work is something for which the Estonian sport horse breeding community is extremely grateful in terms of developing the studbook with such enthusiasm for 20 years, and it's hoped that he will continue to be an available and willing adviser in the future. ■

# KWPN stallion show commission debrief

BY CHRISTOPHER HECTOR

GRAPHICS: GEMMA ALEXANDER

*The KWPN showjumping stallion commission this year was headed up by Cor Loeffen, a long time assessor at the Dutch stallion selections. He started our little English language conference by outlining the overall picture the commission was looking for....*

“Today we had the same criteria we have had all the time:

rectangular is very important. In the KWPN Studbook, we need scope, and for scope it is important that the horse is rectangular. Normally the smallest height for our horses is 164cms, and when the horse is small, it is even more important that he is rectangular. Mostly if the horse is smaller than 164 we put him out. We look at the correctness of the front legs and the hind legs, that is important, but when the correctness in the fundament – the limbs – is not optimal, but he jumps good, and the pedigree is good, we can take him.

“When they jump, we are happy when the horses jump in a natural way, that they are not ‘prepared’ at home. Some horses jump in a spectacular way and we can let them go to the performance test, but they are not awarded the premium.”

◆ But one of the horses that did receive a premium looked very prepared – Heathrow...

That one was a little prepared, number 146, but acceptable. We had also the Comme il Faut x Contoki, number 47, that was far too much. He can go to the performance test, but for the premium stallion, we don’t accept that.

◆ No 47, Mattias – TOO prepared?

Today we have progeny from young Dutch stallions, Heathrow, Inaico, Impressive, we are happy we can have offspring from these young stallions and they do very good free jumping. Mostly with the Dutch breeders, they go to an older stallion, and not a young stallion, but now we have younger stallions and also from a good mare line, it is important that the young stallions get good mares.

◆ It’s very hard to get the jumping breeders to use younger stallions, they want the famous ones?

They want to breed for an auction, and when you look at the price of a foal from a young stallion and the price of the foal of an older one, the difference is €4,000. The foals from a well-known stallion bring €4,000 more than from a young one. So the breeders take an older stallion.

## Young stallions vs older in the sire lineup?

Jumping breeders seem to fairly evenly spread their attention between established sires, current champions, and younger, upcoming sires, with current sires born 2001 to 2010 being slightly more popular than the others at 39% of the lineup. Interestingly, upcoming sires were more represented than established sires, which appears to be a relatively new phenomenon amongst jumping breeders despite being much more common in the dressage world. Of the 39 stallions selected to progress, 10 (25.6%) were by established sires born pre-2000, 16 (41.0%) by stallions born 2001 to 2010, and 13 (33.3%) by upcoming sires born 2011 or later.

◆ How do you encourage the breeders to use the young stallions?

We do try to do that. In the premier group there was one

Inaico (Indoctro x Baloubet du Rouet), one from Impressive (Douglas x Contender), one from Heathrow (Der Senaat x Dollar de la Pierre), all young stallions, so we try to do that. Yesterday we had an older stallion, Cornet Obolensky, and Agenix, older but not a famous one, but one who went 1m60m.

◆ You accepted all the progeny of Agenix de Aieigneur today, were you satisfied with this?

Yes. We have one who is in the line of Ratina, horse number one, Ratina is often a very good mare line. The number two is in the Premier stallions, who is from the line of Plot Blue, while the other is from Clearway out of a normal mare line. Then Agenix x Diamant – we don’t have so many stallions by Diamant in KWPN breeding, because most of the Diamants do not have much expression, and that is what we like. In Belgium it is only important that they can jump and they have scope, but we like expression.

◆ But the commission was prepared to take a smaller horse...

Number 53, the Comme il faut x Bustique, he was





163cms, he's rectangular, he jumps with elastic, not spectacular. It is important with a horse that views the situation, he was always watching the jump, a little bit forward, a little bit back, he has brains for jumping. It is very important when you are jumping that the horse and rider do it together, the horse thinks with the rider. The second mother is from Quidam de Revel, she was champion of Holland in the 1m60. We would have liked to bring him in the premium stallions, but at 163, approved is no problem, but not for the premier.

◆ I thought it was interesting in the last group today, a couple of them were out the lines of Wiepke's (van de Lageweg) mares that he showed me 20, 30 years ago – Hyacinthe, Shoroya – it's amazing that those mares are still influential and up close on the pedigree...

I think in the future, the mare line is very important for breeding because the semen of the stallion you can send it all over the world, but with a good mare, if you have a good filly foal, you can sell the mare and keep the foal and then generation after generation you get good horses.

There's one problem when you go with embryo transplants, then there can be a lot of offspring from one mare and you can have the tendency to inbreed, and that is difficult. You see in Belgium where they have done embryos for 20, 25 years, and they have very good products on the mare line, but when you do that 20, 25 years, then more breeders have the same mare line, then you have a problem.

We have an open selection where we can take Holstein, the Holstein studbook is more closed, but we are open, we can go to Belgium, we can go to Hanover, we can go to Holstein, we can go to France, we have to take all that and mix them together and that's the KWPN horse. In Holstein, when they

take a French stallion, they like to take a stallion by a French horse out of a Holstein mare, we prefer to take the French stallion himself, because it creates more of an out-cross.

◆ The horses are getting more and more elegant, do you think there is going to be a time when they lose strength and vigor?

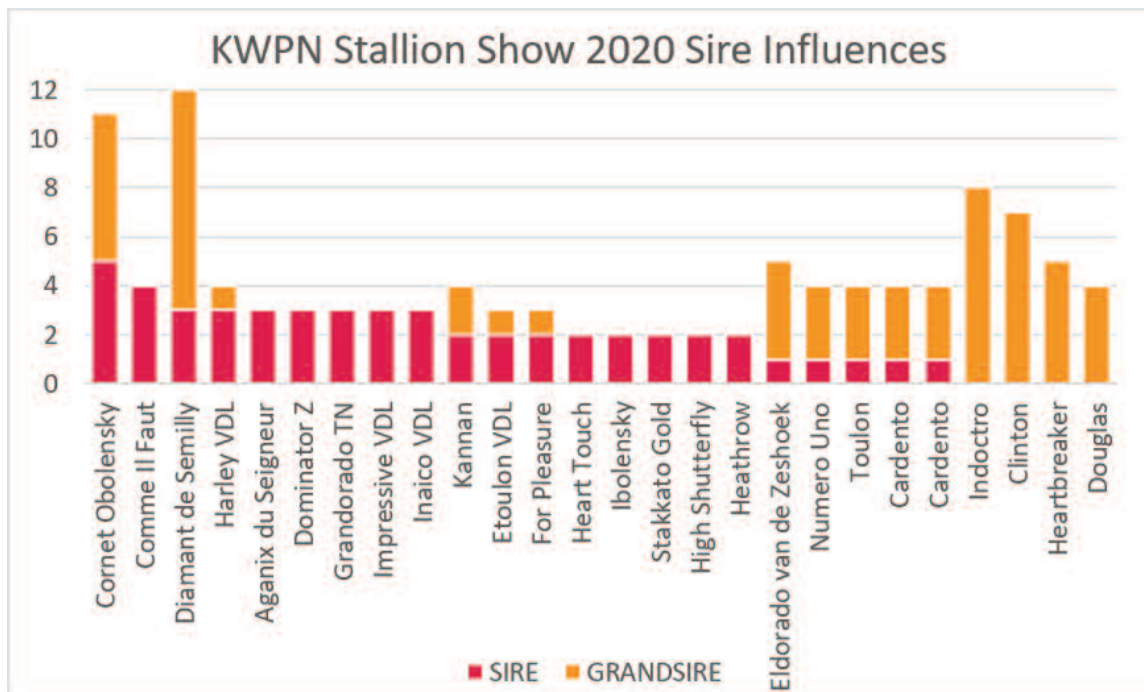
That's the reason we have a functional conformation and an expressive conformation, and the functional conformation is important. If the expression is there as well, okay, but for many years the expression was more important than the functional, now we look to the functional, and we take expression as a bonus."

The Inaico x Emilion, 165cms, that's a functional horse, but the expression is normal. But a functional horse, power, a lot of scope, and Inaico is a brother of Hello My Lady, a very good international jumping horse. You can see him tonight in the competition, Inaico has a lot of expression, but it is not a horse with very long lines, so the sons of Inaico had to be better than Inaico and that is difficult, but that is what we try to do, to get offspring that are better than the father.

This is only one stage, then we have the performance test. Other studbooks do not have a performance test but for us, the performance test is more important, then you can see how the horses go under saddle, how is the rideability? Does he work with the rider?

### Blood percentage

The vast majority of the jumper stallions had a blood percentage ranging from 35% to 45% – i.e. 51 of the 86 stallions initially presented. A further 12 stallions had a blood



percentage greater than 45%, the highest concentration being in the selected stallion Maximum Tangelo van de Zuuthoeve x Calvados, at 54.1%. The lowest concentration stallion was not selected to progress, Amigo van Spalbeek Z (Aktion Pur Z x Flamenco de Semilly) at 28.1%.

◆ We say, oh, the license test is so important, and then we think of all the famous horses that have failed at the licensing and gone on to become great stallions, Cardento, Mr Blue....

Wait wait, I know Cardento, I was in the licensing commission in 1969. Cardento came for the second round, he was big, not much expression, and when he was free jumping, we thought he was not clever enough, and so he goes out. He did not go to the performance test.

And he was not the only one rejected, Quidam de Revel in France, Voltaire in Hanover, Mr Blue in Holland... The second viewing is just one moment, and it might be that the horse is not good free jumping, and then he goes into sport, and he does good in sport and can then come in. That's no problem. This year we have accepted two horses, a five-year-old and a seven-year-old. They came back, that is always possible, we have a lot of moments when they can come back. Cardento when he was a young horse, when he was three years old, he was a big Holstein stallion, slow motion, but when he was trained and older, he was a very good performer at the highest level, and he had the chance in Sweden, because he got a lot of mares, and he did a pretty good job.

◆ And he did a pretty good job in Holland when he came back...

We are happy that he came here. It is the same with Bustique. Bustique was a very nice horse and the breeders

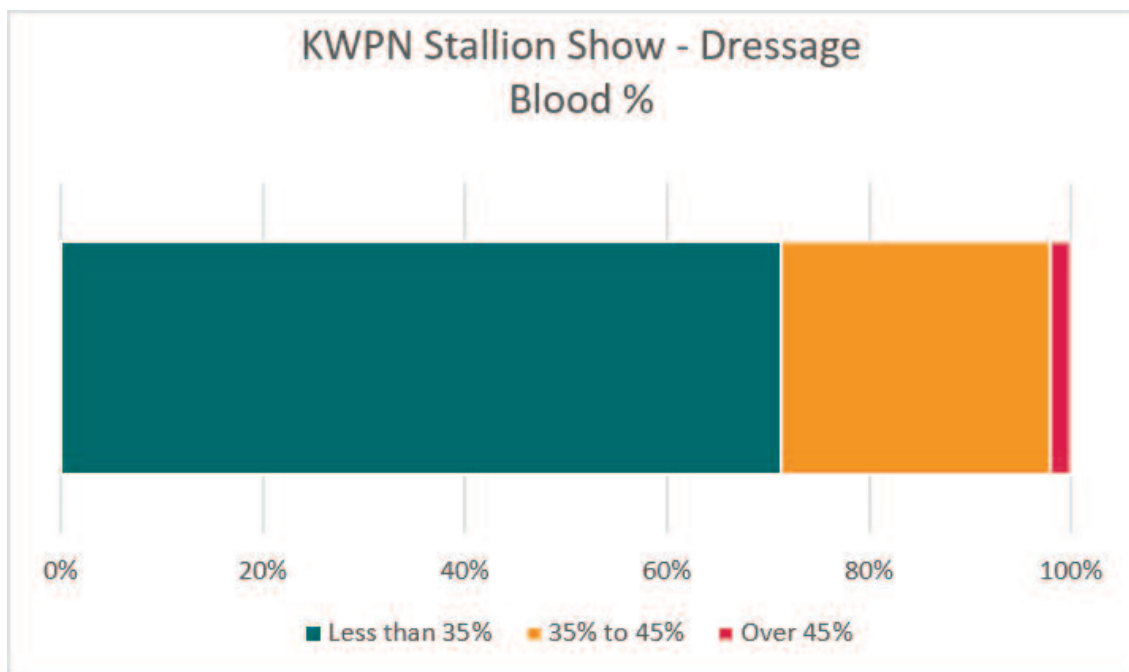
used him one or two years, he was jumping 1m35, 1m40, but we did not use him. Hendrix sold him to the United States and now his products are eight or nine years old and they jump very well. The stallion has come back to Holland and now the breeders can use him. That's a good moment.

◆ What was the highest mark you gave?

Nine. The points we give are not important. When you are in France they give points, then you add the points together and he's approved. But we don't do that, we give marks and those marks are used by the KWPN for the index, but those marks are not for the public. When we have a horse that has jumped 7.5, 7.2, and the conformation is good and the pedigree is good then we say, go to the performance test, and in the performance test, we will look again. At the performance test, we give the marks to the public, and there, they need to score for jumping, 7.5 or higher.

◆ This year you have shortened the performance test again

"Yes, now we have 35 days. It started with 100 days, a long time ago, then 70 days, and now in March/April we have 50 days, and then in December and January, we have 35 days. Thirty-five days is easier than fifty days, as I will try to explain. When we start riding a horse we go slowly step-by-step and after 35 days, we can give this horse some obstacles at canter rather than trot. When you train more, you want to see more, and you ask for more, and that is not good for the horse. Thirty-five days we are happy with, with the longer test, then the influence of the rider becomes greater. Now we do 35 days, and we jump from the trot, not the canter, and the balance is easier for the horse, not so much influence from the rider. Maybe in the future, we will only do the performance test in November/December, when the horses are three and a half.



The breeders are happy because it is less expensive – the 35 day test than the 50 day test – when you go to Belgium, the test is only three days. They come in, they jump five or six obstacles. The second day they have an outside rider, only riding, not jumping. Third day, they do the same...

◆ **And they breed a lot of successful horses that way...**

They do, a lot of good horses.

◆ **With Cornet Obolensky, he was such a great horse himself and he has produced such good horses but he doesn't seem to have been a stallion maker. Okay, Comme il faut has a pretty special mother, but aside from him, it is hard to think of a Cornet stallion that has been successful out of the thousands of foals that have been born...**

Yesterday we had Ibolensky, he is by Cornet, and we saw two good young stallions by him. Cornet Obolensky is a Belgian stallion, from a Dutch mare line, and he was very successful in Westfalia, but the mare line of Cornet is normal, not so super. His offspring are good...

◆ **But not many stallions?**

No, that's the same problem with Darco. In Holland we have Nimmerdor, he was a very good stallion in Holland – what is his best son? Heartbreaker, and we are very happy with Heartbreaker, and now we want to find a son of Heartbreaker as good as Heartbreaker, and for that we need a good mare line. It is the good mare line whose input can make a better offspring than the father.

◆ **Have you found the Heartbreaker son**

"Not yet.

### *And the view from the breeder?*

The last group of young stallions were all owned by the famous VDL stud, and there was some feeling that they may have been the best group of stallions we saw over the two days. Wbe Ide, son of the VDL founder, Wiepke van der Lageweg, was sitting just behind me, and was, as always, press friendly. He was especially enthusiastic about Mr Cornet VG – who is by Cornet Obolensky out of an Indoctro x Lux mare: "I think he is the most modern stallion type that we have seen in two days here, he has a top pedigree, a top family, he's a nice light model, careful, a lot of blood and he jumps always clear. The breeders have been breeding for many years with our stallions, we bought some foals from them, stallion foals, mare foals – there are more good horses from that family.

◆ **Can you tell me a little bit about another of your stallions, Inaico?**

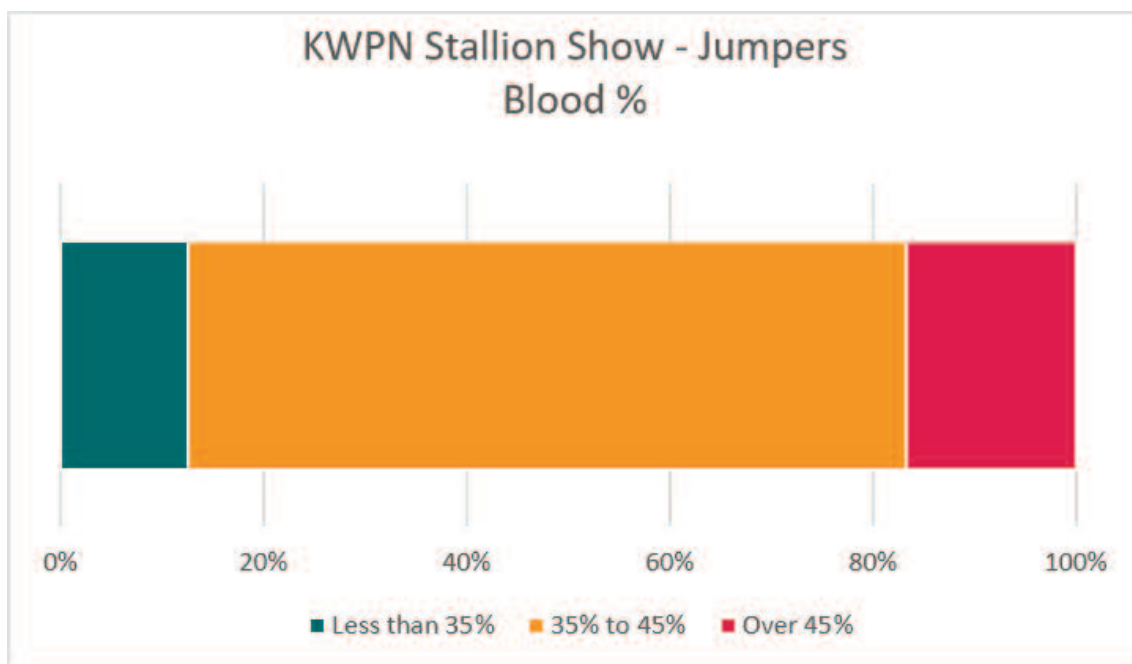
He's the last approved stallion of Indoctro, and of all his sons he is the closest to his father. This is his first group of horses, the three-year-olds we show now, and they look really good horses, good gallop, light, good jumpers, modern horses. You will see him tonight, he is a very light stallion with a lot of blood, so he is very suitable for us to get more athletic horses, more sharpness in our breeding."

Sure enough, he won.

◆ **Inaico and David Gill won the Z/ZZ class at the stallion show. What mares is he working well with?**

A little bit bigger stronger mares, he makes them a little bit lighter so you need a mare with a bit of length and height.

Inaico is out of a BWP mare, Beach Quella by Baloubet



de Rouet out of a Hercos mare. Hercos is by Nimmerdor out of a Lucky Boy mare, and competed 1m35.

◆ Can you tell me a little bit about Impressive?

Impressive is the opposite. He is a big stallion with a lot of scope and he gives a lot of uphill in the type. His offspring have a lot of scope, good gallop, they are very quick from the ground. Douglas, the father of Impressive, was also very sharp and quick from the floor. Impressive stamps it on his children, they are very scopey and careful and they have a good mind, they just want to go to the other side of the fence.

◆ His mares?

He's big so he needs a bit lighter mares. He's the brother of the Indoctro stallion we sold to Australia, same mother. (Wbe Ide is referring to Twins Easton, who is now competing successfully at Grand Prix level with Aaron Hadlow. Impressive is by Douglas who combines Darco and Capital out of a Contender x Corofino mare.)

Cor Loeffen interjected, "Contender gives you power and canter, I think we have more Contender mares in the KWPN than in Holstein. There it is Casall, Casall, Casall, Casall..."

**Back to Wbe Ide**

◆ It is interesting, looking at some of those mares on the pedigrees of horses here, they were the mares we saw at your farm 30 years ago – Hyacinthe, Sorayo...

Those are two foundation mares that we started with in the seventies, and they are still some of our most important families in breeding. Incredible. At that time they were already modern horses, and they have always been breeding with good young stallions to get on, and on, and on. We have maybe seven generations already but they are still in our best bloodlines."

My personal favorite, by Impressive out of a Quasimodo vd Moulendreef, out of a grand-daughter of Sorayo, foundation mare, and by the foundation stallion, Nimmerdor.

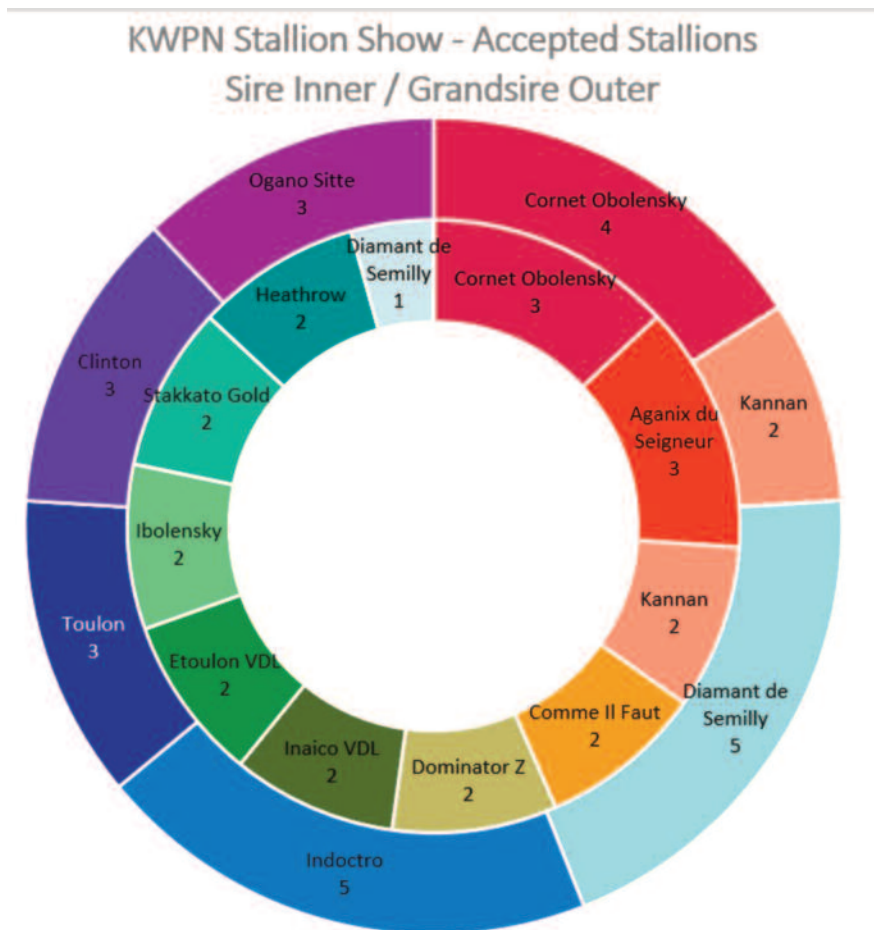
**Dressage commission**

One of the things that amazed me on my first visit to the KWPN stallion show, was the frank and open assessments offered by the Commission members at the press conferences, 'typical Dutch', I was told with a smile. I had been more used to party-line-speak from the German stallion assessors, and found the Dutch straight forwardness refreshing. This tradition continues.

We had all three members of the Dressage Commission, Marian Dorresteyn, Johan Hamminga and the chairman, Bert Rutten, at the press conference, and the organizers were kind enough to have a little English language session after the main conference... so here we go:

◆ Looking at the colts you have seen over the past two days, what would you say are the strengths, and what are the weaknesses you have seen?

Bert Rutten: I don't think we have seen a lot of weaknesses in the horses we passed to go on to the performance test – that is the next stage, we had the first inspection, now the second inspection with the successful ones going to the test. What we have seen is that in general we have uphill horses, a lot of uphill horses with a strong



hind leg and a nice uphill shoulder, and good moving horses. We are speaking of a strong year this year.

◆ **There is still a little tendency for the hind legs to be out behind in the trot...**

Sometimes, there is still the odd tendency where they go too far out behind, then we don't invite them to Ermelo for the performance test. But if they are just a little out, and they have a lot of scope and they really come off the floor and they have self carriage, then we still invite them to Ermelo for the stallion testing. Ermelo is the test, how good are they, and then we will see, can they come under themselves, yes or no. The ones we took that were a little out behind, when they come in hand in the presentation, when they trot them in hand and hold them back a little bit, then they come under, then that's the indication that we look for, if the paper, the pedigree, and everything else is interesting.

◆ **We saw over and over the cross Dutch/German, German/Dutch, what do you think you are getting from the German bloodlines?**

The blood affinity – the concentration of bloodlines – goes down, that's the first point. The Germans, they also have good dressage horses so I think the cross breeding between KWPN and German horses is very important, also to keep the blood affinity down in the dressage community.

**Blood percentage**

Unsurprisingly, the blood concentration for the dressage stallions sits far below that of the jumpers; the vast majority

of stallions in the lineup (67 of the 96 initially presented) have a blood concentration below 35%. The lowest concentration of blood was in the selected stallion Moreland Turfhorst (Glock's Toto Jr x Don Schufro) at 22.7%, while the highest was seen in the non-selected Maximus PP (Ferdinand x Burggraaf) at 50.6%, and it was interesting to see jumping supersire Burggraaf in the dressage line-up.

At the press conference after the jumping horses licensing, the chairman said, "Oh, we are not like the Belgians, we don't have a problem with in-breeding".

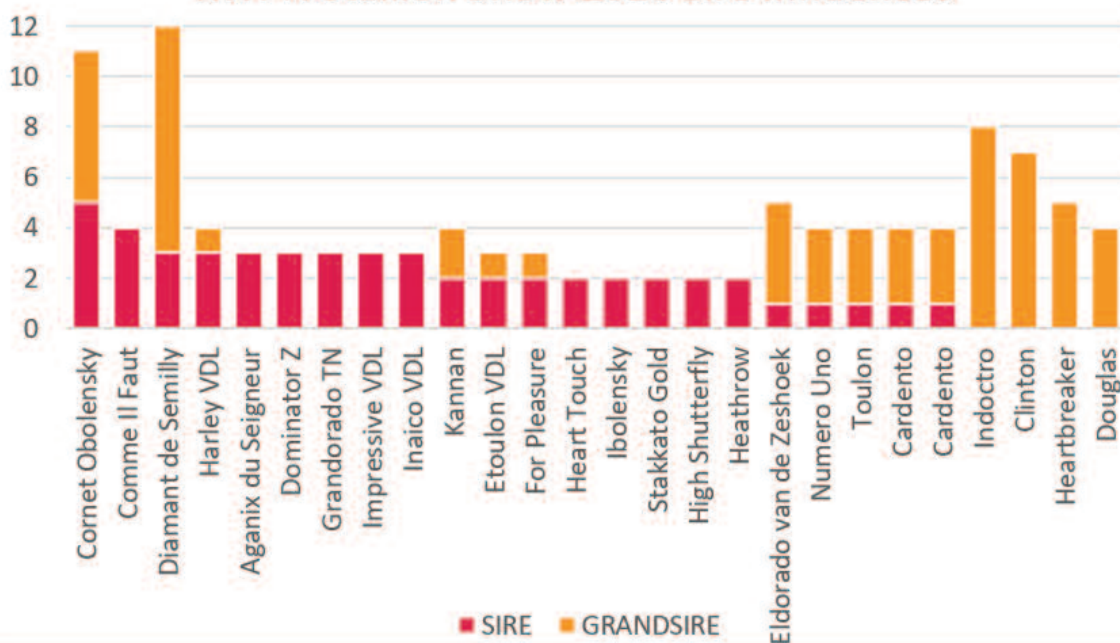
◆ **But looking at the first five horses that made it to your presentation of the top dressage colts, the first had two crosses of Ferro, two crosses of Jazz, the next had two Jazz, then Ferro two, Jazz two, Krack two, Ferro three, is this a welcome consolidation of bloodlines, or a potential problem – too much blood affinity?**

We are aware of that and we try to bring it down as much as we can, but it just shows that these bloodlines are bringing the best horses. When they have those stallions in their pedigree, we are not going to say, we don't want you because you have Ferro, or you have Jazz... we select the best horses.

**Line breeding...**

Of the 96 stallions in the initial lineup, eight had line breeding as close up as generation three; including the selected and premium Mowgli VOD (Desperado x Jazz), who has Jazz in generations three and five, as well as Ulft twice in generation six. Similar to the jumpers, the dressage stallions had the majority of their line breeding in generations four

**KWPN Stallion Show 2020 Sire Influences**



and five (39 and 31 stallions respectively), while 13 had it first appear in generation six, and three in generation seven.

◆ It was good that we saw some of the younger stallions represented with their progeny...

We try to give the younger stallions as much chance as we can, so that we can see the progeny as soon as possible and evaluate how they breed, see how their progeny are under saddle, and we want this information from the young stallions, if possible, as soon as possible. We need to see the horses in Ermelo so that we know how they are behaving under saddle.

◆ Which of the new stallions impressed you?

We will know in Ermelo, you can't say yet. We have some really nice horses from Franklin, from Daily Diamond... we will see in Ermelo what they bring to us.

◆ It's that important, the performance test?

The most important, it's the only thing that is important. We breed for top sport, that's our goal, and you have to select as close as possible to your goal.

### Dressage sire age

In direct contrast to the jumpers, established sires make up only a very small proportion of the sires of the dressage

stallions presented, with just four of the original 96 stallions being by a sire born in 2000 or earlier. This is likely due to the fashions in dressage having changed significantly over the decades; an Olympic winner from 20 years ago would likely not be successful in today's competitions. Stallions born from 2001 to 2010 were the most represented, with 48 stallions having sires in this age bracket. Of the six stallions awarded premium, four had 'current' sires, while there was one each with sires from the 'upcoming' and 'established' age groups.

◆ This question is for Marian Dorresteijn – did you come to this commission as a rider, or as a breeder?

I think both, I have also competed in Grand Prix, my sister rode in the Sydney Olympic Games on Ferro, and my niece rode in the Athens Olympic Games on Idokus, so my family are horse breeders and also riders. I have a small stable where we breed with some interesting bloodlines that are very successful in sport.

◆ I can't think of any other licensing commission in Europe with three Grand Prix riders...

Bert Rutten: And what's more all three of us are still training every day, horses up to Grand Prix, as well as our inspector, Fleur, also a Grand Prix rider, so we are basically a team of riders.

## KWPN Stallion Show - Dressage First Generation with Linebreeding



◆ Johan Hamminga – can I have your impressions as you are new to the commission this year?

It was my first show as a member of the commission. We started in Ermelo with the first inspection, and I have learned a lot about the correctness of the horses, about conformation. Then we saw the horses in the arena, free moving, so that was more my thing, and then we lunged the horses, and now we are here in Den Bosch. It's the most interesting thing, to be close to all the horses and hear the opinions of your colleagues. I've learnt a lot.

◆ Everyone gets excited about the trot, but you guys seemed to be looking very closely at the canter, and at the horses that went disunited in the canter...

Bert Rutten: You know how many points there are in the Grand Prix for canter? Without canter, you don't have a Grand Prix horse. Trot is not that important in a Grand Prix any more. Of course, we like horses that can trot, and have an extension, but what is even more important is that the horse can collect and sit, can bring himself up in the front, that's also important for passage, piaffe. When you have a horse that has difficulty in the canter, difficulty in the changes, the change you get back in basically every movement of the Grand Prix, when you perform a zig zag, double marks, you have a change at every change of direction, in between the pirouettes you have a change, after the end of the extended canter, change, the one tempi

changes, double marks, two tempi changes. Basically every movement that you have to do in the canter has changes. A horse that can't canter and has difficulty in the changes, forget it! Maybe for a professional rider you can make it a Grand Prix horse, but it is never going to be a top horse. For a top horse they almost have to do it by themselves.

◆ Mr Rutten, I'm told that in the walk you are not just looking for over-track, you are looking for the beginnings of piaffe...

We are looking for over-track, but over-track is not the only thing. In the Grand Prix, collected walk is a double marker and extended walk is a double marker. Young horses need a huge walk with a lot of over-track to get that nine or a 10. In the Grand Prix it is important that you have that over-track, but even more important is that the over-track can come back on the hind leg, so that they can collect towards the piaffe, or going into a passage, and most important of all is that you keep clean rhythm, that you have a clean, active, four beat.

Johan Hamminga: In the walk it is very important that the horse is bending through all the joints, and that we see movement and suppleness in the back.

Bert Rutten: They have to walk like a Rooster going to the Chickens!

It seemed like a good note to end on.... ■

## KWPN Stallion Show - Jumpers First Generation with Linebreeding



# The legacy of Blue Horse Don Schufro (1993-2020)

BY CLAARTJE VAN ANDEL

PHOTOGRAPHY: PETER LLEWELLYN

*In the February 2020 issue of WBN, under the heading, 'A legendary quartet of sires loses three of its number' we named the recently deceased Don Schufro. This story provides the sequel with a profile of the legendary Don Schufro.*

Who won't forever remember the proud, powerful, and elegant Don Schufro (Donnerhall - Fiesta OLD x Pik Bube I x Unkenruf [Trak]), bred by Martin Meier, Germany? Sadly, he died in early 2020, leaving the dressage world with only memories, approved sons, and outstanding daughters in particular.

Personally, I first remember Blue Hors Don Schufro from visiting the FEI World Cup dressage final in Aarhus, Denmark in 2001. Blue Hors Don Schufro was there with his rider Lars Petersen as a second training and show-horse accompanying finalist Blue Hors Cavan (Cavalier - Danena x Danatz). He was quietly resting, sleeping in his stable, completely undisturbed by the noise of other horses, the atmosphere, or anything. At that time, Petersen explained to me: "This marks for me the top quality and top character of this stallion. Don Schufro perfectly knows the art of showbusiness and when it's time to rest and when to shine. He saves his energy. However, as soon as I pass by with the bridle and saddle, he is immediately there. In each ride, he shows his boundless energy and gives it all. This to me makes his special quality."

Don Schufro, as an 'old boy' made his last official appearance in Herning 2015, where he was presented by Karsten Petersen, receiving a gold medal for his achievements in breeding and his sporting career. At that time, Karsten Petersen said, "You can tell that Schufro is old; but at least he doesn't know or show that himself."

His then groom, Julie Abild Christiansen gave me an insight into life behind the door of Don Schufro's stable by saying, "He is and stays a very special horse. Audiences have seen how he is when he is out at events, where he seems to count the crowd. When he gets applause, he goes a little crazy."

## *Starting with Schockemöhle*

Although Don Schufro is recognized by most European breeding associations, he started his breeding career with Paul Schockemöhle, where he covered for one season as a three-year-old before being acquired by Blue Hors. He has been an internationally sought-after breeding stallion throughout his career and has had a very positive influence in breeding in Denmark, Germany, and Sweden, where he has the status of elite stallion and ranks very highly in dressage indices.

In sport, Don Schufro has met all expectations. He has won World Cup qualifiers and has over 30 international

victories and placings in Grand Prix at some of the largest shows such as Aachen, Bremen, Wiesbaden, Lingen, Neumünster, and Nörten Hardenberg. The highlight, however, came in 2008, when he became Danish dressage champion with Andreas Helgstrand and played a crucial role for the Danish Olympic team in Hong Kong 2008, winning team bronze and finishing 11th individually.

## *Unique performance pedigree*

Don Schufro is the direct son of the stallion of the century, the Oldenburger sire Donnerhall (Donnerwetter - Ninette x Markus, bred by Otto Gärtner), who is regarded as the stallion that has had the biggest influence in modern dressage horse breeding. Donnerhall, who was himself successful in international dressage with Karin Rehbein, has for a number of years topped WBFSH's ranking as the world's most successful sire in dressage horse breeding. He is the father of a record number of 160 licensed stallions and stands through his many excellent daughters as the damsire of a number of successful dressage horses. Among his most influential sons are De Niro (out of Alicante x Akzent II) and Don Schufro, both born in 1993.

Don Schufro's damsire is the Hanoverian stallion Pik Bube I who was a successful performer, just like Donnerhall, with Herbert Rehbein in the saddle. Pik Bube I had a great breeding career as a producer of powerful riding horses and sired many licensed stallions and highly graded mares that proved to be an excellent match for Donnerhall, and thus he also achieved enormous success as a damsire.

Don Schufro's dam line, the Holstein mare family Der Finländerin, is a story on its own. His dam and granddam were very fertile mares who have passed on their own high quality to their many equally successful daughters. His dam's sister, Fantasia, is the dam of elite stallion Don Primero (Donnerhall). Don Schufro's dam Fiesta is herself the dam of a number of successful offspring by Donnerhall, which in addition to Don Schufro includes the 2003 Oldenburg 'mare of the year', Fabina, as well as other important mares such as Fantastica, Donna Primera, Ferna, Farina, Filia and Fiesta's Girl, all stallion mothers themselves. They stand behind licensed sons such as Sunny-Boy, Classico, Don Rubin, Sidney, Vito Corleone S, Moosbachhof's Peron, Tailormade Red Rebel, Blue Hors Veneziano, Blue Hors Zatchmo, Rudisha and



Blue Hors Zirrus.

Don Schufro plays a similarly large role as the damsire and granddam sire of top international dressage horses. Thus, he is the dam sire of top horses such as Deja, Rafael's Forest and Sezuan and great dam sire of Glock's Zonik and For Romance I and II etc.

### *WBFSH ranking*

Don Schufro has been ranked number one in Germany's dressage index no fewer than 10 times. On the WBFSH ranking list for dressage sires with offspring in international Grand Prix, he has been in the top 10 for almost as long. In 2019 he was ranked 10<sup>th</sup>.

He is the sire of 30 licensed sons, including the elite stallions Diamond Hit (out of Loretta elite x Ramino x Welt As) and Blue Hors Don Romantic (out of Rosita x Romancier x Mago xx). Blue Hors stud summarizes that Don Schufro has inherited great potential for movement with three spacious gaits, extremely good suppleness, and great elasticity, as well as rideability and the willingness to work. He proved to best match long-legged, noble mares with good mechanics. Unfortunately, in his last years, it was discovered that Blue Horse Don Schufro tested position to WFFS.

### *Outstanding daughters in breeding and sport*

It is Don Schufro's daughters, in particular, that have made their mark in great style, and it is also to a large extent the daughters that have represented their sire Don Schufro at the

(FEI/WBFSH world championships and other major competitions, such as the European championships, the World Cup, and the Olympic Games. This includes FEI/WBFSH world champion Donna Unique (out of Frederica x Falkland), Donna Asana (out of Alberte Lindeberg x Diamant x Allegro), competing in international Grand Prix, respectively, with Evelyn Haim-Svarovski and Lone Jorgensen, and Dorina (out of Riga x Ragtime x Alibi, bred by Ejgil Bugge Skjoedt, Denmark), who competed at the 2015 European championships in Aachen with Evelyn Haim-Svarovski.

### *The brilliant Weihegold*

Of course, Weihegold (out of Weihevoll x Sandro Hit x Figaro, bred by Inge Bastian) is the most famous daughter of the late Blue Hors Don Schufro, having topped the world ranking for several years. Weihegold's top results include team gold and individual silver at the 2016 Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, triple gold at the 2017 European championships in Gothenburg, victory in the World Cup final in Omaha 2017, Paris 2018, and Gothenburg in 2019. Weihegold is among the rare horses in the world, who has scored over 90% in Grand Prix Kür several times. Isabell Werth is, of course, delighted with Weihegold but, nevertheless, is not specifically looking for more horses from the same sire, Blue Hors Don Schufro. After winning the Freestyle in Amsterdam with Weihegold she said: "It's not the way I look for a horse. Let the breeders breed, let me just educate, ride and compete. I'm most happy with my own role." ■



*Don Schufro ridden by Andreas Helgstrand (DEN) during the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games in Hong Kong*

# The importance of equine reproduction symposiums

BY ADRIANA VAN TILBURG

*Breeding horses is more than researching pedigrees and dreaming about the product you want to create. There are many health and hygiene issues to also consider, such as whether the mare is fertile and has a clean uterus. Similarly, how fertile is the stallion? It's understood that breeding is not easy, and Desiree Gebbink recently organized an Equine Reproduction symposium in the Netherlands.*

There were four speakers: Leontine ter Harmsel, who demonstrated how to flush an embryo. She is a sport horse veterinarian who specializes in getting problem mares in foal as well as embryo transfer. Bart Kools has been responsible for the stallion station at Paul Schockemöhle's Gestüt Lewitz for 20 years, accountable for all the coverings and the processing of semen at all his stations. Tullis Matson is the owner of Stallion AI Services in Great Britain, an expert in equine reproduction, but also a specialist in different fields of wildlife reproduction. Finally, Karin Hendriks specializes in problem mares, embryo transfer, and ICSI.

## ◆ Why did you organized this symposium?

Desiree Gebbink: Last year I followed a class by Arno Lindner at Tierklinik Lüsche. Many experts from our field were there, including Tullis Matson. I've known Tullis for 10 years, and like to work with him as well as Bart Kools – two real practitioners in our field for equine semen processing, and that's something you can't learn out of books. Especially working with equine semen, you need to develop a feeling for understanding the process.

So we discussed that it might be a very good idea to organize an information evening on equine reproduction in Holland. There are many classes for veterinarians, but not for practitioners in the field and everyone who is interested in equine reproduction. To make the evening

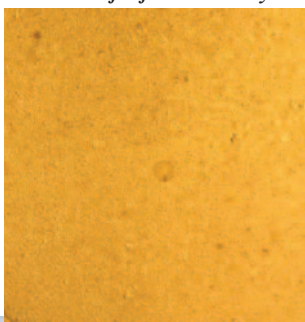
complete, Karin Hendriks was invited to talk about ICSI/OPU. Karin is well known in Holland, she is a real expert, a specialist in equine reproduction who worked for many years at Utrecht University.

Last year was the first time I organized this, and received feedback that people would like to see the work in practice, so this it was made possible thanks to Gerrit and Leontine ter Harmsel from Enterbrook. They offered the use of their facility so we could organize the practical part, which resulted in flushing an embryo, and a very special foal will be born in December.

The purpose is to try and organize this symposium every year, especially at this time of the year. There is a lot of ignorance, mainly because techniques are changing through the years. My intention is to share knowledge from practitioners in the field and share experiences so that breeders can benefit and, more importantly, to learn from it.

Every stud owner wants a stallion who is fertile, and every mare owner wants to produce a healthy foal. Everybody has the same goal! The best way is to organize a day that is accessible to everyone who is interested in equine reproduction, and share ideas. So, yes, next year I will try to organize again an equine reproduction symposium.

## A beautiful flushed embryo



Every stud owner wants a stallion who is fertile, and every mare owner wants to produce a healthy foal. Everybody has the same goal! The best way is to organize a day that is accessible to everyone who is interested in equine reproduction, and share ideas. So, yes, next year I will try to organize again an equine reproduction symposium.

## The practicum

The day was divided into two parts, the first being the practicum at the Enterbrook veterinary clinic where there is also a studfarm. Leontine ter Harmsel demonstrated how an embryo is flushed, while Tullis Matson and Bart Kools explained the do's and don'ts of processing semen. The room at Enterbrook had a microscope linked to a large screen so it was possible to view the motility of the sperm. Kools and Matson also explained about the differences between semen motility and viability, as well as the different types of extender that can be used.

Desiree Gebbink: "It is important that you test different extenders when you start collecting a stallion, because it's the stallion who determines which extender is correct. We also demonstrated several types of equipment for checking semen concentration, as well as for separating the bad from



*l-r Danielle Mensink, Leontine ter Harmsel, Bart Kools, Karin Hendriks, Tullis Matson with Desiree Gebbink in front*

the good semen. Leontine [ter Harmsel] showed, for example, very well what equipment she uses for flushing an embryo, and some interesting discussion followed, with some of the vets/practitioners saying they were going to try her method at home. It was also great that she flushed an embryo so we could all see that under the microscope.

### No practice without theory

In equestrian sport the FEI uses the slogan: 'The happy athlete'. For breeding it is exactly the same. Bart Kools and Tullis Matson made it very clear that the stallion needs to be happy: 'A happy stallion means happy semen'. So the management of the stallion is vitally important as stress will find its way into the quality of the semen. This also means a stallion should not be in pain during collection.

Kools explained certain techniques for collecting, how to teach a young stallion to collect, ground collection, and collection using the phantom in a harness. Matson, meanwhile, explained about subfertile stallions, and what can be done to improve the situation. There are many factors that can influence the quality of the semen, such as temperature and antibiotics, but also bad processing. Matson's Stallion AI started last year with sexed semen, and he confirmed that the results appear to be very promising.

### Modern techniques

Karin Hendriks shared information about the process of OPU/ICSI (ovum pick up, and intracytoplasmic sperm injection). These modern reproductive techniques are becoming more and more popular in the breeding world. Accordingly we are now also seeing many auctions selling embryos, both implanted and frozen. But there are risks that not many people acknowledge, but which Hendricks shared with the audience, explaining that although something might not happen very often, there is always a risk and, in the worst case

scenario, the loss of a mare.

She also provided clarity about the costs with the aid of a spreadsheet. An ICSI foal is twice as costly as an ET foal, but with one frozen straw ICSI can be performed six to 10 times.

At the end of the evening there were, of course, questions for the specialists, such as:

#### ◆ Is the modern AI technique harmful for the mare?

Karin Hendriks explained: "With the treatment of OPU, if you take all precautions, even during the procedure to prevent complications and observe the welfare of the horse, then the treatment does not have to be harmful. ET is not harmful to the mare."

#### ◆ How many times can you flush the sporting mare?

According to Leontine ter Harmsel: "If the procedure of flushing goes well and does not cause a reaction, then three cycles in a row."

#### ◆ In what season will the stallion give the best semen?

Bart Kools and Tullis Matson both agree: "In the spring."

I truly hope that breeders will start to attend more symposiums like this, to get better understanding how the medical part works with regards to breeding horses. ■

*Desiree Gebbink bio: Having worked for 17 years at renowned stallion stations, and as a supplier to the stallion breeding industry for the past eight years, Gebbink decided it was time for a new challenge – which prompted the foundation of a new company with the name Pasedes. The purpose of this company is to provide general processing support for studfarms for both fresh and frozen quine semen. She organized the equine reproduction symposium and workshop together with Hendriks EQ Repro Consultancy, and VPpaard. She admits that her passion has always been with the stallions side of reproduction as, "there is so much to investigate to ensure the best quality."*



# Salon des Etalons de sport de Bordeaux: Past and future

BY XAVIER LIBBRECHT

PHOTOGRAPHY: ARTISTE ASSOCIÉ

*The Salon des Etalons de sport de Bordeaux has just completed its fourth edition. We spoke to Henry Brugier, a former breeder and stallion owner with the affix d'Adriers [i.e. Apache d'Adriers (Double Espoir SF x Felix XX)], who conceived the idea and brought the concept to the organizers of the jumping de Bordeaux.*

“I was the first to organize a stallion fair in Poitiers in 2001 named Equi-genetics, and I ran it until 2015. At the time we always presented between 60 and 80 stallions at this regional show.

“I then met Sabine Zaegel, the director of the Jumping de Bordeaux (CSI World Cup five-star qualifier) in Fontainebleau during La Grande Semaine de Fontainebleau 2016 (SHF). Bordeaux wanted to include a breeding event in its program; it was a good thing, I stopped Poitiers then.”

## ◆ Overall, what has been the result of this fourthh Bordeaux edition?

Positive. All the exhibitors said they were satisfied. For us this is the sign that the Salon des Etalons de Bordeaux corresponds to a real need and that the breeders respond by being present.

## ◆ The participation of the stallions?

All the leaders were present (Groupe France Elevage, Haras des Coudrettes, Béliigneux le Haras, Brullemail, France Etalons, Genetics Anglo, etc.) but also foreign stallions owners (Stephex, VDL via the Haras de Gravelotte, Paul Shockemöhle via GFE, etc.) and of course local stallions (Haras du Fleuve, Haras des Capitelles, Haras de Lafont, Haras des Isles, Haras du Réal...).

## ◆ What about the quality of the stallions?

What characterizes the Salon des Etalons de Bordeaux is the variety that we present, so that one can look at jumping, dressage, eventing, and even pony stallions. It is also compatible with the CSI-W where more than 15 stallions registered in one studbook or another of the WBFSH are competing; we can mention among others, Excalibur de la Tour Vidal (2010/sBs: Ugano Sitte - Thelma La Tour Vidal x Ogano Sitte, ridden by Penelope Leprevost), Comme

il Faut (2005/Westf: Cornet Obolensky - Ratina Z x Ramiro Z, with Marcus Ehning).

All together, the stallions presented in Bordeaux are diverse, from young stallions – Eryo Declyange (2014/AA: Orient du Py - Kashaya Declyange x Belo des Vernieres, bred by Marie-Claire Terrasson); Ozzy van de Bysschop (2014/BWP: Diamant de Semilly - Celsa vd Dreef x Utrillo Z, bred by Stal den Bisschop); Espri du Figuier (2014/AA: Upsilon x Pomone du Figuier x Ryon d'Anzex, bred by Thierry Fruchet), competing stallions – Soliman de Hus (2005/Hann: Sandro Hit - Danae x Donnerhall), Propriano de l'Ebat (2003/SF: Clown du Chesnay - Astuce du Thelle x Mistigri xx), and finally seniors, such as Orient Express (2002/SF: Quick Star - Kamtchatka x Le Tot de Semilly), Argento (2002/AES: Arko III - Flora May x Gasper), Putch des Isles (2003/SF: Diamant de Semilly - Fantasia des Isles x Le Prince du Turin), Popstar Lozonais\*GFE (2003/SF:



*Usandro Tilia Derlenn (Sandro Boy - Queen Sympatico Tilia x Welcom Sympatico) bred by SCEA Der Lenn*



(Lef) Rider Olivier Perreau and Frédéric Neyrat (right)

Quick Star - Buguette Platiere x Muguet du Manoir)....

◆ **Quality and public interest?**

The Salon des Etalons de Bordeaux attracts breeders from the very large southwest region (New Aquitaine, Occitania, etc.) but also from the Centre of France, Provence, the Pays de Loire, Vendée... And even Norman breeders who take this opportunity to observe the stallions present on the World Cup circuit. The breeders of the Salon des Etalons de Bordeaux have now adopted the habit of coming to make their purchases, their projections, and not just out of curiosity.

◆ **The business side?**

No figures or statistics, but apparently lots of good contacts and more contracts signed than last year.

◆ **You were the initiator of the show, but now who's managing it?**

Marion Aldebert, sport coordinator of the Jumping de Bordeaux, and me with regard to the technical and commercial aspects.

◆ **What has changed from the original project?**

At first, a class for seven- and eight-year-old stallions was scheduled in the show program, but it happened too early in the season and only a few stallion owners, under the pressure of the riders, were willing to play the game. We only had about 20

participants for two classes. Foreigners are culturally better indoors with young stallions than the French riders, who have to be pulled by their ears!

◆ **What is original about the Salon des Etalons de Bordeaux original? What are its assets and challenges?**

It is the only event in France, and probably at this level abroad, that brings together the sport at a high level and the breeding, in terms of stallions, because the breeders can see them evolving on the showground and, therefore, see what the high-level sport requires today in terms of ability.

◆ **Has the show reached its limits?**

I don't think so, certainly not in terms of attendance of breeders and stallions, or in terms of the synergy between the stallion fair and the CSI.

◆ **What needs to be done to make it even more attractive?**

I would like to be able to present the stallions participating in the CSI events in the stallion arena to inform the breeders and educate a wider audience of fans. And I am thinking, why not represent a sporting event for seven-year-olds and over.

◆ **Can the Salon des Etalons de Bordeaux be challenged?**

In France I don't know, because there are few CSI five-star events able to have the structure to compete. The question of the date at the beginning of the season also arises. It has to take place between January 20 and the end of February, so it leaves little room for a new operator.

Abroad we don't see such initiatives, only private presentations via the open doors of big studs like VDL, Zangersheide, Schockemöhle etc... And they are even later in the season, March to April. ■



# Hanoverian's Weltmeyer and Stakkato prizes awarded

BY JEAN LLEWELLYN / PRESS RELEASE

PHOTOGRAPHY: HANNOVERANER VERBAND

*The 30<sup>th</sup> show of privately owned stallions in Verden provided a magnificent setting for the best of their vintage. In the Niedersachsenhalle, six young dressage stallions were awarded with the Weltmeyer prize, while two jumping talents received the Stakkato prize. They all belonged to the absolute top in their stallion performance tests.*

**B**ailador, 'the dancer', certainly lived up to his name. The son of Benicio x Florencio (bred by Susanne Geffke, Cuxhaven, stationed with Sönke Rothenberger and the Birkhof Stud) completed his 50-day test in Schlieckau in November 2019 with an overall score of 8.61. He not only convinced with outstanding basic gaits but also with his very good interior.

In Warendorf, Damaschino (Danone x Fidertanz, bred by Burkhard Wahler, stationed at Klosterhof Medingen) was celebrated as the shining Bundeschampion of three-year-old stallions. At the test in Schlieckau in November, the expressive liver-chestnut impressed the judges and achieved the highest scores, with the test riders awarding 9.75. He received an even 10 for his overall impression, which couldn't be bettered, and won the 50-day test with a final score of 9.35. A great success for Burkhard Wahler, as last year his stallion Dostojewski (De Niro x Latimer) was awarded the Weltmeyer prize at the same place.

As a premium stallion, Danciero (Dancier x Floriscount, bred by ZG Broers and Weber, stationed with Helgstrand Dressage) = left the Verden stallion licensing two years ago. Nine months later the black became Hannoveraner Riding Horse Champion with rider Eva Möller, and finished fourth in the high-class Warendorf final. Back in Denmark, he shone with an ideal score of 10 in the foreign rider test at the 35-day test in Randers, setting an impressive mark with an overall score of 9.11.

Danciero travelled to Verden with two stable mates from Helgstrand Dressage in Denmark for the award ceremony. Vendôme (Veneno x Fidertanz, bred by Paul Paessens, and also stationed at Helgstrand Dressage), a premium stallion at the 2018 Hanoverian licensing, received an overall score of 8.80 at his test in Randers.

Unforgettable, however, was the appearance of Vivino (Vivaldi x Dancier, bred by Ulrike Buurmann) in the Niedersachsenhalle. With the top price of €2.01 million, he set an indisputable record at the stallion sales. He subsequently proved his outstanding qualities at the 35-day stallion test in Randers where he received the final score of 8.80.

Zoom (Zack x Don Schufro, bred by Dorthe M. Jeppesen in Switzerland) belongs to the stallions of the Warendorf State Stud. He already attracted attention at

his licensing in December 2016 and was awarded the premium sash. Both sport tests showed that his valuable pedigree upholds its promise. In March 2018, he was the outstanding winner of part one in Münster-Handorf with a final score of 8.51. Last year Zoom qualified for the Bundeschampionate for five-year-old dressage horses with his rider Beatrice Buchwald.

Two jumping stallions were awarded the Stakkato Prize. Via the stallion sales, Chilano Blue (Chacco's Son x Carezzo, bred by Wolfgang Stümpel) came to the Brodhecker family's Burghof in Riedstadt where he was trained for sport. In March 2019, the impressively jumping bay started to fly high in part two of the sport test in Munich-Riem, shining with a final of 9.43 and leader of the starting field by far. To date, he has already won six tests for young showjumpers at horse shows.

Karajan (Kannan x Verdi, bred by Werner Schultze, stationed at Klosterhof Medingen) already caused a sensation at his first public appearance, and at the Münster-Handorf licensing became champion stallion. Four weeks later at the second Hanoverian licensing in Verden he received a premium title. During both sport tests he convinced with top marks; awarded a 10 for jumping ability in March 2019, and for overall impression stood as a role model for an athlete born in 2014. Outstanding sport results were soon recorded, twice participating in the Hannoveraner Jumping Championships with rider Christian Temme. ■



*Werner Schultze and Burkhard Wahler with their Stakkato prize winner Karajan (Photo: Hanoverian Verband)*

# Where there is passion, success often follows

BY AGATA GROSICKA

PHOTOGRAPHY: PRIVATE COLLECTION AND LUKASZ KOWALSKI

*The beautiful grey stallion Chilly Boy Maxx SR (Cornet Obolensky x Darco) aka Cornet's Darco, was born at high noon on April 29, 2017, and was the only Polish-bred horse licensed during the last Oldenburg Körung. Immediately following the show, he was sold during the Veichta Auction to Paul Schockemöhle's Gestüt Lewitz for €85,000.*

Chilly Boy Maxx SR was bred by two passionate breeders, Wioletta Sipak and Leszek Chelstowski, who started their own showjumping horse breeding studfarm a few short years ago. Their farm is located outside the Polish city of Szczecin, close to the German border.

Leszek was the owner of the great showjumping horse Abigaj (Lupicor H - Niki Nanita x Concord), ridden by Marek Lewicki, who won many Grand Prix classes, including the Polish showjumping championships. He eventually decided to further develop his passion for showjumping and became a breeder himself.

It all began with the mare Cel'est Z, born in 2008 (Chin Chin x Quidam de Revel) and bought at the age of three directly from her Belgium breeder, Georges Thoussaint. In 2013 this mare gave birth to a filly – Dark Chocolate Maxx (Darco) – who gave birth to a grey colt in 2017, who became Chilly Boy Maxx (Cornet Obolensky), and in 2019 to another colt, Massimo Maxx (Diamant de Semilly), who is now owned by Karin Palu and Zacarias Salmeron.

Chilly Boy Maxx SR's huge international success came at the right moment. Not only did it confirm that the breeders had made right choices when selecting the stallions, but it also encouraged them to move up to the next level and to improve their knowledge in the field with the help of international experts. Dark Chocolate Maxx is now being trained by an experienced rider, Agata Gil, and together with a few other selected young horses will also participate in a free jumping seminar during the international breeding conference 'How

to raise a success' held in Radzionkow on February 28, 2020, organized by Cichon Stallions.

During the seminar, Dark Chocolate Maxx will be judged by a jury chaired by Heinz Meyer. According to Wioletta Sipak, "We are really thrilled to see her jumping in public, and also very excited to hear the professional opinion offered by such experts. She's never been used in sport, only breeding, but it's good to know about her potential. Like mother, like son."

Sipak and Chelstowski are not planning to grow too big, and only keep a few broodmares at a time, all of them of a very modern type. As breeders they are very focused on the quality of the mares as well as their selected stallions, and when they find one they really like show a fierce persistence in getting her. Like in the case of their newest mare Hollywood Girl DKS (Baloubet du Rouet - Top Girl Kervec z Diamant de Semilly), born in 2017, whom they found in the USA. The mare was bred by Dejan Krunic who also bred Ekano DKS – the French champion of young horses in 2019 who is currently kept at Haras de Couvains, the home of Semilly horses. Hollywood Girl DKS is planned to be bred for the first time next year, with Chacco-Blue on the list of suggested stallions. The Polish breeders value Krunic's very highly and will certainly follow his advice.

Their foals are sold on the spot to both Polish and international clients, such as the colt Kentucky Maxx (Kannan x Chin Chin x Quidam de Revel), born in 2018, now owned by Verso La Natura Horse Stud and Sport Club which has become the fastest growing showjumping sport horse and breeding centre in Poland.

Chilly Boy Maxx SR's birth name has now been changed to Cornet's Darco by his new owner for pragmatic reasons, as the new name clearly indicates the horse's bloodline, and he's already joined Gestüt Lewitz's stallion roster for 2020.

The new breeding season has just begun and hopefully the stallion will be popular, not only with Polish breeders. ■



**Cornet's Darco/ex Chilly Boy Maxx SR during his stallion licensing**



**Wioletta Sipak and Leszek Chelstowski with Dark Chocolate Maxx**

# DWB's versatile stallion show once again hits Herning

BY THOMAS BACH JENSEN

PHOTOGRAPHY: RIDEHESTEN.COM

*The dates are March 5-8, 2020, the location is MCH Messecenter Herning where the Danish Warmblood Stallion Show will take place. This immense and unique show attracted more than 67,000 visitors last year, and presents a striking unification of horse breeding and horse sport.*

The stallion licensing, young horse championship, competition classes, and gala shows take place in three different arenas, of which Jyske Bank Boxen is the largest and seats up 9,400 people.

A total of 900 horses, plus dressage and showjumping riders from more than 20 countries are expected to move into the MCH Messecenter Herning in early March, where a five-star dressage competition has been added to the show concept and may cause the number of visitors to rise even further from last year's 67,211.

For more than a decade Danish Warmblood has been considered one of the more important studbooks when it comes to breeding dressage horse, and in recent years Danish Warmblood stallions have taken on a significant role on the international dressage breeding scene. Young DWB stallions Zonik, Sezuan and Hesselhøj Donkey Boy have collectively sired five of the nine medalists at the World Breeding Championship for Young Horses in Ermelo last year, and they seem to act as a sign of the times: The growing influence of Danish Warmblood.

For those who want to discover the new stars of the future, the Danish Warmblood Stallion Show in Herning is an absolute must.



Photo 1: Once of the many highlights at the stallion show in Herning is the unveiling of the prize winner 'Danish Warmblood Stallion of the Year' – a prize that has been granted every year since 1998 to a DWB-graded stallion that has made a significant impact in the breeding of dressage or jumping horses of high quality. Stallion of the year in 2019 was the Danish Warmblood dressage stallion Skovens Rafael, by Glock's/Blue Hors Romanov x Blue Hors Don Schufro,

bred by Kirsten B. Hansen and Jens Lund Pedersen and owned by Lotte Lindgren, Lotte (rider) and Per Skaerbaek. Among Rafael's well-known offspring is the six-year-old Swedish champion stallion Springbank who will be shown by Helgstrand stable rider Severo Jurado Lopez (ESP). Now the big question is: Who will be the next stallion of the year, and are we looking at a jumping or a dressage stallion?

Photo 2: When you breed for top sport, you need to breed with top performing horses. In former times, the main focus was on the sire's performances but nowadays most studbooks emphasize the importance of very strong dam lines, and among the young jumping stallions in Herning you find very strong dam lines and also several of the young stallions with top performing dams. Among others, this counts for Quinto Ask who is Quarz Ask and out of the former





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watchful eye of national coach Nathalie zu Sayn-Wittgenstein.

**Photo 4:** Heiline's Diva Romance by For Romance is a daughter of the young international Grand Prix mare Heiline's Danciera and is equally bred by Stutteri Heiline, owned by Line Jensen and Heine Bonde Mikkelsen. Ridden by Victoria Vallentin, Diva Romance qualified with one of the highest scores for the Blue Hors young horse championship for five-year-old dressage horses which also takes place at the stallion show in Herning. Diva Romance is the only naturally produced foal out of Danciera, who also has three daughters that are all made by embryo transfer and sired by Sezuan.

**Photo 5:** The audience in Herning has often had the privilege of being able to watch the leading DWB dressage horse, Atterupgaard Cassidy and his rider Cathrine

Zangersheide finalist and international show jumper, Hiphop Ask by Ci Ci Senjor Ask x Charmeur ridden by Søren Møller Rohde.

**Photo 3:** The black DWB mare Heiline's Danciera by Fürstenball x De Niro is only nine years of age and is longlisted for the 2020 Olympics with her rider Carina Cassøe Krüth. The couple are three-time finalists at the world championships for young horses in Ermelo, where they twice placed fourth. They made their national and international debut in 2019 with impressive results which put them in the Danish A-squad. In Herning they will be competing in DWB five-star dressage under the

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Dufour compete. Cassidy is another great example of horse breeding not being based on coincidence but strong genes and clever decisions. Just recently Danish Warmblood has published their new breeding values, and if you take a look at the list of the highest-ranked dressage mares, you find Cassidy's mother and his sister and nieces dominating the top of the list. This year, however, Cathrine Dufour will be competing her other top horse, Bohemian. ■

# Is there a future for the Selle Français Originel?

BY MARC VERRIER

PHOTOGRAPHY: PETER LLEWELLYN

*During the three-year-old Selle Français Stallion Championship, held in Saint-Lô at the end of February, some breeders deplored the absence of the Selle Français called 'Originels'. Indeed, as with all the world's studbooks, the trend is now largely towards cross breeding.*

However, at a highest levels, the Selle Français Originel (SFO) is still very present and is maintaining its role in top-class competitions.

At the end of 2013, in response to the desire of some breeders to identify and highlight the original bloodlines of the Selle Français breed, the SF studbook created the label 'Selle Français Originel'. To qualify for this label, a Selle Français must have in its first four generations only those bloodlines that constitute the Selle Français, which are the SF, the Anglo-Arab, the Arab, the AQPS, the half-blood, the Thoroughbred, and the French Trotter.

Of the 25 three-year-old stallions approved this year in Saint-Lô, none could avail themselves of this SFO label and only five (one of whom was absent), of the 70 participants could claim its profile.

## World rankings

Nevertheless, among the six Selle Français taken into account for the last world studbook ranking established by the WBFSH, where the Selle Français stood in fifth place, two are SFO: Usual Suspect d'Auge (Jarnac x Papillon Rouge x Narcos II x Night and Day xx), and Urvoso du Roch (Nervoso x Grand d'Escla x Samuel AA x Flor II AA). Even better, if we take into account the 17 SF classified among the 100 best horses in the world, eight of them are eligible for this SFO label, or nearly half. Among the WBFSH's top-100 stallions worldwide in 2019, eight of the 11 SF (72%) in the standings are also 'Originel'.

And we can even add Nabab de Rêve (Quidam de Revel - Melodie en Fa x Artichaut), seventh in the world and registered with BWP into the equation as his genetics are exclusively SF.

If one studies the world ranking of studbooks, there are no studbooks whose top-six representatives don't present foreign blood in four generations. Indeed, many studbooks, such as the KWPN leader of the classification, or the three Belgian studbooks (Zangersheide third, BWP fourth and sBs sixth), were built and have prospered from

cross-breeding. The Germans have, for a long time, been able to come to France to find what they lacked in order to improve their breeding, and even among the six representatives of the Holstein, the most closed studbook in Germany, French blood can be found in the first four generations of their six best representatives, with Cor de la Bryère, Almé and Quidam de Revel.

In Saint-Lô, the majority of the breeders interviewed gave us similar answers, namely that it was necessary to try to keep the specificities of the Selle Français, and especially its character, mind, and ease of use.

However, their primary goal is to produce competitive horses that are easy to sell, regardless of whether they are Selle Français Originel or not. And among the most renowned breeders that have produced winning horses at the highest level, all were unanimous in saying that they did not see why it was necessary to deprive themselves of getting the best from foreign studbooks, especially those that have long-used French blood to improve their own breeding.

Is the original Selle Français slowly disappearing? What is certain is that the SFO quota is likely to continue to shrink over the years with a mixed trend that will surely not slow down. ■



*Nabab de Rêve (Quidam de Revel - Melodie en Fa x Artichaut) ridden by Philippe Lejeune (BEL)*

# Two new sires for Trakehner Verband

BY JEAN LLEWELLYN / PRESS RELEASE

*Two blood-dominated stallions were recommended from among 40 presented as future sires at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Trakehner spring licensing during the second weekend in February at the Westfalian Horse Center in Münster-Handorf.*

The three year old All Night (Asagao xx - Alana x Agar Kerman) was bred in Poland by Monika Machlowicz-Wojzat. With an impressive outline and excellent top line, this distinctive half-bred with above-average basic gaits was recommended by the commission for his particular qualities in walk and canter. Considered a movement artist, All Night is also genetically very interesting. He is the first licensed son of Asagao xx, a versatile Thoroughbred who was successful under Jens Hoffrogge in jumping. In Trakehner breeding, All Night is the third licensed son of Alana, after Avatar and Adorator. He was presented in Münster by Markus Hoffrogge.

Recognition for Trakehner breeding was also awarded to an already proven sportsman in a special class. Bred in 2012 by Laurent Jamault, from St. Martin de Blagny, Cestuy La de l'Esques AA (King Size AA - Gaia of Ultan AA x Ultan AA) was fifth in 2019 at the age of seven in the eventing World Breeding Championship for Young Horses in Le Lion d'Angers and victorious in three-star CCI classes. He is already licensed by



*Cestuy La de l'Esques AA*

the Baden-Württemberg, Selle Français, Anglo Arab and Swiss Sport Horse studbooks. He is currently owned by Dr. Andreas P. Gygax from Switzerland.

According to Lars Gehrmann, Trakehner breeding manager and managing director, on behalf of the licensing committee; "A robust, sporty, mature stallion who was a top athlete in France in all age groups and showed an impressive round in Le Lion d'Angers." He also commended the stallions positive exterior, stable foundation, and well-developed joints that are supplemented by his confident walk and powerful gallop.

Cestuy La de l'Esques AA will initially return to France where he will continue to be competed and promoted by his permanent rider Tom Carlile, although his semen will be available through the Marbach and Söderhof stud farms. Cestuy was presented in-hand and under saddle during the Trakehner stallion show by Vanessa Bötling.

The major Trakehner Stallion Show, organized jointly by the Trakehner Association and the Trakehner Breeding District Westfalia, has been an integral part of the Trakehner year for 22 years and a meeting point for breeders as well as guests and officials of other associations at the start of the breeding season. It's an opportunity for stations from around Germany to put their stallions under the spotlight and, thankfully, all their representatives, including 2019 licensees, federal and Trakehner champions from various disciplines, as well as sport-tested stallions performed well in challenging conditions, with a hurricane-force storm raging outside the venue. ■



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# Selle Français stallion show concludes in Saint-Lô

By ANSF

PHOTOGRAPHY: ANSF

*The Saint-Lô Stallion Exhibition concluded two days ago, and so ended the suspense about the result of the three-year-old Selle Français stallion championship. It was a new look to this championship which took place for the first time during the Saint-Lô Stallion Exhibition, but let's rewind and relive three glorious days.*

*Friday, February 21*

This 2020 edition of the Saint-Lô Stallion Exhibition began under the colours of red, white and blue, and a 100% Selle Français day, when the first horse entered the arena at 9:00 a.m. to kick off the three-year-old SF stallion championship. Seventy males were presented to judges until half-way through the afternoon, when the Saint-Lô equestrian centre's huge arena hosted the free jumping, ahead of breed characteristics and gaits in the Gourmète arena.

The expert commission's decision saw 25 stallions approved, who will go forward for testing next December. The top eight of these 25 were only announced by their crownpiece number, to maximize the suspense.

This championship day was created to encourage and reward the use and enlistment of young Selle



Français genetics in order for the studbook to evolve. Prize winners were rewarded by Prime Genetique Avenir during a special ceremony honouring: Elevage du Thot, Mathilde Lebouteiller, Pierre Couilloud, SCEA du Vinnebus, GAEC de l'Abbaye, EARL la Gollerie, Patrick Blouet, SCEA de l'Oiseliere,

Claude Charnay, Jean-Luc Lebourgeois, Georges Lepetit, Henriette Evain, Yves Chauvin, Earl du Chatellier, Ecuries d'Outremer, Haras de Semilly, and Hubert Lebrun.

The Friday evening show saw the Masters L'Eperon class which saw eight four-year-old and 12 five-year-old stallions competing to win their respective categories. The best-graded stallion at last December's testing, Good Pleasure Semilly (For Pleasure - Betty Boop Semilly x Diamant de Semilly, bred by Richard Levallois), won the four-year-old test, while the talented five-year-old Fahrenheit de Vains (Cornet Obolensky - Ismene du Thot x Qredo de Paulstra, bred by Christian Bihl) who won his age-group class.

The class intermission provided an occasion to look at Selle Français history, which honoured the work of Jean-Francois Pellegrin, owner of the exceptional Galoubet A. Monsieur Pellegrin



*French champion 3yo stallion: Hors Norme du Lavoir (Balou du Rouet - Destinédu Lavoir SF x Mermus R), bred by Mme. Michele Porte, presented by M. Porte*

was one of the first to use artificial insemination and largely influenced the evolution of French breeding. It was an emotional time as he watched a big screen showing the 1982 Galoubet A tour, under the saddle of Gilles Bertrand de Balanda. Pascal Cadiou, president of the Selle Français studbook, presented Jean-Francois Pellegrin with the book *Anthologie des sports equestres: Depuis les Jeux olympiques de 1912 jusqu'à nos jours* (Encyclopedia of equestrian sport: From the 1912 Olympic Games until the present day), as well as a bottle of champagne bottle from partner Charles De Cazanove.

### *G-generation Saturday*

It was the 'G' generation that was highlighted at the beginning of the afternoon with the stallions labeled 'tres prometteur' (very promising) during the 2019 testing. At the end of the day, only part of the championship ranking was revealed with the names of those horses ranked from fourth to eighth.

- 8th: Hokkaido de Menjo (Excalibur dela Tour Vidal x Mokkaido), bred by Sophie and Emilie Grasset. Maternal line evaluated 8/10
- 7th: Haschich d'Albain (Canabis d'Albain SF x Quartz du Chanu SF), bred by Alexis Bouillot
- 6th: Highland de Riverland (Candy de Nantuel SF x Papillon Rouge SF), bred by Elevage de Riverland. Maternal line evaluated 9/10
- 5th: Halessio du Linon (Carrera VDL x Casall), bred by Virginie Blanquin
- 4th: Happy Day d'Iscla (Toulon x Kannan\*GFE), bred by Elevage d'Iscla. Maternal line evaluated 10/10



*Hors Norme du Lavoir*

### *Champion's Sunday*

Finally, the end of the suspense when it was announced that Hors Norme du Lavoir (Balou du Rouet - Destinédu Lavoir SF x Mermus R), bred by Mme. Michele Porte, is the new three-year-old champion stallion of France. Hold Up Riverland (L'Arc de Triomphe - Presence de Riverland x Kannan, bred by SCEA Riverland, maternal line 9/10) was the runner-up, with Hollister du Plantey (Dominator 2000 Z [Zang] - Soriana de Bray [SFB] x Gio Granno [Oldbg]) third. Hollister was bred by Domaine du Plantey. ■

*ANSF wishes to thank the following partners for their participation and support: L'Eperon; Cheval Liberte; Clipmyhorse.TV France; ASEP - Ecole Blondeau; Eurogen; Champagne Charles de Cazanove; Region Normandie; Conseil departemental de la Manche; Haras National de Saint-Lo; Saint-Lo Agglo.*



*The Saint-Lô team of volunteers*

# Future direction of equine gait analysis: the Irish view

BY SONJA EGAN / HSI

PHOTOGRAPHY: HSI

*The explosion of technical devices into the commercial sphere has altered many aspects of our world. At the forefront of these developments is the now widespread use of wearable technologies in the form of personal and pervasive sensing tools. These include fitness trackers, smart watches, smart phones, and smart home technologies.*

Each of these platforms communicate through the connectivity of the World Wide Web. The term ‘internet of things’ was coined to describe how the number of things interacting on the internet has exceeded the number of people.

The ‘horse in motion’ captured by Muybridge and Marey in the 1800s laid the foundation for much of the cross-species biomechanical analysis existing today. Van Weeren (2012) termed this period the ‘first golden age’ of equine gait research; the second golden age began following rapid development of computer technologies in the 1970s, lasting until today<sup>1</sup>. The change-over to wearable technologies has been mirrored in the equine research domain, the use of wearable and sensor technologies in equine gait research has been consistently increasing since the early 2000s; in 2013 the use of sensor technologies began to overtake previously consistently applied tools, such as force plates and two-dimensional motion analyses<sup>2</sup>. These sensing devices remove the onus of a laboratory setting, facilitating applied ‘field-based’ usage. Additionally, they promote improved objectivity of equine gait analysis, where there is resounding evidence that subjective analysis of gait abnormality and lameness is inherently unreliable<sup>3-6</sup>. This is related to the limited resolution of the human eye (15-20Hz) versus the many biomechanical devices available (50-400Hz)<sup>7</sup>.

The role of objective technologies goes beyond that of gait abnormality and holds the potential to revolutionise existing methods of equine performance and training<sup>8</sup>. Pfauf used wearable technology to document the shoeing cycle of working British military horses<sup>9</sup>. Best and Standing (2019) used GPS to monitor polo game intensity via spatio-temporal parameters<sup>10</sup>. The Tasmanian racing authority (tasracing) launched the StrideMASTER (GPS) in 2011 for horse racing performance analysis. The latter remains one of the only institutions in the world to collect equine performance data via wearable technology in competition. These examples demonstrate the applied value of these technologies in working and performance equines.

Ireland’s dense per capita equine population<sup>11</sup>, the economic viability of equines in Ireland and the popularity of Irish native and crossbreeds globally provides a rich context for investigation into the use of and industry based perspectives of objective technologies in the ‘real-world’<sup>12-14, 15</sup>.

Research completed by Egan et al (2019, 2020) sought to

investigate Irish industry stakeholder existing equine movement analysis practices and their perspectives of objective technologies<sup>15,16</sup>. The authors identified several movement features, deemed significant by the interviewees, regarding equine performance and health. These features were then mapped to existing portable wearable technologies, thereby demonstrating that it is not functionality alone which has impaired the translation of these tools into daily use. Irish stakeholders highlighted that conformation and gait analyses alone are too limited and do not provide a holistic representation of the horse. Additionally, they outlined the value of tacit knowledge and experience in determining a horse’s trainability and performance potential:

Tacit knowledge is defined as the inarticulate knowledge which cannot be explicitly taught but rather acquired through direct or on-the-job experience<sup>17</sup>. It has also been described as the knowing how rather than knowing what<sup>18</sup>. This type of knowledge is particularly relevant to equestrianism given the nature of working with nonverbal yet expressive animals. This was depicted vividly in a paper by Butler (2017) who speaks about ‘the feel for the game’, specifically in relation to the mastery of an equine racing yard. The author describes the ‘feel for the game’ as ‘an intuitive bodily awareness and attitude that occurs through familiarity and repetition, a process of both doing and observing empathetically, of reading bodily nuances, nonverbal cues, imperceptible movements, a fleeting expression on [a] face’, and indeed, in the face of a horse<sup>19</sup>. (Egan et al 2019)



Irish stakeholders value the visual representation of the horse, which is not currently reflected in much of the existing sensor technology offering and hold systematic, subjective analysis in high regard, this is reflected in much of the existing industry practices.

In practice, there are many examples of systematic subjective analysis applied to contextualise and describe equine performance parameters, namely, the use of linear profiling or scoring during studbook inspections and selections. The linear profiling scoring system is a descriptive method of assessing a horse's conformation, movement, and athleticism and describes where a horse lies between the biological extremes for any given trait. It follows a Likert-type scale format (5, 7 or 9 scale points), where the centre score represents the population norm or average<sup>20</sup>. The aim of linear profiling is to look away from 'good' or 'bad' biomechanical characteristics, instead distinguishing where a horse presents deviations from one extreme to another.

This process has allowed studbooks to:

1. Provide meaningful, contextually relevant feedback to breeders regarding breeding decisions and sire selections;
2. Apply statistical analysis to subjectively judged equine traits;
3. Examine potential indicators of performance capability.

Research has demonstrated moderate-to-strong correlations between visual studbook scoring and performance in later life<sup>21</sup>. Mawdsley et al. applied a seven-point linear score to 27 traits in superior Irish TB horses. They determined that over 65% of the assessed traits had a coefficient of variation greater than 10%, describing the phenotypic variation in the sample of 120 horses<sup>20</sup>. This level of variability across horses creates a complex system that requires a certain level of expertise to assimilate and navigate. (Egan et al 2020)

Irish industry stakeholders are mindful of the potential competitive edge offered by existing technologies but remain sceptical of the true ability of these devices versus alternate commercial 'gimmicks', which are well documented in the equine nutraceutical research<sup>15</sup>. Stakeholders feel there is a lack of regulation existing around applied equine technologies and remain suspicious of their true capacity. The economic value of the horse and the cost of existing technologies further inhibits widespread use, where the size of the organisation does not appear to be a factor. Larger organisations suggest that the widespread testing and application of these devices mean they must exceed their value threshold; smaller owners state that for their current price point they are too expensive to go beyond their current practice.

The Irish equine industry sits at the forefront of global equestrianism in terms of breeding and performance in racing and sport sectors. However, there is a distinct lack of objective gait analysis evident in the applied field. The use of ambient and pervasive technologies is much more common in arable and livestock agriculture. This is often driven by



consumer demand, labour costs and the need to adapt to social culture such as heightened awareness of animal welfare<sup>22, 23</sup>. For example, automatic milking systems have become increasingly popular in dairy farming<sup>24</sup>. These systems monitor individual animal health status, milk production, and minimise the overall human labour required. Preliminary research has determined that these systems can detect prevalent issues in dairy cows prior to farmers, such as clinical mastitis<sup>25</sup>. This example of applied technology demonstrates that there is potential to develop a system capable for day-to-day management in large animals. However, Creighton et al. (2011) highlighted that Irish farmers are often aware of research and technologies which could be of benefit, but this does not mean they will be applied on the farm<sup>26</sup>. The authors report that farmer participation and on-farm trials have strengthened technology uptake.

Van Weeren (2014) suggested that equestrian traditionalism may pose as obstacle's in the application of these novel tools and information generation<sup>27</sup>. There is an ongoing split between equine research groups regarding the position of objective tools in equine gait analysis. One group states that objective tools are necessary to support users, driving knowledge generation and progression in the field<sup>28-31</sup>. On the other hand, some feel that human discernment is required in the clinical assessment of equine gait and fear the reliance on non-human devices<sup>32</sup>.

As outlined by Buttfield and Polgaze (2016) ultimately it is people not technology who drive innovation<sup>33</sup>. If the equine end-user is to apply these technologies, they must be at the centre of the development and design process. While the Irish research domain are limited by the size of their gait research group, they are increasingly conscious of the role of Irish stakeholders in guiding equine innovations. ■

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# Eve Mainwaring: Pioneer of CWHBA breeding

BY CHRIS GOULD / CWHBA

PHOTOGRAPHY: HSI

*Eve Mainwaring was a founding director of the Canadian Warmblood Horse Breeders Association. Her knowledge and connection to sport became apparent at its founding meeting in April of 1988.*

From that time on Eve continued as a director of the board until she was appointed 'honorary lifetime member and director' in 2010. Her roles within the association included time as the Ontario chapter president, member of the studbook committee, and delegate to the WBFSH.

For over 20 years Eve was a senior inspector, the cornerstone of the CWHBA judging commission for stallion licensing and performance testing, travelling annually across the country with international guest inspectors. Her quick eye and fair appraisals earned the respect and friendship of these internationally renowned horsemen. Alongside Manfred Lopp and Ingvar Fredricson, Eve helped establish a high standard of professionalism from the very first Canadian SPT held in 2000.

Her own breeding career began with the Wielkopolski stallion Wermiszal (Iron x Lehar), whom she imported from the Polish State Stud in Liski in 1973. In 1984 he was sold to the Olds Agricultural College in Alberta, where he stood as a foundation stallion for their burgeoning sport horse breeding program. In 1993, she acquired the Belgian Warmblood Stallion, Fantast (Etratat x Adagio), a horse with the same father as Big Ben. Fantast was soon syndicated and moved to Olds, Alberta

where MJ Farms stood him until his death in 2002.

Both of these stallions contributed significantly to the Canadian Warmblood breeding program. A legacy that will carry forward through future generations. Today, Eve continues to follow the activities of the CWHBA and as a lifetime Director is a continuing source of sage advice.

*The following story is published courtesy of The Brockville Recorder & Times newspaper, a member of Sun Media Community Newspapers, part of Postmedia Network. Authored by Catherine Orth, it was published on February 3, 2020.*

## First lady of horses turns 95

The unique world of St. Alban's Stables, a Brockville treasure, is passing, and the extraordinary and unique woman who made it so marked a milestone on the weekend. Eve Mainwaring, Brockville's first lady of horses, celebrated her 95<sup>th</sup> birthday Saturday, when more than fifty guests swelled the Grindstone room at the Mill to pay her tribute. Brockville's First Lady of horses? "No, Canada's Lady of Horses!" those who knew better exclaimed.

They came from near and far. They were notable; they were humble. They were well heeled; they were not so well heeled. But they all had one thing in common: Love, respect and admiration for their teacher; their coach; their friend. Some were students from 50 years ago; some were present-day students. More than one guest had acquired their first horse through Eve.

More than one guest was not only her student, but also their children were or are and even some, their grandchildren were or are, now her students. Flowers, photos, gifts, gold helium balloons, floated above Eve that proclaimed '95'. Tabletops of finger food and the biggest most beautiful cake known to cake-make-dom, with six photos of Eve, magically reproduced on the icing, were all part of the outpouring. Eve took it all in stride as, after all,



*Manfred Lopp<sup>†</sup> (GER), Eve Mainwaring, Colleen Embree-Jay (CWHBA studbook committee), Dr Ingvar Fredrickson (SWE)*

what is a birthday when your mare's in foal and a young one is expected in the spring?

Still residing in the once majestic St. Alban's School mansion, Eve, too, is made of grander stuff. Born in Estonia in 1925, Eve's family were Baltic Germans, landowners and judges of the lower civil court. "I grew up in a time when there were no cars, no tractors, no trucks. People rode horses to get from one place to another. Everything was horse-drawn and if there was equipment it was powered by a steam engine and pulled by a horse," she said. A cottage by the sea and horses ridden bareback to the beach were all part of her privileged, genteel world. "My family knew they could always find me in the horse barn," she said.

One day, when she was very young, while playing in the sand at the beach, one of the horses stepped on her hand. As her hand had been covered by sand the injury was not too severe. "A hoof mark was stamped on my hand and there was a scar for many years," she explained. Horses were her destiny. "Horses saved my life," said Eve, simply. Picnics and laughter – a world that all too quickly slipped away as the forces of history bore down on the family.

With Estonia achieving independence in 1919, dramatic social and economic changes occurred, as a new Estonia was forged. These changes had an immediate affect upon Eve's family. "My family lost 70 per cent of our holdings. We became poorer and poorer," Eve recalls. Through a secret pact with Hitler, Estonia later fell into the hands of the Soviets; the German government repatriated Balkan Germans to occupied Poland. There, Eve's father found work on an estate with many horses. Eve particularly loved the Trakehners. As a young horse woman she was known as the person who could ride and train the most unruly steed.

Eve was able to continue her education and as she matured her desire to study agriculture became paramount, with her eye on breeding horses. "I decided to study agriculture and needed two years of apprenticeship for my college studies. I was at this school when the Soviet threat, in late 1944, became greater and greater" she said.

By late 1944, Eve's father knew the family had to leave. The Soviets were invading from the east and the only choice was to flee west. He started to pack provisions in a wagon. Eve was at school, a distance from her family, when she got the word she had to leave. There was only one way home: By train. Panic filled the air. "You'll not be able to get on the train," her teacher told her, but Eve went to the station anyway. She got on. Would her parents still be there when she arrived? She called from her hometown station. No answer. "Call again," she pleaded with the operator. Finally her stepmother answered: "Don't leave the station, we'll come get you." They did. They were now refugees and thus began the trek west for the family in the freezing rains and snows of January 1945. Ever fearful of the Soviets, their only chance was to keep one step ahead of the invaders.

Besides the wagon, Eve's father had a car but no gas, so the horses, hitched to the car, pulled, as Eve held the reins. "The first night out we slept in the ditch. We fed the horses off the

side of the road with hay and oats from the wagon," she said. With many other families of German descent, Eve's family pushed west, finally crossing the Elbe into Germany. The bridge was shortly after blown up by the Germans to stop the Soviets.

As Baltic Germans, the families were accepted and helped. Eve eventually was settled in the British Zone, as the war gradually ground to a halt.

After the war, and still very much in refugee status, Eve's maternal grandmother, who lived in the United States, had connections in Canada, making it possible for Eve to emigrate. A job was found in Prescott for her bright granddaughter, who not only spoke English but was educated. After settling, she moved to Brockville (Ontario).

Eve had to have accommodation and she was taken to St. Alban's Boys School, where she was able to rent a room. The schoolmaster's son was a very fine boy and soon romance blossomed between young Eve and Robert (Bertie) Mainwaring. "My joke always was I married my landlord so I didn't have to pay rent," said Eve with a smile.

And the young woman who was stamped by the horse found her way to horses again. From a small stone stable which still exists, she housed her first horses. She bought and sold a few before she met Toby. "Toby was a standardbred but I worked and worked with him until he became a fantastic eventer. He helped build my reputation as a horse woman," said Eve.

Established now as a respected horse woman, Eve held horse competitions at St. Alban's and one day met Ian Millar. They quickly formed a friendship and business partnership that took them to Belgium in search of the right horse for Millar. And yes, there they found Big Ben. Transported from Europe, he was quarantined at St. Alban's before he moved to Millar's stable near Perth. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Many, many fine years of teaching students, horse competitions and training horses ensued. Then, Bertie died. And gradually time took its toll. St. Alban's slipped from Eve's ownership, though she maintained the right to stay in her home of many years. Horses and teaching continued. Even as Eve's mobility has gradually failed her, her love of teaching has not and a golf cart sees her to the arena, were she still coaches.

On any given day, there are visitors at the house, friends and family, students old and new. "Some people who come to visit Eve were her students fifty years ago. There's always a big lunch here, every day, and Eve says: 'Who's coming for lunch today?' And people show up. She's loved and honoured," said resident coach, Beth Norrad.

Chris Gibson is the hired hand who runs the stable but so does a stable of volunteers. Chris is a former engineer and new to horses. "He's the best stable manager I've ever had!" declares Eve.

Soon, a complex of housing will exist where the hill rolls down from the stable to Broadway, the pasture for a number of active and well loved horses.

"If only we had had a million or three," said Chris. ■



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# NZ Hanoverian/Rheinland tour: “Type and foundation”

BY SALLY REID

PHOTOGRAPHY: HSI

*It was the biggest inspection of Hanoverians and Rheinlanders ever undertaken in New Zealand, both in volume and territory covered: 41 mares and 58 foals presented to a very busy Jens Meyer over nine days. Numbers aren't everything, however, and the tour wasn't just about quantity, as the standard of foals, in particular, was pleasingly high.*

Meyer, principal of Hengststation Jens Meyer in Dorum and consultant to Blue Hors Stud, doubtless needs no introduction to European readers, but it was his first New Zealand inspection tour. Robin Potter, the NZHS's studbook keeper, said, “Jens's knowledge was vast, and his sharing of this knowledge with the breeders – new and established – was generous. He was very big on ‘type and foundation’. His catch phrase was always the same: ‘Function comes from construction’. He knew exactly what he would see from the way the mares and foals looked and how they stood. Another saying – ‘they move the way they stand’.”

## *Mares: repeat success for River Park*

“There were 22 Hanoverian mares, six pre-studbook and 13 Rheinland, which was a record number,” said Potter, adding, “It comes from the chance to register foals from Warmblood mares covered by Hanoverian stallions, which, in the past, was not possible.”

The majority (23) of the mares presented were dressage-bred, 13 were bred for jumping, while five were Thoroughbreds.

The best Hanoverian mare honour went for the second year in succession to a horse bred by Renai Hart at River Park Stud near Auckland. The very beautiful recipient, River Park

Bellasaria (Benicio - Remi London Attraction x Londonderry), has super maternal bloodlines to complement those of the wonderful Benicio. Her dam, Remi London Attraction, was bred in Australia by Remi Stud, and is an ‘elite’ mare out of another ‘elite’ mare, Remi Fatal Attraction, who in turn is out of the elite Remi World Vision (Wolkenstein II x Winterkoenig). Reinforcing the fact that River Park and Renai Hart breed excellent mares, with River Park Waikiki (Worldly x Rock of Gibraltar xx), was a very close second to her stablemate, RP Bellasaria, this year.

Just one more fact about RP Bellasaria: she was a premium foal in the 2017 inspection under Dr Ludwig Christmann.

And there are several more exciting facts about Bellasaria's dam, Remi London Attraction, who is now 13 years old, and who scored 9.50 for type, 9.50 for walk and 9.50 for trot at her own classification in Australia. She is also the dam of River Park Waileah (Worldly), who was the best mare in the 2019 Hanoverian tour, and of 2018's best mare, Waimarie MH, who was bred by Matthews Hanoverians and is a full sister to RP Waileah. London Attraction was on lease to Matthews Hanoverians at the time.

But that's not all! Her latest baby, River Park Belafonte (Belantis) shared top Hanoverian foal honours this year (see below). Renai Hart believes this young boy will be exceptional, and he has recently been purchased.

“We purchased ‘Beanie’ as a two-and-a-half-year-old from Australia. She has been a fabulous broodmare for us, and it's been exciting that her first prize-winning filly is by my own stallion, Worldly, who we also imported – he came from Germany about nine years ago. That filly, River Park Waileah, is just starting her riding career.

“We then bred her to the wonderful stallion Benicio – this also resulted in a prize-winning filly, River Park Bellasaria. Beanie has also produced a premium colt by another of our own stallions, Swarovski, who we imported about four years ago.

“Our highlight this year was Beanie producing the first-equal foal of the Hanoverian tour, who is by Belantis. This coming year, we're expecting a foal by Total Hope. Beanie is a little mare with a huge heart and an amazing nature; she is a fabulous mother and a treasure to own.”



*Best Hanoverian jumping mare: Cornetta PSH (Cornet Obolensky - For Fame PSH x For Feeling)*

### **Best Pre-studbook mare \***

This honour went to Dakarra WHS (Dakar VDL - Qualine de Kergane SF x Elf d'Or SF), bred and owned by Angie and Christian Hillary of WHS Sport Horses. Her dam, Qualine de Kergane is an imported Selle Français, bred by Louis Menier's Elevage de Kergane in Brittany. This mare came to New Zealand as a four-year-old and (because of the Northern/Southern Hemisphere official horse birthday differences) won several seven-year old classes when she was actually just a six-year-old. She also won the 1m35 title at Horse of the Year, competed at Grand Prix level, and was judged the 'best mare over four' at this year's classifications (see below). Dakarra WHS is her ET daughter.

WHS Sporthorses is an Auckland-based showjumping team importing and breeding European sport horses, with the stated vision of developing top European bloodlines here. The beautiful, elegant grey Dakarra looks ready to bring this dream into reality.

### **Best Rheinland mare**

The Selle Français J'Adore (GT Jake - Jaybee Aloha x Jaybee Alabaster), topped this division for breeder Nikita Osborne of Seaforth Farm in Northland. The stud is small and relatively new, but its success this year is no fluke. Nikki Osborne is a vet and dressage rider, and has put an enormous amount of effort and research into her breeding programme over the last three years. The best Hanoverian foal of 2019, the fabulous SF Fürstin Star (Fürsten-Look -Sugar Babe x Samarant) was bred by her, too.

But, although it's a hard thing for a New Zealander to confess, the lovely SF J'Adore has all-Australian parentage! Her sire, GT Jake (Jazz x Aachen x Shiekie xo) was imported from Australia, where he was bred by GT Sporthorses. He received his NZWA licencing from German assessor, Gerd Kust, and now stands at Royston Equine. Jake is the only Jazz son in this country at present.

SF J'Adore's dam, Jaybee Aloha (Jaybee Alabaster -Jaybee Avalon (Aachimedes) carries the blood of Aachen and Argentinus. Aloha, bred in Australia by Jaybee Farm in Queensland, was Seaforth's foundation mare, and, although she is now deceased, she has left four very good progeny, including 2019's New Zealand champion six-year-old dressage horse, SF Artisan. SF J'Adore was her last foal.

Runner-up to J'Adore – and the scores were close – was Fonteyn O (Fürstenball OLD - Vollrath Ladyhawke x Lessing), a lovely, feminine mare bred and owned by Dr Anne Stewart of Ohuatahi Warmbloods, which is also in Northland. Her dam, Vollrath Ladyhawke, was bred by Bernie Maubach at Vollrath Stud; she in turn is out of the



**River Park Bellasaria (foreground) and River Park Waikiki**

beautiful Vollrath broodmare, Wild Fantasy (Worldwide - Dynamic Genie x Dynamit).

### **Best Hanoverian jumping mare**

A daughter of Cornet Obolensky, bred by Nicolette Rendle at Phoenix Sport Horses in Auckland, took this honour. She is the fine grey Cornetta PSH (Cornet Obolensky - For Fame PSH x For Feeling) who is owned by Hammond Equestrian in Cambridge. Her dam, For Fame PSH (Elite) was reserve best mare in her classification year, 2015, under the Verband's Hartmut Wilking.

### **Best Holsteiner mare**

This title went to the imported Ursula (Corrado I - Limone III Bezirksprämie x Landgraf I), from Stamm 2666, who was bred by Hermann and Ralph Sudek in Germany and is owned by Paul and Pip Ffolkes at Goldengrove Stud. This mare is the dam of US rider Richard Spooner's world and Nations' Cup jumper, Quirado RC (Quinar) and has a Goldengrove foal at foot this summer by Candyman GNZ (Casall Ask x Corrado I x Corlando) – terrific bloodlines.

### **Best mare family**

For an exceptional third time in succession, this award went to Stoneylea Farm's imported Stoneylea Lusenka (Laurie's Crusador xx - Lefalda Staatsprämie x Lemon Park), and her daughters, EM Stoneylea Welt Princess (Weltmeyer) and Stoneylea Francesca (Fürst Nymphenburg), both of whom are owned by their breeders, John and Angela Smith of Stoneylea Farm in Auckland.

The very lovely Lusenka is an elite/staatsprämie mare bred by Ilsemarie Wrede of Gut Neuensteden in Freiburg, Germany, and is from the famous old dam line of Schluppera (Stamm 1190815). She is one of the rare German Hanoverian mares imported to New Zealand and is obviously a huge asset

to breeding here. Her daughters could prove to be almost as important: the superbly bred five-year-old Stoneylea Welt Princess (Weltmeyer), was New Zealand's overall young dressage horse champion at the age of four in 2017, beating some very good five- and six-year-olds. Stoneylea Francesca was the top mare of the 2015 Verband tour, and her foal by Don Index was awarded 'premium' status in the 2017 tour conducted by Dr Ludwig Christmann.

As mentioned, Lusenka is from the celebrated Schluppera line, but she seems set to go down in New Zealand Hanoverian history as the founder of a magnificent line of her own. She, and her daughter Welt Princess, are now in foal to the 2019 Bundeschampionat winner, Damaschino (Danone I). "Yes, we are pleased with this lovely mare and the progeny she has produced," said Angela Smith – with full justification.



**Best mare family: Stoneylea Lusenka (Laurie's Crusador xx - Lefalda staatsprämie x Lemon Park)**

### **Best mare over four years old**

Qualine de Kergane WHS (Elf d'Or - Noria de Kergane x Drakkar des Hutins), who is the dam of this year's best Pre-studbook mare, Dakarra WHS (Dakar VDL) was the winner of this title. She is a Selle Français bred by Louis Menier in France, and won a Gecmo jumping title in Morbihan as a two-year-old before coming to New Zealand. She is owned by Christian and Angie Hillary of Auckland.

### **Elite mares and candidates**

Elite mare awards are presented to mares who have scored 7.50 or more in their classification and mare performance test, and have produced a registered Hanoverian foal. Two mares received the award this year: Fanfare MH (Fürstenball -

Danzare x Dancier) bred and owned by Matthews Hanoverians; and Henton Class Act (Contendro - Henton Elite x Escudo I) bred by Dave and Bridget Sutton at Henton Lodge, and owned by Matthews Hanoverians.

Two other mares became 'elite' candidates at their performance test – both bred by Matthews Hanoverians. One is a full sister to the fabulous Fanfare MH: Felize MH (Fürstenball - Danzare x Dancier); and the other is Ruby MH (Royal Mirage - Dream World MH x Dream Boy). Both Ruby and Felize trace back to the very influential imported mare St.Pr.St Wel Kantje (Weltmeyer x Pik Bube), who was bred by Anneli and Richard Baumgart in Germany.

### **Best Thoroughbred mare**

The elegant Classic Quest xx (Ball Park xx - Miss Creole xx x Tights xx), who has competed at both dressage and eventing for her owner, Belinda Fleming, was honoured as the winner of this title.

### **Foal roll of honour**

Over the nine days of the inspection, 58 foals were presented, and 68% of these were classified 'premium' (with a score of 7.50 or over). Two foals shared the top spot this year, both on a score of 8.80. Hanoverian dressage-bred foals were awarded 26 premiums, while there were 10 premium jumping-bred foals – five of whom scored over 8.00 – and four premium Rheinland foals.

### **Top foal overall**

This honour went to two colts on identical scores: River Park Belafonte (Belantis - Remi London



**Equal top foal Stoneylea Finley (Fürstenball Old - Stoneylea Lusenka x Lauries Crusador xx)**

Attraction x Londonderry), and Stoneylea Finley (Fürstenball Old - Stoneylea Lusenka x Lauries Crusador xx); full details of their dams are given above. Both of these young boys are outstanding and have strong international pedigrees.

### Top Hanoverian filly

Matthews Hanoverians' beautiful Fiore MH (Fürstenball Old - Remi Fiderdancer x Fidertanz) took this prize and she, too, has excellent bloodlines. Her imported dam, Remi Fiderdancer was one of the top 15 Hanoverian foals in Australia in 2014 and is out of an elite mare, Remi Destiny's Child (De Niro).

### Top Rheinland foal

Riverrock Firestone (Fürsten-Look - Sinderella FE x Salutation Old), bred and owned by Aliesha Moroney of Riverrock Farm in Cambridge, took this award. His dam, Sinderella FE, was bred by Kallista and Sharon Field at Field Equestrian, where the impressive imported stallion Salutation (Sandro Hit) stood. Riverrock Farm, established only in 2013, has been more involved with preparation of young racehorses than with breeding sport horses, but if this colt is anything to go by, we should be seeing more with that prefix in future.

There was a very close score for the runner-up foal, the scene-stealing Valhalla O (Vitalis - Delikatesse GF x Dream of Gold). This gorgeous dark-palomino colt was bred and is owned by Dr Anne Stewart of Whangarei. His dam, Delikatesse GF (Dream of Gold - Michelle GF x Malteser Gold), was imported from Germany, where she was bred by Gestüt Falkenhorst. She is a palomino German Warmblood, with palomino on both sides of her pedigree.

### Top Jumping foal

The very first jumping-bred foal inspected this year was PHS Cocolena (Zirocco Blue - Coco x Corlando), and he was

not surpassed at any later stage. He was bred by James Jackson at Piquet Hill Stud in the Waikato, and is an ET foal. His dam, who is still just six, competes at 1m40 with Jackson. Her own dam, Sabertage xx (Aberlou xx) has produced a number of good jumping, dressage, and eventing foals.



**Remi London Attraction and River Park Sacramento**

But, once again, the foal scores were close, and the runner-up was Cilla (Chacfly - Roma HH x Royal Diamond), an impressive, eventing-bred filly. Her dam, Roma HH is a full sister of the five-star eventer Rubinstar HH, out of the imported SWB mare Emiral (Flying Amiral). Cilla was bred by Imogen Neale, who has bred several good eventing horses.

Other impressive jumping babies were Cantino AH (Corofino II - Mrs Boss xx x Yamanin Vital xx) for breeders Andrew and Angie Mason of Amberley House; Centiment (Euro Sport Centavos - Fanciful x Fully Fledged xx) for Andrew and Lisa Preston of Wainuiomata near Wellington; and Carbon Copy MH (Cornet Obolensky - Henton Class Act x Contendro I), a colt bred by Judith Matthews at Matthews Hanoverians. Henton Class Act (Contendro - Henton Elite x Escudo I) was bred by Dave and Bridget Sutton of Henton Lodge Hanoverians, and received her 'elite' award this year. "She tracks back to Crown Lease xx, one of the most important Thoroughbred sport horse stallions in New Zealand and is related to 2015 Boekelo winner Henton Attorney General through a Distelfink mare called Delphi," said Robin Potter.

### Stand-out sires

As far as sires are concerned, there were six Swarovski progeny and four by Euro Sport Centavos - both of whom are resident in New Zealand. Fürstenball was also represented by four, and Totilas by two. ■

*\*Pre-Studbook mare: Hanoverian-bred with licensed pedigree, or approved pedigree in first two generations. Includes mares not Hanoverian branded but with verified birth certificate. All mare studbook conditions apply with additional requirement that they test with overall pass mark of 7.00. Fillies born from these mares are eligible to enter the main studbook.*



**Best Rheinland mare: the Selle Français J'Adore (GT Jake - Jaybee Aloha x Jaybee Alabaster), for breeder Nikita Osborne**

## IMPORTANT DATES 2020

August 5-9: FEI-WBFSH Dressage World Breeding Championship for Young Horses, Verden (GER)

September 16-20: FEI-WBFSH Showjumping World Breeding Championship for Young Horses, Lanaken (BEL)

## IMPORTANT DATES 2020

## WBFSH SIRE RANKINGS

### SHOWJUMPING

### DRESSAGE

### EVENTING

## WBFSH SIRE RANKINGS 2019

### SHOWJUMPING

1	Chacco-Blue	36,237	41	Douglas	3,621
2	Diamant De Semilly	22658	42	Heartbreaker	3,482
3	Casall	17,302	43	Colman	3,477
4	Toulon	14,150	44	Indoctro	3,403
5	Cornet Obolensky/ ex Windows vh Costersveld	13,456	45	Larino	3,338
6	Kashmir van Schuttershof	12,735	46	Ogano Sitte	3,333
7	Nabab De Reve	11,104	47	l'Arc de Triomphe	3,198
8	Cardento 933	10,186	48	Ugano Sitte	3,191
9	Berlin/ex Caspar	9,758	49	Quintender	3,148
10	Mylord Carthago	8,671	50	Quidam's Rubin	3,131
11	Quidam de Revel	8,409	51	Jarnac	3,001
12	Verdi	7,964	52=	Calido I	2,934
13	Tangelo vd Zuuthoeve	7,908	52=	Cornado I	2,934
14	Balou du Rouet	7,872	54	Canturano	2,933
15	For Pleasure	7,861	55	Quasimodo Z	2,785
16	Kannan	7,821	56	Contendro Ii	2,727
17	Calvaro Z	7,494	57	Air Jordan Z	2,718
18	Cicero Z van Paemel	6,844	58	Eldorado vd Zeshoek	2,700
19	Numero Uno/ex Norton	6,667	59	Emerald van't Ruytershof	2,688
20	Diarado	6,514	60	Luidam	2,656
21	Baloubet du Rouet	5,855	61	Lordanos	2,596
22	Clinton	5,818	62	Contagio	2,580
23	Quaprice Bois Margot/ ex Quincy	5,703	63	Contact van de Heffinck	2,535
24	Lord Pezi	5,313	64	Querlybet Hero	2,509
25	Contendro I	5,273	65	Ukato	2,499
26	Lord Z	5,213	66	Ustinov	2,491
27	Catoki	5,190	67	Quick Star	2,449
28	Clarimo	4,779	68	Stakkato	2,448
29	Thunder vd Zuuthoeve	4,686	68	Vigo d'Arsouilles	2,401
30	Zirocco Blue	4,467	69	Wandor van de Mispelaere	2,398
31	Cassini I	4,458	70	Lupicor	2,390
32	Quintero	4,257	71	Perigueux	2,331
33	Mr Blue	4,248	72	Nintender	2,275
34	Cassini II	4,182	73	Carambole	2,255
35	Canturo	3,920	74	Cartani	2,248
36	Namelus R	3,870	75	Apache d'Adriers	2,245
37	Clearway	3,691	76	Vingino	2,220
38	Cantos	3,678	77	Corland	2,213
39	Darco	3,645	78	Allegreto	2,170
40	Andiamo Z	3,635	79	Flipper d'Elle	2,124
			80		

## WORLD BREEDING FEDERATION FOR SPORT HORSES

VILHELMSBORG ALLÉ 1  
8320 MAARSLET  
DENMARK

TEL: +45 (0)87 475400  
FAX: +45 (0)87 475410

WWW.WBFSH.ORG





## DRESSAGE

1	Jazz	21,578	26	Zack	4,895
2	Johnson	20,468	27	Aromats	4,779
3	Sandro Hit	20,050	28	United	4,644
4	De Niro	18,388	29	Danone I	4,476
5	Quaterback	12,856	30	Sancisco	4,437
6	Don Frederico	12,825	31	Rubi	4,368
7	Fidertanz	12,496	32	Dr Doolittle 45	4,271
8	Rubin Royal	12,195	33	Spielberg	4,260
9	Vivaldi	11,534	34	Damon Hill	4,240
10	Don Schufro	10,937	35	Dressage Royal	4,108
11	Florencio I	10,496	36	Farewell Iii	3,943
12	Stedinger	10,487	37	Estobar	3,912
13	Diamond Hit	10,078	38	Desperados	3,797
14	Rousseau	9,228	39	Londonderry	3,671
15	Dimaggio	9,018	40	Weltmeyer	3,524
16	San Amour I	8,208	41	Contango	3,466
17	Gribaldi	8,157	42	Ferro	3,410
18	Sir Donnerhall	8,026	43	Osmium	3,404
19	Romanov	7,007	44	Samarant	3,340
20	Hotline	6,524	45	Michellino	3,290
21	San Remo	6,513	46	Voice	3,279
22	Dancier	6,002	47	Florett As	3,222
23	Breitling W	5,781	48	Royal Diamond	3,195
24	Belissimo M	5,440	49	Painted Black	3,191
25	Sandro	5,419	50	Negro	3,048

## EVENTING

1	Contendro I	1,688	27	Windfall	386
2	Grafenstolz	1,207	28	Garrison Royal	380
3	Jaguar Mail	855	29	Heraldik xx	374
4	Quite Easy 958	738	30	Camiro de Haar Z	370
5	Courage II	664	31	Womanizer	351
6	Diarado	644	32	Lasino	350
7	Ars Vivendi	607	33	Moravia	349
8	Valentino 240	573	34	Chilli Morning	348
9	Limmerick	552	35	Verdi	337
10	OBOS Quality 004	535	36	Contender	334
11	Diamant de Semilly	490	37	Clover Echo	326
12	Jumbo	487	38	Quality 9	314
13	Master Imp	470	39	Casantos	300
14	Shannondale Sarco	463	40	Vigo d'Arsoailles	297
15	Kannan	447	41	l'Arc de Triomphe	296
16	Ricardo Z	430	42	Radolin	286
17	Fidertanz	426	43	Indoctro	284
18	Mylord Carthago	424	44	Chacco Blue	274
19=	Balou du Rouet	423	45	Carrico	268
19=	Ramiro B	423	46	Contendros Bube	267
21	Mighty Magic	407	47	Littorio	265
22	Landos	403	48	Winningmood vd Arenberg	263
23	Betel xx	399			
24=	Jack of Diamonds	398	49=	Arkansas	261
24=	Ustinov	398	49=	Captain Fire	261
26	Puissance	391			



*For Pleasure/Lars Nieberg (GER)*



*Damon Hill/Helen Langehanenburg (GER)*



*fischerChipmunk (Contendro)/  
Michael Jung (GER)*

# 2020

## MARCH

### 4-8 Herning (DEN)

Danish Warmblood Stallion Show  
Tel: +45 (0)87 47 5400  
Fax: +45 (0)87 47 5410  
varmblod@varmblod.dk  
www.varmblod.dk

### 12-14 Oudsbergen (BEL)

BWP stallion approvals (third phase)  
Tel: +32 (0)16 47 99 80  
Fax: +32 (0)16 47 99 85  
info@bwp.be / www.bwp.be

### 26-29 Lanaken (BEL)

Z-Tour: CSI1\*/2\*, Young Horses and U25  
Tel: +32 (0)89 73 00 30  
Fax: +32 (0)89 71 84 10  
studbook@zangersheide.com  
www.zangersheide.com

## APRIL

### 2-5 Lanaken (BEL)

Z-Tour: Young Horses and U25  
Tel: +32 (0)89 73 00 30  
Fax: +32 (0)89 71 84 10  
studbook@zangersheide.com  
www.studbook.zangersheide.com

### 3/4 Vechta (GER)

92<sup>nd</sup> Oldenburg Spring Elite Auction and 9<sup>th</sup> Saddle Licensing  
Tel: +49 (0)441 93550  
Fax: +49 (0)441 935599  
info@oldenburger-pferde.com  
www.oldenburger-pferde.com

### 6-13 Moritzburg (GER)

Sales Week at the Moritzburg State Stud  
Tel: +49 (0)35 207 89631  
verkauf@pzvst.de / www.pzvst.de

### 10-13 Lanaken (BEL)

Z-Tour: CSI1\*/3\*, Young Horses and U25  
(See previous Zangersheide entry for contact information)

### 18 Verden (GER)

Hanoverian Riding Horse Auction  
Tel: +49 (0)4231 6730  
Fax: +49 (0)4231 67312  
hannoveraner@hannoveraner.com  
www.hannoveraner.com

## MAY

### 30 Verden (GER)

Hanoverian Foal Auction  
Tel: +49 (0)4231 6730  
Fax: +49 (0)4231 67312  
hannoveraner@hannoveraner.com  
www.hannoveraner.com

## JUNE

### 10-13 Vechta (GER)

Oldenburger Summer Meeting  
Tel: +49 (0)441 93550  
Fax: +49 (0)441 935599  
info@oldenburger-pferde.com  
www.oldenburger-pferde.com

### 13 Vechta (GER)

3<sup>rd</sup> Oldenburg Special Edition Auction  
Tel: +49 (0)441 93550  
Fax: +49 (0)441 935599  
info@oldenburger-pferde.com  
www.oldenburger-pferde.com

### 22 Viernheim (GER)

DSP 'Shooting Stars' foal auction  
Tel: +49 (0)35 207 89631  
verkauf@pzvst.de / www.pzvst.de

## JULY

### 18 Verden (GER)

Hanoverian Riding Horse Auction  
Tel: +49 (0)4231 6730  
Fax: +49 (0)4231 67312  
hannoveraner@hannoveraner.com  
www.hannoveraner.com

### 23 Vechta (GER)

Oldenburg Elite Broodmare Show  
Tel: +49 (0)441 93550  
Fax: +49 (0)441 935599  
info@oldenburger-pferde.com  
www.oldenburger-pferde.com

### 25-August 7 Tokyo (JPN)

Summer Olympic Games  
twww.tokyo2020.org

### 27 Nördlingen (GER)

DSP Foal Auction  
Tel: +49 (0)35 207 89631  
verkauf@pzvst.de  
www.pzvst.de

### 27 Berlin (GER)

DSP Auction of jumping foals  
Tel: +49 (0)35 207 89631  
verkauf@pzvst.de  
www.pzvst.de

## AUGUST

### 3 Donaueschingen (GER)

DSP Foal Auction  
Tel: +49 (0)35 207 89631  
verkauf@pzvst.de  
www.pzvst.de

### July 25-7/8 Tokyo (JPN)

Summer Olympic Games  
twww.tokyo2020.org

### 4 Verden (GER)

Herward von der Decken Show  
Tel: +49 (0)4231 6730  
Fax: +49 (0)4231 67312  
hannoveraner@hannoveraner.com  
www.hannoveraner.com

### 5-9 Verden (GER)

Dressage World Breeding Championship for Young Horses  
Tel: +49 (0)4231 67 37 68  
turnier@verden-turnier.de  
www.verden-turnier.de

### 7/8 Verden (GER)

Hanoverian Auction of Foals and Broodmares  
Tel: +49 (0)4231 6730  
Fax: +49 (0)4231 67312  
hannoveraner@hannoveraner.com  
www.hannoveraner.com

### 18-22 Ermelo (NED)

KWPN Championships  
Tel: +31 (0)341 255555  
Fax: +31 (0)341 255535  
info@kwpn.nl / www.kwpn.nl