

APRIL 2020

Timeo hominem unius fibri
WORLD BREEDING NEWS
for Sport Horses

BN #280

Breeder interviews

Stallion profiles

Bloodline analysis



LA SILLA / Pety Marich



LA SILLA / Pety Marich



LA SILLA / Pety Marich

Father



Mother



LA SILLA / Pety Marich

OTOMÍ GRAND PRIX CSI2* México, March 2020

MANGLAR LS LA SILLA 2014

Lic: SLS



CHAPULTEPEC LA SILLA

Lic: SLS, SP

CSI GP

CSI YH

CSI

LAUDANUM XX

Lic: XC, SP

CSI GP, CSI GP

ADORET

HANF

HIRTIN

HOLST

(Lexisto's Mother)

CAROLUS I

Lic: DWD, BAWM, HOLST, RICH

OLDG

WAAGE I

HOLST

RISCAL LS LA SILLA

Lic: SLS, HOLST

CSI YH

CSI GP

CSI D

RISUEÑO LA SILLA

Lic: SLS, SP, CCOM

CSI D, CSI GP, WC

CSO 1998

CLASSIC LA SILLA

KWPN

NAT

CANTAREL LS

Lic: SLS

YH

MARIMBA LA SILLA

HOLST

CSI D

Winnipeg 1999

CSI GP

CP*

CAPITOL I

Lic: HOLST

WB-SH*

VANESSA XI

HOLST

MARIBÍ LS

CDLS

CSI

YH

NAT

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20 – SBS INTERNATIONAL SHOW TAKES PLACE WITHOUT A GENERAL PUBLIC

On March 6-8, the sBs International Selection Show took place, with the stallion approval as one of the highlights. Due to concerns about the spread of the coronavirus, the organizers had to change the program and visitors were limited to only stallion owners, accompanying personnel, members of the organization, and journalists.



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We have waited a long time for a dressage stallion who was not only an international dressage star himself, but also the sire of great progeny - in particular stallion sons. There was Donnerhall, and his son De Niro, stallions and stallion makers as well as top competitors, and now Zack is certainly putting his hoof up to claim his share of the glory....



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The second edition of the International Breeding Conference 'How to raise success' was organized on the last day of February 2020 by Cichon Stallions, in Radzionkow, Poland. Ahead of any coronavirus lock-downs, the event gathered together 250 breeders, as well as representatives from most of the European studbooks



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AGATA GROSICKA | CHRISTOPHER HECTOR | SALLY REID | JO DE ROO | ADRIANA VAN TILBURG

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WORLD BREEDING NEWS Timeo hominem unius libri for Sport Horses

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Launched in January 1977, BREEDING NEWS FOR SPORT HORSES is published every month by Breeding International Ltd., and is available exclusively online. From January 1, 2019, the publication's title was changed to WORLD BREEDING NEWS FOR SPORT HORSES to reflect the new partnership between the World Breeding Federation for Sport Horses and Breeding News.

Twelve issues each year are uploaded to our website before the last day of every month.

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Unsolicited articles, photographs and letters on any suitable subject may be submitted on-spec by email to editor@breedingnews.com.

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BREEDING NEWS FOR SPORT HORSES publishes the BN WORLDWIDE SPORT HORSE STALLION DIRECTORY: A digital version with a stallion database is uploaded onto the BN website in March every year.

WWW.BREEDINGNEWS.COM

EDITORIAL

“WE HAVE TO REINVENT EVERYTHING!”



“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 [my grandfather] 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?....

These were the final lines of my last column. Yes, only one month ago! However it’s feels like a century that I have been confined to my yard with my horses, like most of all of you!

I was then only referring to the way in which sport horse breeding has evolved, tending above all to respond to short-term concerns, to make money before any other considerations, such as this common sense concern that is genetic diversity. Fast, fast, faster! Profit, profit, more profit!

So goes the world: madly. This coronavirus crisis that will devastate among all the weak horse’s economy, is a new alert. Have we forgotten all that the horse has taught us since Xenophon: respect, tact, wisdom, caution?

Has anyone noticed that civilization has progressed at the speed of a galloping horse for nearly three millennia and that since we left behind at the beginning of the 20th century, the planet has succumbed to the blows of the so-called ‘progress’?

Let it be said that we are not against progress, but should simply heed the warning that progress without without good and fair reasons, that is to say in harmony with natural world that surrounds us, will quickly become derailed.

Did we need a slap like the one we are experiencing so that the biggest promoters of our sport, which impacts breed-

ing and allows it to exercise, wonder about the way it evolves.

Not to hide anything, we were as surprised and delighted by the self-criticism of Christophe Ameeuw, founder and organizer of the Longines Masters, in a statement issued following the respective cancellations of the stages of Hong Kong (at the end of February) and Lausanne (June 2020)

‘In Mandarin, the sign for ‘crisis’ also means opportunity. It’s either now or never that we question this artificial bubble that the world has built, including in our field, and in which we all live; we must take advantage of this crisis to reinvent ourselves, to reorganize, to structure ourselves in order to find a far more solid model, which will immediately find its place in this new world. It’s necessary, essential. The horse world was also in overdrive, with countless events and trips, and institutions which seemed regularly overwhelmed.’ [...]

‘This crisis is one of over-globalization, over-consumption, a non-existent and unrealistic economic bubble, disrespect for nature, the environment and the planet. The senselessness of many of our actions and our contempt for future generations. I repeat; we have to reinvent everything, finding a place for our sport in this new world. We have to be aware that this new world will probably no longer tolerate our garden parties, our trucks that could carry houses but only carry three horses, our overdeveloped ultra-ephemeral structures that are only there for three or four days of competition.’

We admire Christophe. He is a self-made man, a horseman, an entrepreneur, and he has the courage and the humility to say we are going wrong. We especially like when he says, ‘I repeat: we have to reinvent everything.’

Let us say to you Christophe, it won’t be an easy task, you will have to be creative and inspired.

Having said this, we at World Breeding News, as the voice of sport horse breeders around the world, we know that horses are the hallmarks of our humanity, tomorrow as much as yesterday. We will be at your side and at the side of those responsible for the future of equestrian sports.

Stay safe, everyone, wherever you are....

Xavier Libbrecht

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LIFE WITH THE CORONAVIRUS



It is probably premature to be speculating about the long-term effects on the horse industry and in particular the sport horse world, of the coronavirus, but it is difficult not to wonder how we are going to cope in the short term and what will happen in the long

term.

One short term effect, with the cancellation of horse shows, is the data for calculating of rankings will not exist until shows resume. That is of course a relatively minor inconvenience, but it is indicative of the small and unexpected ways that this crisis will penetrate every aspect of what we do.

Of greater concern is the economic fallout. The horse industry has just begun to recover from what is often called the Great Recession of 2008. Our cycle from the time a breeding decision is made to when that decision effectively affects the market is four to five years. It took years for the supply and demand to find some balance again, thanks to severe reductions in breeding. In a recession, recreational and luxury purchases are the first to go, so we know there will be a significant drop in demand, in the short term at least. How severe that will be depends of how long the lock-downs continue and how quickly we will return to some semblance of normal activities. The questions for breeders are, how much inventory can I support until the supply chain starts to move again, and how many mares should I breed for an uncertain future market?

Regardless of whether you are a breeder that sells foals each year or a breeder that retains and develops young horses for sale later, a slow down in demand will be felt all the way down the supply chain. These concerns will be foremost in breeders' minds as

the breeding season progresses.

On a practical level, it remains to be seen how much disruption there will be to the distribution of semen and the movement of breeding stock. Governments across the board seem to be committed to keeping business going as much as possible, but borders are closing to all but essential travel. Stallion and mare owners will need to be doubly vigilant to avoid contracting the virus so that their operations do not get placed in quarantine. In many jurisdictions protocols are being put in place to facilitate transport of breeding animals, while minimizing risk to the people involved.

As horse people we are perhaps more familiar with concerns around bio security and disease transmission than the average person. Horse identification and traceability is mandated in most countries, and international protocols are in place to deal with foreign animal diseases. Testing and quarantine periods are required for the movement of horses and genetic material, from one health jurisdiction to another. A localized outbreak results in immediate isolation and quarantine. It is not difficult to imagine that some of these measures will permanently be applied to human travel; stricter health and vaccination requirements before travel, and increased traceability while en route.

While these measures may seem to impinge upon our personal freedom, our experience with livestock shows that it is a small price to pay for freedom from disease and continued freedom of movement.

Chris Gould
Vice President
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

Numerous bids – 13 out of 20 horses sold: On March 21, due to the Covid-19 virus, the sale of horses through a bidding process in lieu of a regular auction for the Marbach State Stud saw a satisfactory result. Supervised by sales manager Hendrik Schulze Rückamp, Beate Beck, head of budget and finance, and Nicole Meyer from the stud farm opened the bids at 2:00 p.m. Of the 20 horses for sale (one horse was not presented), 13 horses changed hands, five did not receive a bid, and two horses did not reach the minimum price. The net sales prices were between €6,250 and €26,100, with net average of €13,850 for the 13 horses sold. Two horses were sold abroad and according to studfarm manager Dr. Astrid von Velsen-Zerweck; “The average price of the horses sold is even slightly higher than the average price of the last stud auction. In the exceptional situation of the Corona pandemic, we had to use the bidding process to break new ground in the short term in order not to disappoint the numerous prospective buyers and the owners. Our team was not discouraged. In view of the crisis situation, we are satisfied with the result and wish all buyers joy and success with their horses.” For Rolf Eberhardt, head of training, who had earlier staged the horses in front of the cameras with other members of the Marbach team, “I think we will find buyers for the remaining seven horses over the next few days.”



Laruso (Larimar) Ph: Stephan Kube

Due to all the cancellations as measures against the spread of the Covid-19 coronavirus, the board of the KWPN has taken the decision that all the stallions selected during this year's show in 's-Hertogenbosch will receive breeding licenses for this season valid until October 1. The board explained that it is neither in the interests of the breeders, nor the owners, to restrict covering duties for the interesting, newly licensed stallions. There are three conditions: x-rays must be correct, respiratory system good, as well as semen quality. The first two conditions already had to be met ahead of the stallion show at the end of January. After October 1, the 35-day stallion test will still take place under saddle for approval in 2021. (CvA)

CHIO Aachen postponed: “For quite some time now, we have already been in intense communication with the International Equestrian Federation FEI, the German Equestrian Association, the authorities and our partners,” said Frank Kemperman, chairman of the Aachen-Laurensberger Rennverein e.V. (ALRV), organisers of the CHIO Aachen, and Michael Mronz, general manager of the CHIO marketing company, the Aachener Reitturnier GmbH (ART). Taking the current coronavirus crisis into account, the aim behind these discussions is to weigh the options of what is the best solution for the CHIO Aachen and for all of the visitors, athletes with their horses, partners and staff of the show. The original venue date at the beginning of June cannot be adhered to: “It makes no sense to stick to the planned date, the current and future health and safety of all persons involved in the show has absolute priority for us,” reported Frank Kemperman. Our primary goal is thus now to organise the CHIO Aachen at a later date in the year. As soon as the new date for the CHIO Aachen 2020 has been finalised, it will be announced immediately. The CHIO Aachen organisers will then also inform the ticket customers about all further necessary details. Due to the current circumstances, the offices of the CHIO Aachen will remain closed until further notice. www.chioaachen.de

Société Hippique Française (SHF) puts protocols in place for the movement of broodmares for covering services during the Covid-19 crisis, stating their commitment to fighting against the spread of the virus and issuing a memorandum of understanding for the 2020 breeding season. ‘It is the result of joint work by the three parent companies, France Galop, Le Trot and the Société Hippique Française, coordinated by Mr. Loïc Malivet, new president of the ‘Horse Industry’, with the help of IFCE (Institut Français du Cheval et de l'Équitation). The health security measures, which the socio-professional actors undertake to apply, testify to their ability to respond collectively to a major crisis situation in order to allow the continuity of professional activity. The documentation required by both the mare owner, the transporter, and the breeding centre/stallion owner can be downloaded from the SHF website: www.shf.eu

Message from the managing editor of World Breeding News: During the current and ongoing Covid-19 crisis, World Breeding News will continue publishing every month online, and will make every effort to keep you, the breeders, well informed regarding changes, postponements, and cancellations to major events from which we would normally be reporting. Obviously, the major news is the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games, which will now take place one year later, in 2021.

Already, as a way of retaining some sense of normalcy – professionally as well as economically – some studbooks are adapting and using online resources for their seasonal auctions, from which we will post the results either directly online in ‘news’ updates, or in our monthly issues. Other studbooks have established strict hygiene protocols for the movement and handling of horses to enable the breeding season to continue with the safety and security of personnel uppermost, for which we will also publish updates.

As a result of constantly evolving circumstances around the world, you will discover that our content will also adapt, and may be a little more diverse, while continuing to employ our regular correspondents to provide articles, interviews and special features. It's a strange a difficult time for so many people, so please try and stay safe, wherever you are in the world. *Jean*

Herning dazzles, three days before Denmark's lock-down

BY THOMAS BACH JENSEN / DWB

PHOTOGRAPHY: RIDEHESTEN.COM

The Danish Warmblood stallion licensing in Herning is known to be a great stallion show, akin to a European final, with several of the best dressage colts from other venues being owned by Danish stallion keepers. However, this year Herning was in a race against time, as the coronavirus put Denmark into a lockdown three days after the show ran on March 5-8.

Therefore, this unique show that unifies horse sport and breeding, now counts as the last memory of an exceptional experience for so many horse people, now bound to stay home, both inside and outside of Denmark. So sit back and enjoy the highlights from Herning in our event re-run.



The immense Danish Warmblood show in the Boxen unifies sport and breeding and gathers thousands of horse enthusiasts from around the world. This year the show was upgraded with FEI five-star dressage

Event facts and figures

- Behind the 'DWB 5-star Dressage' is a group of eight sponsors who, together with the Danish Warmblood Stallion Show, have made a supreme effort to bring five-star dressage to Herning
- The eight sponsors are: Blue Hors, ECCO, Helgstrand Dressage, Nathalie Horse Care, Stutteri EVO, Trolle, Vodskov Bolighus, and Zibrasport Equest
- Visually, as well as in other aspects, the organisers of DWB 5-star Dressage will go the extra mile for the audience to experience that an exceptional framework is created around world-class dressage
- Five-star dressage is the highest level in international dressage sport. It is equal to the level that is ridden at the Olympic Games, World Equestrian Games, European Championships, and World Cup qualifiers. This means that

riders can earn valuable points towards the world rankings – with ranking points translating into good seeding for Tokyo 2020 (in 2021)

- DWB 5-star Dressage comprises three tests: Friday – a Grand Prix with 20 riders, after which the group is divided into two, each with 10 riders who either participate in Saturday's GP Special, or Sunday's GP Freestyle

- CDI3*: Danish Warmblood is focused on supporting talent development and, therefore, provide dressage classes at the lower three-star level where the young stars can show their talents in either small tour (Prix St. Georges and Intermediaire I) or in big tour (Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle)

- Behind the great event in Herning is the Danish Warmblood studbook (DWB) which for the 41st time hosted their stallion show and much more in MCH Messecenter Herning. They welcomed around 900 horses, riders from more than 20 nations, more than 300 exhibitors to the trade fair – which is the most visited fair at MCH Messecenter Herning, plus more than 350 volunteers in action during the event.



Danish team rider Daniel Bachmann Andersen riding gold medal stallion Blue Hors Zackerey accompanied by vocalist Patrick Dorgan during one of two spectacular Gala Shows the audience could enjoy



The Danish bronze medal winning team from Beijing 2008 Olympic Games in Hong Kong: Arne van Olst, Nathalie zu Sayn-Wittgenstein and Andreas Helgstrand delivered a popular performance during the Gala Show

Nine-hundred stallions and sport horses meet

A total of 900 stallions for selection, plus dressage and showjumping horses from more than 20 countries moved into MCH Messecenter Herning.

In total, 18 showjumpers and 24 dressage colts were selected during the Danish pre-selection for the stallion licensing in Herning, which saw many of the best stallions from the German and Dutch licensing that had been purchased by Danish stallion keepers. The many newly licensed and imported young stallions will meet these 42 young stallions that have not yet been through a licensing procedure.

Among them are several representatives of the first crop by former world champion Revolution, and one of them is out of a full sister to the triple world champion Sezuan.

Adding to their fame

Many renowned dressage stallions have taken their first steps towards fame at the Danish Warmblood stallion show in Herning, such as Zonik, Sezuan and Hesselhøj Donkey Boy. These three stallions had collectively sired five of the nine medallists at the dressage World Breeding Championship for Young Horses in Ermelo last year. This seems to indicate a sign of the times; the growing influence of Danish Warmblood.

Alongside the stallion licensing, breeding enthusiasts witnessed dressage and showjumping classes exclusively for licensed stallions, allowing them to see a more complete picture of the stallions in sport and breeding.

Let the Games begin...

Popular features of the event are the international classes – alongside clinics, gala shows and the tack fair – in dressage and show jumping which combines sport and breeding at the absolute top level. Year after year, new

elements have been added to increase its one-of-a-kind status.

In recent years, a consistent theme has characterized the event and the great gala shows on Friday and Saturday nights. This year, the theme during the Danish Warmblood Stallion Show will, of course, be the Olympic Games. Hence the title of this year's event: Let the Games Begin. [Ed: Since the Herning show Tokyo 2020 has been postponed until 2021.]



The five-day event saw a total of 63 stallions of different ages approved

Stallion of the Year 2020: Sezuan

Unfortunately, in absentia, the triple world champion for young dressage horses, Sezuan was proclaimed Danish Warmblood Stallion of the Year 2020

The 11-year-old Sezuan is a black pearl in Danish breeding, who has also stamped his territory far beyond Denmark's borders having sired numerous licensed stallions and young sport horses that are successful in national as well as international championships throughout Europe.

Sezuan is out of Bøgegården's very strong and proven damline with the elite mare Lajka in his fourth generation. This damline has produced several licensed stallions and highly decorated mares as well as many elite mares. Sezuan's enormous impact in breeding does not come from nowhere. His dam, the gold medal mare Bøgegårdens Don Romina (Blue Hors Don Schufro) was crowned 2006 Mare of the Year as the best three-year-old performance-tested mare of Danish Warmblood. Sezuan is a product of what is often referred to in Danish breeding as the 'golden cross' – Blue Hors Zack combined with Donnerhall blood.

Andreas Helgstrand owned Bøgegårdens Don Romina and bred her to Blue Hors Romanov and Blue Hors Zack before he sold the pregnant mare to Linette Jæger who then registered the foal to be sired by Romanov, but DNA later proved the black colt to be by Zack. As a three-year-old Sezuan was presented for licensing by Helgstrand Dressage, and later that year at the stallion performance test he broke all former records by achieving ten times the score of 10, and the following year he was the undisputed star and champion stallion of the licensing in Herning in 2013. In February 2014, the German dressage stable and stallion station Peterhof, owned by Arlette Jasper-Kohl and Professor Edwin



Head of DWB breeding committee Inge Madsen and DWB president Jan Pedersen presented the prizes for the Stallion of the Year: A statuette granted by former president Peder Hostrup Pedersen, and a portrait of Sezuan painted by Thomas Bach Jensen

Kohl, purchased the Danish-bred stallion.

In the hands of German top rider Dorothee Schneider, Sezuan has been undefeated in the FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championship, becoming the first in history to win gold in all three age groups. Schneider has repeatedly claimed, "I have never ridden a horse of the quality of Sezuan".

Today, the stallion is being trained under the saddle of Swedish top rider Patrik Kittel. Neither Sezuan nor his owners were able to be present in Herning to be honoured, but they produced a video that was displayed on the big screen, enabling the audience in Herning to get a glimpse of Sezuan's current training level with Kittel.

As a four-year-old Sezuan was honoured with the Aage Ravens challenge cup as the best performance-tested DWB dressage stallion, and in 2017 he was awarded HRH Princess Benedikte's challenge cup for his unique and outstanding performances, and now he has achieved the ultimate honour in Dansk Varmblod as their stallion of the year.



In 2018 the spectators in Herning were honoured with the presence of Sezuan and Patrik Kittel

European sire

Sezuan stamps his worldwide offspring with remarkable quality. In DWB alone he has sired 338 foals, but has influenced dressage horse breeding far beyond Danish borders, said spokesman of the breeding committee, Claus Hansen in his honouring speech.

Sezuan's fantastic mind and superior basic gaits are traits he passes to his progeny. Clear and visible evidence is the fact that he tops the Danish Warmblood breeding value ranking for dressage stallions with a very superior index of 155.

A total of 73 of his daughters are graded in Warmblood and no fewer less than 82% are graded in the main studbook. Nineteen of these mares, in other words 26% of his graded daughters, have been awarded a breeder medal. Ten bronze, six silver and three of the absolute highest carat gold medals – the highest distinction – have been granted to Queenparks Wendy, Gozzip, and Schwarze Schwalbe Macohl.

Sezuan has also produced many licensed stallions, including four sons fully licensed with DWB: Janeiro Platinum, So Unique, Suarez, and Tørveslettens Sylvester.

His offspring have dominated the Danish young horse championships in recent years, and on an international level his success as a sire is equally strong as two five-year-olds claimed medals at the WBCYH in Ermelo last year, when the licensed stallion Secret won silver, and the Danish gold medal mare Queenparks Wendy took bronze.

According to Claus Hansen, "He is still on top of the breeding game, and we hope that he will be available for many years ahead."

Stallions of the Year 1998-2020

| | |
|------|--------------------------------|
| 1998 | Lucky Light DVE 366 |
| 1999 | Midt-West Ibi-Light DVE 360 |
| 2000 | Schwadronneur DVE 343 |
| 2001 | Lando DH 430 |
| 2002 | Come Back II DVE 560 |
| 2003 | Blue Hors Don Schufro DVE 690 |
| 2004 | Carano DVE 521 |
| 2005 | Solos Landtinus DVE 674 |
| 2006 | Michellino DVE 542 |
| 2007 | Blue Hors Hertug DVE 700 |
| 2008 | Casir Ask DVE 497 |
| 2009 | Cajus DVE 634 |
| 2010 | Blue Hors Don Romantic DVE 801 |
| 2011 | Blue Hors Romanov DVE 818 |
| 2012 | Crelido DVE 752 |
| 2013 | Heartbeat DVH 871 |
| 2014 | Blue Hors Zack DVE 943 |
| 2015 | Bøgegårdens Apollo DVE 767 |
| 2016 | Blue Hors Hotline DVE 916 |
| 2017 | Favorit Ask DVE 1035 |
| 2018 | Fürstenball DVE 1021 |
| 2019 | Skovens Rafael DVE 930 |
| 2020 | Sezuan DVE 1110 |



In 2017 Arlette Jasper-Kohl and Edwin Kohl received HRH Princess Benedikte's challenge cup, and Danish Warmblood's president Jan Pedersen made a speech to the owners of Sezuan

Thirty-one older stallions licensed for DWB

A total of 20 dressage stallions and 11 showjumpers in the four-year-old and older category were fully licensed by Danish Warmblood on the Thursday evening, entitling them to enter the competition and presentation classes scheduled for the coming days.

Danish Warmblood's breeding goals are: 'A refined, tall and supple riding horse with good rideability and health. It has the performance ability in either jumping or dressage and can perform internationally.'

In recent years, stallions that may not quite meet the studbook's breeding goal in terms of refinement have been approved for breeding. However, the majority of Danish Warmblood mares entirely meet the requirements of refinement and expression. Therefore, it makes sense to broaden the supply of stallions by including stallions possessing a high degree of functionality and a strong performance-pedigree, even though they do not fully meet the standards to type. This is precisely what is often made very clear with the licensing of the older stallions.

Breeding is constantly evolving

In 1987, the Danish Warmblood's first 'Breeding Plan' came in a series of five preliminary plans that have since been used as a framework and management tools for the breeding committee and a guide for breeders. These plans have set the direction for horse breeding in Denmark, and now, a new Breeding Plan that extends until 2030 has just been launched.

The breeding plan is one of the studbook's most important tools in competition with other studbooks. Every studbook is working to improve their product, and Danish Warmblood does not aim to just keep up with the standard, but preferably go above and beyond. The Breeding Plan should be considered as a template on which breeding measures will focus in the coming years. It is neither set in stone nor inflexible, but can be adapted to changes. Being adaptable for change is a key competitive parameter.

Spokesperson Claus Hansen said: "Breeding is

constantly evolving, and even though our studbook has a breeding goal, this needs to be adjusted continuously because new breeding knowledge and breeding tools, such as linear scoring and genomic selection, can optimize the breeding. In addition, new reproduction methods have become available, such as embryo transfer, ICSI, etc., which will place greater demands on the management of inbreeding.

"As a studbook, one must also consider that sport is changing, and the horses we breed today are the horses that should reach the top level in 10 years. Thus, the breeding plan is the best bet for the necessary initiatives at this time, but a ten-year period is a long time, also in the horse breeding, where new initiatives can come and others go."

The overall breeding goal is still to produce horses that can perform at international level, but the breeding goal can be adjusted, and the breeding committee is working towards a differentiated weighting of which features are most important. According to DWB breeding adviser, Karina Christiansen; "When judging the walk of a horse we assess rhythm, ground-cover, suppleness, and energy. Obviously, we would like to have all the qualities, but we attach more importance to rhythm and energy than ground-cover, because the horse can cover so much ground that the execution becomes slow and the walk loses its rhythm which is inappropriate if the goal is transition to piaffe and passage." She continued by adding; "We want to avoid extreme breeding, and we will be at the forefront of our breeding work. We are beginning to see a tendency for horses that are very long-legged which can have a negative influence on their balance, durability, and longevity. Neither dressage nor jumping horses should be too raised in the neck and too short in the back, which can make them inflexible in the top line. We also appreciate horses with a small, noble, and expressive head, but on the other hand the mouth should not become so small that there is no room for the double bridle. Danish Warmblood is known for making an efficient selection, for being open to the supply of new blood and for being quick to readjust as well as provide knowledge and information to the breeders so that the greatest possible breeding progress is achieved."

Approved 4yo dressage stallions

(Fully licensed unless otherwise noted)

- 115 Atterupgaards Barcelo (Bon Coeur x Caprimond EH) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS and Atterupgaard, Vodskov; breeder Kristine Munch Nielsen, Jystrup Midtj
- 116 Danciero (Dancier x Floriscount) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS and Paul Schockemöhle, Vodskov; breeder Z G Broers & Weber H. Broers and Joh. Weber, Germany
- 117 Duke (Dimaggio x Sir Donnerhall I) exhibitor Kristin Andresen and Equi Stallion, Boeslunde; breeder Dieter Hilz, Germany
- 118 Hesselhøj Downtown (Hesselhøj Donkey Boy x Blue Hors Zack) exhibitor and breeder Dorthe and Hans Jørgen

Hoeck, Nørre Aaby

- 119 Ambjergs Delgadino (Hesselhøj Donkey Boy x Blue Hors Don Romantic) exhibitor Ahlberg-Ringkær and Lyngelorenzen, Vestbjerg; breeder Malene Clausen, Hadsund
- 120 Tophøjs Falchetto (Floriscout x Solos Landtinus) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage and Stutteri Tophøj, Vodskov; breeder Anette Nilausen and Niels-Jørgen Johansen, Hobro
- 121 Fynch Hatton (Formel Eins x Sir Donnerhall I) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS, Vodsko; breeder Bernd and Ursula Iltting-Reuke, Germany
- 122 Fürst Highlight (Fürstenball x His Highness) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS and Søren Grønborg, Vodskov; breeder Thorsten Lang, Germany
- 123 Global Player (Grand Galaxy Win x Blue Hors Don Schufro) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS, HH Horses, and Paul Schockemöhle, Vodskov; breeder HH Horses/Henrik Hansen, Solrød Strand
- 124 Giovanni-Bell (Grand Galaxy Win x Blue Hors Don Romantic) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS and Sølyst Heste, Vodskov; breeder Tina and Nicolai Jepsen, Regstrup
- 125 Lord Europe (Lord Leatherdale x Boston) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS, Joop van Uytert, and Paul Schockemöhle, Vodskov; breeder ZG Pleines Werner and Heike Pleines, Germany
- 126 Monterey (Morricone x Sir Donnerhall I) exhibitor HP Horses ApS and Paul Schockemöhle, Hillerød; breeder Paul Schockemöhle/Gestüet Lewitz, Germany
- 127 Bøgegårdens Santiago Bernabéu (Bøgegårdens Santiago x Bøgegårdens Laurino) exhibitor and breeder Stina and Jørgen Schmidt, Bolderslev
- 128 Vendôme (Veneno x Fidertanz) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS and Stutteri EVO, Vodskov; breeder Paul Paessens, Germany
- 129 Vivino (Vivaldi x Dancier,) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS and Paul Schockemöhle, Vodskov; breeder Ulrike Buurman, Germany
- 130 Blue Hors Zackorado (Blue Hors Zack x Florencia I) exhibitor Blue Hors Aps, Randbøl breeder Paul Rode, Germany – approved for testing, breeding license for one year.



Finalist at FEI/WBFSH Young Horse Championships Elmegårdens Dakota (Bøgegårdens Dicafo x Catoki)



Atterupgaards Barcelo (Bon Coeur x Caprimond EH) 4yo

Five-year-old dressage stallions and older

(Fully licensed unless otherwise noted)

- 150 Knock-Out (Expression x Ferro) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS, Vodskov; breeder SMC Bloem, the Netherlands
- 152 Total Hope (Totilas x Blue Hors Don Schufro) exhibitor HP Horses and Paul Schockemöhle, Hillerød; breeder Christine Arns-Krogmann, Germany
- 153 Vivaldi (Krack C x Jazz) exhibitor Blue Hors Aps, Randbøl; breeder A. Versantvoort, the Netherlands
- 68 Special Blend (Sezuan x Blue Hors Hotline) exhibitor Helgstrand Dressage ApS, Vodskov; breeder Hannelore Weber – approved for testing

Showjumping 4yo stallions

- 100 Cordento (Cornet Obolensky x Cardento) exhibitor, Henrik Hansen, Solrød; breeder Camitz Family/Linus Camitz, Glumsø
- 101 Cornet Senjor Ask (Cornettino Ask x Ci Ci Senjor Ask) exhibitor and breeder Stutteri Ask A/S, Martofte
- 102 Bøgegårdens Gladiator (Bøgegården Gladiola x Crelido) exhibitor and breeder Stina and Jørgen Schmidt, Bolderslev
- 103 Jewel Ask Z (Jaguar van Paemel x Diamant de Semilly) exhibitor Stutteri Ask A/S, Martofte; breeder Cavallini Stal, Belgium
- 104 Hecas Kantago (Kannan x Catoki) exhibitor and breeder Tschernja Family, Glumsø
- 105 Kammerherre Gårdens Sheik (Stakkato Gold x Carano) exhibitor and breeder Kjærsgaard family/Jakob Fjord Kjærsgaard, Køge

Five-year-old jumping stallions and older

(Fully licensed unless otherwise noted)

- 140 Carojino (Caretino Gold x Corofino I) exhibitor Ib Kirk, Øster Assels; breeder R. Wijdeven, the Netherlands
- 141 Quartel du Mazes (Mr. Blue x Surcouf de Revel)



*Bronze winner at the FEI/WBFSH Young Horse Championships
Total Hope (Totilas x Blue Hors Don Schufro)*

exhibitor Toelstang family, Hedehusene; breeder Jocelyne Cuny Reveille, France

- 142 Elmegårdens Dakota (Bøgegårdens Dicapo x Catoki) exhibitor Maria and Tove Schnoor, Torben Frandsen, Gjerlev J; breeder Maria and Claus Schnoor, Bolderslev
- 143 Katrinelund Satisfaction (Sandro's Adel x Crelido) exhibitor Birgit Hansen, Stouby; breeder Ib Kirk, Øster Assels
- 144 Quidman Denfer (Quidam de Revel x Cento) exhibitor Scanvet Animal Health A/S, Fredensborg; breeder Jürgen Hattebuhr, Germany

Modern showjumping changes the judging

Jumping sport and course designing have evolved in recent years, and so the demands of the modern jumping horse have changed. This has resulted in a reassessment of the judging of a horse's technique in the Danish Warmblood studbook when the breeding seeks the future jumping talents.

At the Danish Warmblood pre-selection last December, three-year-old stallions were selected for licensing in Herning. These youngsters were twice presented in loose jumping, Wednesday and Friday, and then shown in loose canter for the judges to assess their suppleness and self-carriage in the turns. The stallions were also assessed on the lunge, and on the final day it was decided how many stallions would be approved for testing.

In principle, the young stallions have been under review since their first pre-selection presentation, and were then invited to a loose-jumping training day in February, so they were already familiar when they were presented to the judges in Herning where, finally, 11 were approved for testing, while three were celebrated as premium stallions.

Since 2004, Danish Warmblood breeding has been divided into two disciplines (dressage and jumping) at gradings and tests. Whilst DWB has a well-established and great international success with the breeding of dressage horses, the studbook is also well on its way with the breeding of jumping horses for international sport. The fact that it is

not as visible as in the breeding of dressage horses is due to the birth of only about 300 jumping foals annually in the studbook, but the quality is steadily increasing, which good results in the final of the World Young Horse Championships at Zangersheide in recent years have also shown.

Rideability and functionality

Modern jumping course design places great demands on a horse's rideability, and there is a significant correlation between the horse's conformation and its rideability, functionality, and durability. The horse finds it easiest to jump if it is built correctly – which means it has the right angles in the shoulder and the hindquarters.

Spokesman for the Danish Warmblood breeding committee, Johnny Hansen explains; "The better the functionality and the suppleness of the horse, the less energy it needs to spend on the obstacle. If it is able to close the front legs properly, and manages to use the suppleness and flexibility of its body to arch itself over the jump, and if it can tilt its hind quarters, then it does not need to spend extra force to jump bigger in order to compensate for a lack of technique." Hansen continued by saying; "Modern judging of jumping horses is not a matter of dividing the assessment into individual details and assessing bascule, leg technique, and capacity separately. In Danish Warmblood, the judges form an overall impression of the horse's functionality, how it solves the task by using its body in the take-off, over the obstacle and in the landing, after which it must canter smoothly forward in balance.

Loose jumping predicts potential

While jumping take place with horse and rider, loose jumping without a rider can also provide important information about a horse's jumping talent. When the horse does not have a rider's help, it becomes clearer whether it is focused, brave, and cautious, and whether it jumps rationally. These are characteristics that describe the horse's



Premium colt Hesselhøj Captain Morgan (Casalco x Crelido), the result of embryo transfer, bred and owned by Denmark's youngest stallion keeper, 17-year old Anders Sjøbeck Hoek

attitude and overview. In loose jumping the athletic capacity of the horse can be clearly seen. Especially if it ends up in an unfortunate situation, it is interesting to see how it chooses to solve the task and whether it learns from its mistakes.

Through statistical calculations Danish Warmblood have found high correlations of 70% to 80% between loose jump results and the horse's competition results later in life. This means that if a young horse achieves high marks for jumping, there is a high likelihood that it will do well later in competition as well. The loose jumping can thus be used to predict the future potential.

Approved for testing

Premium stallions

- 2 Hesselhøj Captain Morgan (Casalco x Crelido), breeder Anders Uve Sjøbeck Hoeck, Nørre Aaby
- 3 Casper Ask (Ci Ci Senjor Ask x Kannan) breeder Stutteri Ask A/S, Martofte
- 15 Orlando Love Z (Orlando x Stakkat), breeder Lene Ibsen, Røddekro
- 1 Bøgegårdens Alaska (Bøgegårdens Apollo x Carrico) breeder Mie Nielsen and Theo de Vos, Bolderslev
- 5 Caligula-Vitz (Complete x Cosmeo) breeder Lone Sørensen, Hammel
- 7 Chicago Z (Cornet Obolensky x Diamant de Semilly) breeder Michael Weisbjerg, Ølsted
- 8 Cordento II DWB (Cornet Obolensky x Cardento) breeder Linus Camitz, Glumsø
- 10 Fernando HH (Favorit Ask x Lord Z) breeder Frederikke Hilfling Hougaard, Næstved
- 13 Gracieux HAP (Grim St. Clair x Casir Ask) breeder Helene and Kim Pedersen, Tørring
- 14 Hubert (Humberto Ask x Carpaccio) breeder René Fredslund, Give
- 16 Quinto Ask (Quarz Ask x Ci Ci Senjor Ask) breeder Stutteri Ask A/S, Martofte



Premium colt Orlando Love Z (Orlando x Stakkato), bred by Lene Ibsen

At the Danish Warmblood Stallion Selection in Herning 11 young showjumping and 21 dressage stallions were approved for testing

In Denmark, we are favoured by having many knowledgeable, financially strong, and foresighted stallion owners who bring the best bloodlines and stallions to Denmark. That is why the Danish Warmblood stallion licensing in Herning has developed into a European final for the best young stallions from the foreign studbooks in combination with the Danish-bred young stallions. And it provides the Danish breeders a unique opportunity to improve and develop their breeding, said breeding consultant Karina Christiansen, in her presentation of the young stallions.

The World Champion Revolution presented his first crop for selection, and from a total of seven pre-selected stallions, five sons were approved for testing. Out of 21 three-year-old stallions approved for testing, seven were awarded premiums.



The black Iron (Asgard's Ibiza x Hohenstein EH) bred by the Danish stud Nedergaard Dressage, was spectacular at the Danish 10-day test



Three-year-old stallions are not judged under saddle at the DWB licensing, but Sunday afternoon are enrolled for the 10- or 14-day observation test, where they are presented under rider. Premium stallion from Helgstrand Dressage, Dynamic Dream by Dream Boy/Sir Donnerhall I, bred by C. van der Laan World Horses B.V., the Netherlands



The Dutch bred premium stallion Blue Hors Monte Carlo by Dream Boy/United presented under the saddle of Cristian Tudela Ruiz

Approved for testing:

- 25 Stenagers Ben Hur DWB (Borsalino x Florenciano) breeder Bjarne and May-Britt Christensen, Esbjerg Ø
- 26 Dynamic Dream (Dream Boy x Sir Donnerhall I) breeder C. van der Laan World Horses B.V., Netherlands
- 36 Blue Hors Fortron (For Romance II x Desperados) breeder Jens Damm, Germany
- 52 Rockabye S (Revolution x Belstaff) breeder Sally-Ann Hjorth Schultz, Bolderslev
- 54 So Perfect (Sezuan x Sir Donnerhall I) breeder Frank Nordhausen, Germany
- 58 My Vitality (Vivaldi x D-Day) breeder Stal 104 BV, Netherlands
- 65 Blue Hors Monte Carlo (Dream Boy x United) breeder W. Den Besten, Netherlands
- 27 Dreamian (Danciano x Sandro Hit) breeder Alfons Kramer, Germany
- 28 Blue Hors Dalian by Dancier/Sir Donnerhall I, breeder Martin Honigfort, Germany
- 35 Floss Dance (For Dance x Quarterback) breeder Volker Steenken, Germany
- 39 Slangerupgaards Flottenheimer (Franklin x Scolari) breeder Slangerupgaard A/S, Ringsted
- 41 Freetown (Fürst Wilhelm x Sir Donnerhall I) breeder



The incredibly good-looking premium stallion Rockabye S was one of five approved sons by Revolution. His dam sire is Belstaff and the breeder is Sally-Ann Hjorth Schultz



Premium stallion Blue Hors Fortron by For Romance II/Desperados bred by German Jens Damm

- Thorsten Hogrefe, Germany • 43 Iron (Asgard's Ibiza x Hohenstein EH) breeder Nedergaard Dressage, Nibe
- 46 Gørklintgårds Royal (Revolution x Sunny-Boy) breeder Jørgen Ravn, Holsted
- 48 Straight Horse Ramses (Revolution x Blue Hors Zack) breeder Straight Horse ApS, Allerød
- 49 Radius (SWB) (Revolution x OO Seven) breeder Lena Nystrøm, Sweden
- 50 Hesselhoej Rock A Billy (Revolution x Blue Hors Hertug) breeder Jane and Erik Bech Jensen, Østbirk
- 57 HP Valentino (Vitalis x Apache) breeder HP Horses ApS, Hillerød
- 62 My Toto VDT (Glock's Toto Jr x Ferro) breeder A. van de Tillaart, Netherlands
- 63 Majestic Taonga (Glock's Toto Jr x Jazz) breeder Stal 104 BV, Netherlands
- 64 Total McLaren (Totilas x De Niro) breeder R. Knauf, Germany



Danish bred premium stallion Stenagers Ben Hur DWB (Borsalino x Florenciano) bred by Bjarne and May-Britt Christensen, who was sold at the first Nordic International Sales in 2017

Who are the superstar sires of the breeding world?

BY JEAN LLEWELLYN

GRAPHICS: GEMMA ALEXANDER

Breeding News for Sport Horses recently published the 16th edition of its Worldwide Sport Horse Stallion Directory – updated and with over 9,000 stallion entries in the online database. Our database is unique in that stallions may only be entered if they are ‘living’, and licensed/ approved by a member studbook of the WBFSH.

It is a massive undertaking every year to collate up-to-date information, as we know it, and to cross-reference the stallion entries with a database of ‘contacts’ – but our quest to offer this valuable tool to breeders began in 2005 and has been published annually ever since.

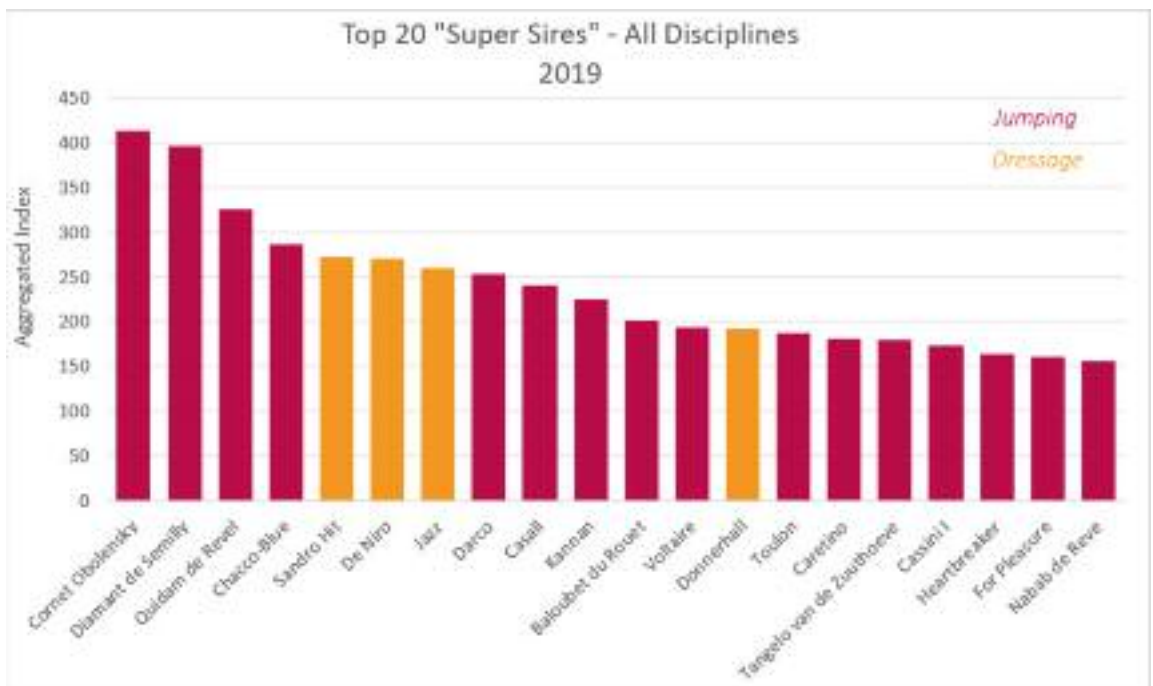
Naturally, it’s been a great source of pride and this year, having produced the various tables, I wondered how we might amalgamate and index all the information to hand, and create a super-stallion ranking list. Thankfully, I turned to Gemma Alexander, a master statistician who has provided all the graphics for Christopher Hector’s analyses. I sent her the various tables from the Stallion Directory, and asked whether it would be possible create a formula, based on the year-end results for the various disciplines, that could then be translated into illustrative graphs. The answer was, of course, ‘yes’!

Naturally, the results will speak for themselves, and include stallions by discipline, and stallions across all the

disciplines. However, it should first be explained that eventing has been, and will continue to be something of an anomaly because the number of stallions in competition is so small, yet the volume of sires for eventing overall is quite huge. We also discovered that when the WBFSH year-end ranking was published (from data supplied by the FEI), fewer than 30% of the horses listed as ‘male’ or ‘stallion’ were, in fact, still entire. This, in itself, was a major task as many of the online databases rely on FEI or WBFSH information, and it was only by contacting many of riders themselves that the true picture emerged and the number of castrations increased!

What information did we include?

The following is the list of tables – all of which appear in the 2020 edition of the Breeding News for Sport Horses Worldwide Sport Horse Stallion Directory – on which the



final superstar stallion rankings are based:

- Sires of Sires: The sires of stallions approved/licensed by member studbooks of the WBFSH
- Sires of Dams: The sires of dams who have produced approved/licensed stallion sons
- Showjumping stallions: Top 50, extracted from the year-end WBFSH breeder/horse rankings based on their own competition results
- Dressage stallions: - ditto -
- Eventing stallions: Top 15, extracted from the year-end WBFSH breeder/horse rankings as the only ones considered worthwhile for inclusion
- Jumping sires top 50 based on top six offspring*

We looked at various ways to level the playing field when we started to include this table some years ago – including averaging the points – and decided that taking only the top six competition horses for each stallion.

- Dressage/eventing sires based on top six offspring**
- Sires of young horses***
- Auction rankings (non-discipline specific): The horses with the greatest volume of offspring sales during 2019.

* When you look at the ‘sire ranking’ on the WBFSH website, you’ll notice that Chacco-Blue leads, but with around 200 performance offspring results counting towards his total of 36,237. Mylord Carthago is ranked 10th with 8,671 points, from fewer than 50 offspring. If we took the average for each stallion, this would calculate to around 197 for Mylord Carthago and 181 for Chacco-Blue, which essentially shows that quality not quantity is the deciding factor – but this assumption only works for the top ranked sires. Lower down the ranking list there are some stallions with only a handful of competing sons and daughters who are winning

major Grand Prix classes, so their average may push them to the top – but should they be rewarded for producing so few competition horses. Looking at the various ways to level the playing field and produce a meaningful ranking list, it was finally decided to only count the top six competing offspring of an individual sire.

** As they have fewer competition results over the course of a single season, we only included the top 10 sires for each of these disciplines, but this does not negatively impact their superstar status in using Gemma’s formula.

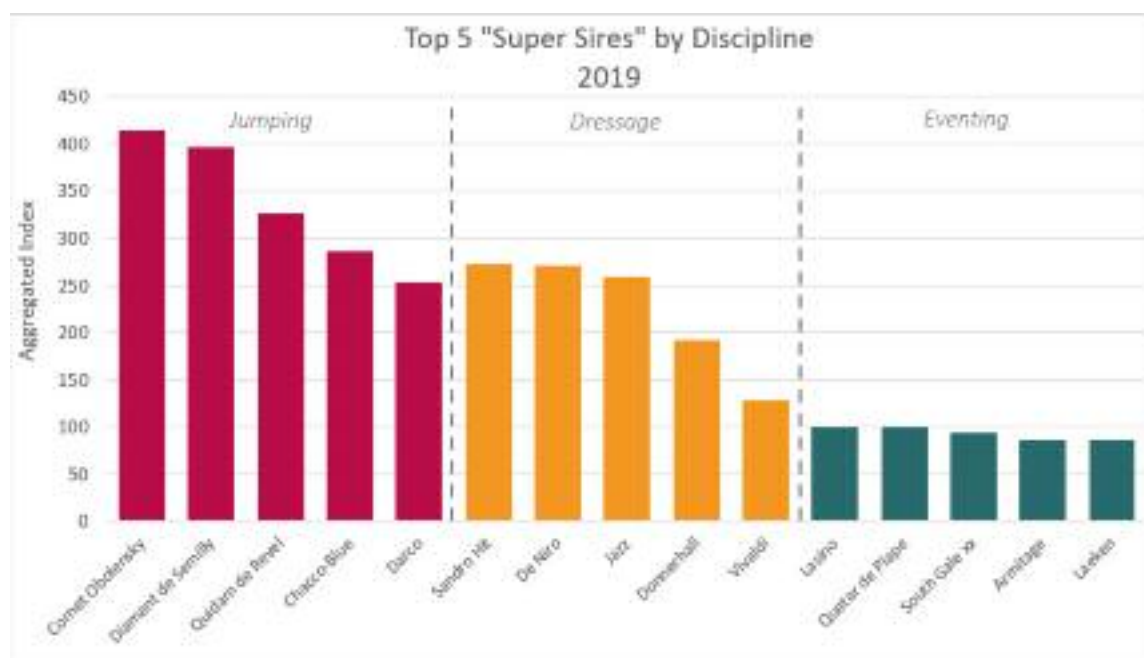
*** With an eye to the future, the table for sires of young horses has ranked the stallions in our database according to the volume of approved/licensed sons born between 2011 and 2016 – having made the assumption that the majority of young stallions were presented in 2019 at the age of three, or older, to a maximum of eight years old.

Formulating the ranking information

Based on the information from these tables, Gemma first tabulated the data, then created indices for each stallion in order to create a final Aggregated Index score. If one stallion did not appear in one particular ranking list they scored zero.

Each data set (including the horses in the auction rankings) was then converted into indices, with zero being the minimum and 100 the maximum, thereby scaling all the data so it was measured on the same scale, and therefore became comparable.

The final result is the two graphs you will see here. ■



sBs International Show takes place without a general public

BY JO DE ROO

PHOTOGRAPHY: JO DE ROO

On March 6-8, the sBs International Selection Show took place, with the stallion approval as one of the highlights. Due to concerns about the spread of the coronavirus, the organizers had to change the program and visitors were limited to only stallion owners, accompanying personnel, members of the organization, and journalists.

The sBs general secretary, Dr Marc Pierson stated: "Despite the difficulties we endured, we learned important lessons. We realized that we can do more with less, for instance in terms of budget, infrastructure, practical organization, and so on." Otherwise, the quality of the stallions was normal, and we didn't see one that excelled. Daniël Maillart, president of the sBs stallion selection committee announced: "Finally, we didn't approve many three-year-old stallions." The height at withers caused some problems. Jacques Fraselle, member of the selection committee: "To our disappointment, we saw stallions that are too small."

According to Pierson, "We had to change our program only eight days before the start of the Selection Show. It's a good thing that the stallion approval could take place." Moreover, the organizers used their common sense and didn't allow spectators into the arena. Pierson added; "We had to take into account that near the manège there is a school, l'Ecole Provinciale d'Elevage et d'Equitation, with many students, so we didn't want to take any risks." Spectators could watch the event online, thanks to an online collaboration with ClipMyHorse."

Stallion selection

The stallion selection committee consisted of Daniël Maillart, Jacques Fraselle, Eric Levallois, Herman Van Den Broeck (external consultant) and Roger Decock (dressage consultant). They selected 11 of the 30 presented three-year-old stallions, plus one six-year-old stallion. Thirteen of the 30 presented three-year-olds are registered in sBs. One of the two presented candidates in the option dressage was approved. We are talking about Rockhill de Muze (Everdale alias Escudo K - Fabelle x Rubinstein I), bred by Joris de Brabander. Via his dam line, Rockhill goes back to a showjumping line, more especially the line of La Belle van Sombeker. Daniël Maillart explained: "He has excellent movements. At liberty he pleased us a lot. He has a good walk, a trot with great suppleness and power, as well as a very good canter. Moreover, this stallion has a lot of energy."

The two presented ponies were both approved: Vasco Optimus (Goliath van de Groenweg - Reve d'Azur x Dexter Leam Pondi, bred by Optimus Agro) and Vardan van d'Oude Oven (Goliath van de Groenweg - Noor van d'Oude Oven x Calipso van de Vondelhoeve, bred by Robrecht Daem). With regard to Vardan's damline, Robrecht's father Christiaan said: "Vardan's grandmother, Wendy van d'Oude Oven, was 1m27 and jumped easily at 1m15 level. In 2008 we crossed her with Calipso van de Vondelhoeve. Out of this combination Vardan's dam, Noor van d'Oude Oven was born. Noor never jumped, but Wendy produced several other products, including Luna van d'Oude Oven, by Vedet van de Vondelhoeve. In the BRP studbook Luna obtained the performance label."

The other approved pony was Vasco Optimus. His dam, Reve d'Azur, produced the pony Opaline Optima. A few months ago, on the occasion of the Christmas Horse show in Mechelen, Opaline Optima ranked fifth in the Grand Prix CSIP-PT. Maillart: "Vasco Optimus convinced us. He is a very good showjumping pony. He jumped very regularly, which is something we appreciate. The other pony, Vardan, has a great heart. Taking his height at withers into



Brooklyn Marguy Z

account, he jumped very well. His conformation is a little bit classic. This year, we had excellent ponies.”

Besides one dressage stallion and two ponies, the jury approved eight three-year-old stallions in the option showjumping, including Lord Blue du Seigneur, a son of Zirocco Blue out of Cibelle du Seigneur, bred by Marc Vanlangendonck.

Talking about Lord Blue's damline, Vanlangendonck said: "It's a very strong damline. At the age of seven, Cibelle jumped under the saddle of Jérôme Guéry and obtained nice results at 1m40 level. At that time, she was not experienced, because we used here before in our breeding program. Nevertheless, she performed very well. When she entered in the arena, she wanted to remain faultless. As an eight-year-old showjumper Cibelle jumped very well in the Sunshine Tour, at 1m45 level. In that particular year I lost two breeding dams: the dam of Aganix du Seigneur, called Cadix du Seigneur, died, as well as Chanama du Seigneur, a daughter of Chellano out of Panama du Seigneur. Due to that loss I said to myself 'maybe I should better stop Cibelle's sports career and use her exclusively as a broodmare'. That's what I have done, although I knew that Cibelle could have jumped at a higher level. I used embryo transplantation with her." At the sBs stallion expertise Vanlangendonck presented two sons of Cibelle: Lord Blue and his half-brother Lordento du Seigneur, by Cardento. Cibelle is now in foal to Quel Homme de Hus.



Jury (l-r) Roger Decock (consultant dressage), Daniël Maillart, Herman van den Broeck (external consultant), Jacques Fraselle, and Eric Levallois

Cibelle du Seigneur is a daughter of Ogano Sitte out of Verybelle du Seigneur (Heartbreaker). Vanlangendonck: "Verybelle's sporting name is Oak Grove's Heartfelt. In partnership with Harm Lahde, she jumps at the highest level. Verybelle's grandmother, Ta Belle van Sombeke, is very valuable. In Europe, Ta Belle is considered as one of the best dams. She produced, for instance, Quasibelle du Seigneur, the dam of Verybelle." Verybelle produced her business card as the dam of international showjumpers, such as Cibelle du Seigneur, Cardino du Seigneur (who jumped at 1m50-1m60 level) and Oak Grove's Americana. "Americana is very interesting. She combines my two breeding damlines. Her sire is Aganix du Seigneur, whom I also bred.." The nine-year-old Americana performs successfully at international 1m45 to 1m50 level. Lord Blue himself has two approved half-brothers, namely Howard du Seigneur (Curby du Seigneur) and Jacquart du Seigneur (Boyfriend du Seigneur). Vanlangendonck concluded by saying, "Howard is a very good showjumper. In December last year, he was sold to the United States in order to write the sequel of his sports career. Jacquart is also a good sport stallion. He is five-years-old and sold to Poland, more precisely to the owner of MJT Nevados S."

Views from the experts

Following the stallion approval we interviewed several people, amongst them the sBs vice-president Jacques Fraselle. "We have seen stallions of normal quality. We watched several outstanding showjumpers with much blood and good conformation. Let's say, very complete stallions." It's a pity that we saw several candidates jumping very high over small fences and the more they jumped the more they made less impression. "This remains a problem. Each year



Louxor de l'Enclos de l'Ange



Lingot d'Or de la Petite Humelle

Agitato RA is also a very good horse.” Agitato RA (Apardi - Zoxalis M x Baloubet du Rouet, bred by Leybroeck NV/Dirk Vanwijtsberghe) received the highest notes on conformation.

The candidates in the option showjumping were also evaluated on their showjumping qualities, with three stallions receiving the highest scores. We are talking about Laser GP Du Bois Madame (bred by Beckbox); Leonardo van de Kapel (Mithras de Regor - Elize de la Pomme x Nabab de Rêve, bred by Joris van den Bergh – and belonging to the damline of Dark d'Amour and the performer Pourquoi Pas de Muze); and Indigo du Grand

several people don't prepare their stallions in a good way. We try to avoid this. At that point we were very severe. By the way, none of those stallions was approved.”

Fraselle continued: “Several stallions belong to valuable performance families, for instance Brooklyn Marguy. He comes from part of the damline of the famous international performer Rotchild du Bosquetiau. Brooklyn Marguy is a promising stallion.” According to Maillard: “On Sunday, he convinced us. He's a stallion that belongs to a very good damline, pure sBs bred. We are happy that we have got the chance to approve a good stallion out of such a bloodline. He is not great, but on the other hand he is massive. He is promising. We certainly will give him a chance.”

When asked about the other stallions that impressed him, Fraselle said; “Laser GP du Bois Madame. This son of Lancaster is very good. He answers exactly to what we are looking for. He has a nice conformation, as well as a lot of expression and power. There were two or even three stallions that made a good impression. Within a few years, we will see them in showjumping competitions for young horses.

Moustier (Kannan - Top Star du Grand Moustier x Chatman, bred by Jean-Paul Deliener). The six-year-old Indigo performs in showjumping classes for young horses, in partnership with Sebastien Deliener. Maillard explained; “Laser GP du Bois Madame is a very complete stallion, not only in terms of conformation, but also as a showjumper. When we make a list of the very good stallions, then we should mention him. Last year, we approved his half-brother Toucourt du Bois Madame. He is by Toulon out of Venecia II.” Last year, Laser won the free jumping competition for two-year-old horses on the occasion of the breeding championship in Gesves.

Talking about the quality of the stallions in general Maillard said: “Finally, we didn't approve many three-year-old stallions. We have seen some good or even very good stallions. I am sure that some of them will make it. In my opinion there was no stallion that excelled.”

So, let's talk in facts and figures, as we saw several small candidates with a height at withers of 1m61 (one of them was approved), three of 1m62, three of 1m63, two of 1m64, two of 1m65 (both were approved) and even one with a height at withers of 1m58. According to Fraselle: “To our disappointment, we saw stallions that are too small. Some of them jumped very well, but are just too small. That's one of the reasons why I am talking about a vintage of normal quality. However, we approved some stallions with good showjumping qualities. Candidates that were too small, were not approved as we are not going to approve too small stallions. Nowadays, we need quick horses with a good conformation, a good canter, good movements, and so on. While judging, we have to take this into account. Herman van den Broeck and Eric Levallois are two former riders, so they know exactly what they are talking about. We have to judge the candidates with a view to a future sportshorse.”

Maillard agrees: “We took care to approve no stallions with a height at the withers around 1m60, with



Laser GP du Bois Madame



Dr. Marc Pierson

the exception of one very valuable stallion. A stallion needs to stand over a lot of ground and must be great enough. There was even a stallion with a height at the withers of 1m58. Small showjumpers such as Itot du Chateau (1m57) and Jappeloup (1m58) are exceptions. Anyone who own a small stallion that performs with excellence, can present this stallion once he is six or seven, on the condition that he has proved his outstanding showjumping qualities. In that case we can approve such a stallion without any problem.”

Winter Breeding Show free jumping

During this sBs International Selection Show there was a new initiative, ‘The Winter Breeding Show’, a free jumping competition for three- and four-year-old horses. The owners could contact potential buyers, outside of a regular auction formula.

Lianos Sitte was crowned as the winner of this contest. This three-year-old son of Comme Il Faut out of Impala du Houssoit was bred by Daniël Boudrenghien: “We initiated this free jumping contest, although we hesitated between an online auction and a contest where buyers and sellers could contact each other. Dr Pierson launched the idea to prefer the second option. It’s a good initiative. There were not so many participants, but we have seen several valuable show-

jumpers.”

Lianos Sitte belongs to a good damline. Boudrenghien stated: “I know this performance family very well. Maybe it can make you laugh; I have ridden the dam of the great-great-grandmother of Lianos. We are talking about Niagara du Houssoit. This daughter of the Thoroughbred Skytax xx was an exceptional dam. Even today, she would be considered very modern in terms of her sporting qualities. She was small, 1m60 at withers, and didn’t have a noble head. However, she jumped brilliantly and had a fantastic canter. She produced for instance Valseuse du Houssoit who performed at the highest level. In our breeding program, we didn’t always make the right choices of stallions to combine with Niagara. Then we sold her.”

After selling Niagara, Boudrenghien bought a granddaughter of Niagara, called Fauvette du Houssoit, by Skippy II: “We bought her when she was six months old, but she couldn’t be used as a sport horse. When she was two, I crossed her with Carnac del Follee, which resulted in the birth of Image II du Houssoit, a very good showjumper and also the grandmother of Lianos Sitte. Image II produced several good horses, such as Ralph du Houssoit who jumped at high level, in partnership with Walter Gabathuler (SUI). Image II is also the dam of the approved stallion Hollywood du Houssoit, a full brother to Lianos Sitte’s dam, Impala du Houssoit.” Bogota du Houssoit, a daughter of Rexar du Houssoit out of Image II du Houssoit, produced Lingot d’Or de la Petite Hunelle. This son of Greco Sitte was approved during this 2020 sBs stallion expertise.

Talking about the dam of the champion Lianos Sitte, Boudrenghien said: “She is called Impala du Houssoit. She is by Dayton Sitte. She was a very valuable dam. We started to train her but, unfortunately, she passed away at the age of four. She had a problem with the aorta. Within five minutes she died. She has only one descendant, Lianos Sitte.” ■



Blue Hors Zack: The best since De Niro?

BY CHRISTOPHER HECTOR

PHOTOGRAPHY: FEI

We have waited a long time for a dressage stallion who was not only an international dressage star himself, but also the sire of great progeny - in particular stallion sons. There was Donnerhall, and his son De Niro, stallions and stallion makers as well as top competitors, and now Zack is certainly putting his hoof up to claim his share of the glory....

Blue Hors Zack

To tell the truth, Zack has been a better competitor than either of the two 'Ds'. Fourth in the 2019 World Cup final in Göteborg, 10th individually at WEG in Tryon, winner of the Herning World Cup Qualifier with an 83-plus score, and with top placings in Amsterdam, Neumünster, Paris, and Aachen in 2018. Last year, he won the Grand Prix and the Freestyle at Falsterbo, and was second in the Grand Prix and won the Freestyle in 's-Hertogenbosch'. Since then he has had a quiet show career with the focus on the upcoming Tokyo Olympic Games.

That's pretty impressive, but he has also been a top sire in his short career and has already produced 38 licensed stallions, including the Danish pair of Zonic and Sezuan.

Bred by B. Wilschut in the Netherlands, when Zack won the stallion licensing at the KWPN show in 2007, Arie Harmoen was the head of the stallion commission at the time: "We made Zack the champion stallion at the KWPN stallion show when I was the head of the licensing committee, and now in breeding he is a great influence, but as a young horse he was not winning all the young horse classes. Now he is Grand Prix and he brings good offspring."

◆ What impressed you about Zack at the Licensing?

"He was medium size, but he had a fantastic hind leg use,

and when he starts moving, he is always with the shoulders coming up. He was not extreme, when I gave the explanation after the championships, I said that he was an example of a functional mover not a spectacular mover. Now I think the breeders are looking more to functional movement."

◆ Are you sad that the Netherlands lost Zack when he was sold at the licensing auction to Denmark?

We have a lot of his offspring of course. We found Lennox, a good young stallion last year from the full sister of Zack."

Dutch journalist, Jenneke Smit interviewed Zack's breeder, Bas Wilschut, after Lennox starred at the stallion show, and found that the breeder was a little overwhelmed at being thrust into the breeding limelight: "That Zack became the champion at the KWPN Stallion Show in 2007 was a huge surprise for us, and since then we've really invested in this damline to get more sport results, and to participate in the young horse competitions like the Pavo Cup with our mares. Lennox is the first stallion that we took to the stallion selection ourselves and it went very well. It was inevitable that Le Formidable would become champion, and I hoped that Lennox would not finish last in the championship ring. That he eventually was placed second was great to experience. His dam is in foal to Glock's Toto Jr. and we have a two-year-old Desperado son out of her. Out of this damline we also have

young stallions by Franklin and Schwarzgold. The Franklin we have together with Joop van Uyttert and hopefully there is more success for us to come. It all started with Zack and he has meant a lot for us."

Zack combines the blood of the two most influential Dutch stallions of modern times, Ferro and Jazz. He is by the Ferro son, Rousseau out of the Jazz daughter, Orona. Rousseau has had a spectacular career. He was purchased for the American stud, Hilltop Farm with the highest bid at the first annual KWPN sale – 300,000 guilders – and later sold on to Harmony Sporthorses. He easily passed his performance test with an overall 8.00 for dressage ability. He was Dutch national

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|
| BLUE HORS ZACK (2004) | ROUSSEAU KWPN PREF (1998) | FERRO KWPN PREF (1987) | ULFT KWPN (1978) |
| | | ZSUZSA KWPN PREST STER (1981) | BRENDA KWPN (1983) |
| | ORONA KWPN PREST STER IBOP PREF (1996) | | JAZZ KWPN PREF (1991) |
| | | KARONA KWPN STER (1992) | COCKTAIL KWPN (1984) |
| | | | CHARMANTE KWPN (1984) |
| | | | |



Blue Hors Zack with Daniel Bachmann Andersen (DEN)

champion as a four-year-old, and reserve champion the following year.

Rousseau represented the Netherlands at the 2003 World Breeding Championship for Young Horses (WBCYH) in Verden, where he was second. He was immediately licensed in Hannover, Oldenburg and Westfalia.

At the 2006 KWPN stallion show, Rousseau was represented by 11 sons from his first crop, the most of any sire that year. His son, Wamberto was champion of the licensing before he too was sold to Harmony Sporthorses, where he joined his sire in the stallion barn. He went on to win his performance test in the United States in 2007, but like his dad, does not seem to have done much after starring as a youngster.

The following year, the Rousseau bandwagon was in full swing when another son, Zagreb – later named Blue Hors Zack – was crowned champion stallion, and topped the sale when he was bought by Danish stallion master, Esben Møller. And yes, the following year, another son, Ampère, made it three in a row, and he went on to pass his performance test with record high scores.

By 2007, Rousseau had the highest dressage index of any of the KWPN stallions, 181, with many of his daughters starring at the mare shows. He was also starting to gain recognition in Germany where his son, Fiorano was the premium stallion at the Hanoverian licensing and then topped his performance test at Münster-Handhorf. Another

son, Fürst Rousseau, also topped his performance test.

However by 2018, Rousseau had tumbled down the standings of dressage stallions with a reliability of 90% or better. He is now equal 13th with a breeding value of 149.

After his win at the Dutch licensing, Zack was too busy siring foals and establishing his competition career to take the performance test, and he wasn't officially approved by the KWPN as a stallion until 2017.

Floor Dröge works for the KWPN inspecting mares and has recently been appointed to the stallion commission. Dröge is excited by Lennox W, the young stallion by Grand Galaxy Win (Apache x Jazz) out of Zack's full sister. "He has been selected for the performance test, and that is very interesting when you look at his breeding. His mother Orona is a preferent mare, which means her foals have got the predicate like ster, or approved stallion, and she is also a prestatie mare, which is based on sports results, plus she is also IBOP, which is good and means she is able to do it herself. When we look at that IBOP she did, she had a nice test of 75.50, with a good walk."

◆ *And do they all come from the same breeder?*

"Yes, Mr Wilschut. Zack was sold in the Select Sale, and the full-sister is still with Mr Wilschut, and Grand Galaxy Win as well. They are not really old breeders, but they are doing quite well and I think they are really proud of the offspring of their mares."

Zack's competition career has been well orchestrated, as Drøge observes: "If you look at Zack's career there were a couple of points when people said, oh, he's not going to do that, and he really let the rider make him, and make him in a way that he became so good at a high level. They said, oh, he will never be a small tour horse, he will never be a big tour horse – and they took their time, I think they managed him really well.

"If you look at his offspring, the technique in walking, in the movements, is very very good, and they are all really strong horses with power and a nice front leg."

◆ Maybe not young-horse horses?

"I'm not going to say that because if you look at the 2019 world championships, his offspring went really really well, and if you look at the sport results of the offspring of Zack and his sons, it is getting better and better. And that is where you see the character and the will to go."

◆ Do you think it is important for the stallion to prove himself at Grand Prix?

"It depends on why he isn't able to do it. Stallions have to do a lot and sometimes doing Grand Prix as well, is too much for them. But if they have offspring that show that they are capable of Grand Prix level, that's more important for the stallion, because you want the stallion to do a fantastic job and if the offspring are better than the stallion himself, it's good, but when the stallion is able to do it himself, it gives a lot of information on the mindset. It gives a lot of information on the durability, the health of the horse – and that is really good."

◆ When I analyse the breeding at the top competitions – WEG, Olympic Games – the horses that finish on top in the Grand Prix are mainly by stallions that competed Grand Prix....

"It's a kind of certainty if the stallion is able to do it, and can also pass it on, because we know very well that good Grand Prix mares and their offspring aren't as good. If they give it to their offspring, it is really good. The mindset, the character, a Grand Prix horse needs a good head and they need that to cope with the really big shows."

German breeding expert, Jens Mayer, agrees: "Look at Zack; he is a Dutch horse and in the pre-selection for the 2020 KWPN stallion show, there were three or four horses by this stallion, now you see a family, and this is the direction we must take in breeding horses. Not the perfect model, not the commercial horse, we have to breed Grand Prix horses. Always we can climb in small steps with the conformation, but brain is the difficult thing to breed. A smart mind.

"It is not easy to breed with Zack, this is interesting, he doesn't make the conformation, or the 'pretty' horse. The problem is that the breeder is not thinking long term, he wants to sell a foal – we must take this out of the breeder's brain, they must aim to produce a good horse. We have to start with rideability."

There is no doubt that much of Zack's success is due to



Zonik with Dutchman Edward Gal

the extremely talented young man who has trained him throughout his career, Daniel Bachmann Andersen. He has a wonderful team of Grand Prix stallions at his home base, Blue Hors Stud, now he's got a father and son act at Grand Prix level. Zack, and the one good judges are tipping as the next superstar, Zepter (out of a Wolkentanz II mare).

◆ You rode Zack at WEG, now you are riding his son, Zepter at Grand Prix, do you see characteristics that the stallion has passed to his son?

"Yes in the way that they love to work, they love to perform. They are often really good when they get into the ring, they often like to show themselves off. Zepter is a little bit more of a shy horse, but Zack is much more macho. Zepter is like very small inside, you have to praise him a lot, and say, 'good boy, good boy'. You can't tell him off. He's starting to get better and I can ride him with a little bit more pressure here and there, but I have to be careful. He's big, but he is small inside. Zack is much bigger, he believes in himself."

There is a tendency to regard Zack as a 'little cutie,' but perhaps that is because Daniel is so tall: Zack measures 174 cms, Sezuan 173 cms, and Zonik 171 cms.

At the dressage WBCYH at Ermelo in August 2019, Zack was the real star of the show and was responsible for two of my personal favorites at the worlds. He was the sire of Jameson RS2 (Negro) eighth in the five-year-old final, and was the damsire of the horse ranked ninth, For Gold OLD (Franziskus), while his sons, Zonik and Sezuan were responsible for eight horses that qualified for the championships.

The Z Team: Zonik and Sezuan

Thomas Bach Jensen is publicity officer for Danish Warmblood, and he is a mine of information, I asked him about Zonik and Sezuan: "Both stallions have been bred by Linette Jæger who is not known to have bred any other

horses than these two. She wanted to breed top horses and bought two pregnant mares from Andreas Helgstrand who could be considered the real breeder behind these stallions as he owned the mares and planned the breedings.”

Sezuan’s dam didn’t take from Blue Hors Romanov that year and was then bred once to Blue Hors Zack, but when the foal was born the next year it was registered as sired by Romanov. Only once licensed it was proved via DNA that the sire is Zack.

“Marianne and Andreas Helgstrand bought Sezuan’s dam as a three-year-old filly and presented her to become DWB mare of the year that same year. She had the foal that she was pregnant with when they bought her, had a short riding career, and got injured, whereafter they bred her to Zack and sold her with Sezuan in utero. Zonik was also sold in utero, when they sold the mare Romanik which they had bred themselves. I believe that Romanik’s dam Dunja was mainly a sport horse.

“For personal reasons, Linette Jæger sold the horses. Andreas bought both colt foals from her and as he, at that time, was focused on building up a dressage barn and had not become a breeder, the two mares were sold to a friend and business partner, Mogens Pedersen who runs the stud farm Straight Horse. Since the purchase, Mogens Pedersen has produced fantastic horses out of these two mares.

“Both Zonik and Sezuan have been four-year-old champion stallions at the DWB licensing in Herning. Both were sold abroad, and you are well aware of their excellent show record since then. To me the most remarkable thing about these two very well-bred Danish stallions is that they both seem to pass on their valuable genetics.”

Bach Jensen makes the interesting point that there is a reason Zack has been more successful in Germany and Denmark than his native Holland. “You hear it said that Zack is a great KWPN product, but not so much used in the KWPN, I feel it needs to be said that Zack actually has been bred quite a lot in KWPN but he does his magic on the typical German/Danish mares and not on the Dutch ones. The typical German/Danish mares have a lot of classic dressage lines such as Donnerhall, Florestan, Rubinstein,

Weltmeyer, etc. Many of these mares are quite rectangular in their body (relatively long in the back) and are very good, big, and supple movers, and somewhat flat in their front leg movements, and that’s where Zack kicks in with his short and strong back/topline and very mechanical movements with beautiful elevation.”

Andreas Helgstrand shares Bach Jensen’s feeling that it is the Dutch over German and Danish cross that is the key... “Zonic’s grandmother, Dunja, was a really nice mare. When we bought her we said, okay the mare is young, she can have a foal as a three year old, and that was Romanik. There were a couple of people who wanted to buy Romanik and also the mother of Sezuan, Don Romina, so I said, okay, you can buy them but I keep half of all the offspring and I decide which stallions to use. That was fine with them, it was a win-win situation, but then Linette Jæger, the owner, got divorced and she had to sell the mares and the two offspring. I bought both of them back and how lucky can you be, one was Sezuan, one was Zonik. I sold the two mares to Straight Horse and I made the same deal again, I’ll sell you these two mares, but I want half of the offspring, so I still own half the offspring of these two.”

I asked Andreas why he went to Zack... “The mother of Zonik is very elegant, very pretty, a very good type. Why I bred her to Zack, she had good hind legs but she could have a little more shoulder freedom, and that is what I wanted from Zack, a bit more knee.”

The mother of Sezuan? “I bought her as a two-year-old, she was a top nice horse, she was mare of the year one year afterwards, so that was a good choice. The same with her, okay the mare is young, why not make a foal, so I put her to Zack.”

◆ Zack has been such a good stallion, not only lots of really good foals, but he has also produced stallion sons, what do you think are his particular strengths?

For sure Zack makes good horses but, to be honest, it is not so much about Zack, it’s more about the combination, you put together, Dutch horses with German and Danish horses. If Zack had stayed in Holland, you would never hear about Zack,

not at all, because he is the typical product of the Dutch horses, a bit short in the back, a lot of leg moving and not so much back moving, but in combination with horses that are a little bit long and flat, he was super to make them how we want them nowadays, to make them modern. That’s how I think it happens.

◆ You are best known as a dealer, but are you also serious as a breeder

I am. I buy about 100 foals a year, but we also make a lot of embryos with our top mares, so we get around 20 foals a year.

◆ Which stallions do you go to?

I go to our own. We have 35 stallions here, and I think we have some of the best.

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|-------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| ZONIK (DWB/2008) | BLUE HORS ZACK | ROUSSEAU | FERRO |
| | | ORONA | ZSUZSA |
| | ROMANOV (DWB/1999) | | JAZZ |
| | | KARONA | |
| | ROMANIK (DWB/1996) | ROMANOV (DWB/1999) | ROHDIAMANT (OLDBG/1990) |
| | | | RUMIRELL (OLDBG/1990) |
| DUNJA (DWB/1999) | | BLUE HORS DON SCHUFRO (OLDBG/1993) | |
| | LURET (DWB/1983) | | |

◆ How important in history do you think Zack will be as a stallion?

He has already shown it, he has a lot of top horses going. Of course, one thing is young horses, and the other is Grand Prix sport. Stallions like De Niro and Jazz, they have made a lot of Grand Prix horses, so now we have to see with Zack. The oldest ones are nine or ten, and he didn't breed that much at the beginning, so out of the number of mares he had, he has made very good results but we will see when they get older, because we also want Grand Prix horses.

◆ Does the fact that Zonik has competed Grand Prix make him a more attractive stallion than say, Sezuan?

I don't know. I mean, it's fun to see a stallion like Zonik. He also had three horses in the world young horse championship final of the six-year-olds, so he is also showing he is producing good horses. Sezuan is for me one of the best stallions we have. The breeding is now going so fast – I have a fantastic two-year-old son of Sezuan who is coming to the Oldenburg licensing this year, who is more modern, more pretty but still moving the same, he's out of a Sir Donnerhall mare – really nice.”

Danish-bred Zonik

Zonik was bred by Linette Jæger, and he celebrated a wonderful 2019 with Edward Gal in his saddle. After winning the Dutch Championship in May, the pair starred at the European championships in August, finishing sixth in the Freestyle, eighth in the Special and fourth in the Grand Prix – with Zonik's sire, Zack, just behind him in fifth place!

Zonik has always been a star, having won the Danish stallion licensing and, as a four-year-old, then impressed at the Danish dressage championships winning with a final score of 9.30, where his trot was awarded a 10.00.

At his St George debut in 2015, he won with 78%, and the following year was the Dutch small tour champion with a score of 81.7%. He was big tour champion at the Dutch championships of 2017 and 2018 and made his World Cup debut in London in December 2017, winning the Grand Prix

with 76.68% and taking third place in the Freestyle with 79.34%. In 2018 Zonik was selected to the Dutch team for the World Equestrian Games in Tryon where he was seventh in both the Grand Prix and the Special.

With three representatives, Zonik was a star at the 2019 dressage WBCYH, and all three made the top 10 of the six-year-old final. Zonik sired the six-year-old champion, Zucchero (out of a Prince Thatch xx mare), as well as the third-placed, Zhaplin Langholt (Stedinger).

Sezuan – another Danish masterpiece

Double success for breeder Linette Jæger, as Sezuan produced a staggering five progeny who qualified for the dressage WBCYH in Ermelo in August 2019, which is perhaps not so surprising since Sezuan himself was a young horse sensation. Germany's Dorothee Schneider rode him to three world championships in a row: 2014-16.

The stallion made one international appearance in September 2017 winning both the Prix St Georges and the Intermediaire I with Schneider, before he was transferred to Patrik Kittel's care, for a Grand Prix debut in 2018. He appeared at a Danish stallion show in March 2018, then disappeared in a fog of 'no comments'. Earlier this year it was announced that he would not be standing at stud, available only with frozen semen since he was being prepared by Kittel for a 2019 Grand Prix debut. We are still waiting....

The horse's bloodlines are a brilliant amalgamation of Dutch and German dressage lines. On the top, Zack, on the bottom, Don Schufro (Donnerhall x Pik Bube), with only the somewhat obscure Holsteiner stallion, Lionell I (Leonid x Landgraf, out of a Carneval – Cor de la Bryère – mare) in the fourth line to remind us that a little jumping blood never goes amiss in the dressage horse recipe.

Thomas Bach Jensen has personal experience of the Sezuan 'touch': "Personally, I have not bred with Zonik, but I have produced four exceptional full-siblings by Sezuan that I have been very happy with. I wanted to get size, frame, and canter. And I got all that plus great rideability, active hindlegs, good mechanics and just very attractive dressage horses." One of Bach Jensen's progeny by Zack is the mare Schwarze Schwalbe Macohl, ridden by Michael Søgaard. "In 2015 she was DWB dressage filly foal of the year and became most expensive filly at the DWB Elite Foal Auction, so I don't own her anymore. Last year she was graded with a gold medal which is the top three of the year."

With the enormous expansion of dressage breeding over the past 20 years, it has become much more difficult for any one stallion to really stamp himself on the sport, yet Zack has done just that in his relatively short career.

Perhaps the best is yet to come. ■

| | | | |
|----------------------|--|---|---------------------------------|
| SEZUAN (2009) | BLUE HORS ZACK | FERRO | ULFT |
| | | ZSUZSA | BRENDA |
| | BLUE HORS DON SCHUFRO (OLDBG/1991) | | ROEMER |
| | | LANDY | |
| | | DONNERHALL (OLDBG/1981) | |
| | BOGEGAR- DENS DON ROMINA (DWB/2003) | BOGEGARDENS LAINA (DWB/1992) | FIESTA (OLDBG/1979) |
| | | | LIONELL (HOLST/1992) |
| | | Joy (DWB/1987) | |

Theo Molinaers: “Important to know the motherlines”

BY ADRIANA VAN TILBURG

PHOTOGRAPHY:

There are people in the horse world whom nobody really knows, even though they have a very familiar name. Most of the time their achievements also remain unknown because they prefer to stay in the background. One of them is Theo Molenaers (66) from Kinrooi in Belgium.

Molinaers is responsible for much of the success of Franke Sloothaak and Michel Robert during their days riding for San Patrignano in Italy, as well as the success of Alberto Michan and Rolf-Göran Bengtsson during their time working for La Silla in Mexico. In fact, in 2012, Molinaers was the Mexican team chef d'équipe.

During the Longines Masters in Lausanne I conducted this interview with him as he was attending with his current rider, Hikari Yoshizawa, whose goal is to compete for her home country, Japan, at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games. In so many ways, Theo Molinaers might be described as a Grand Prix hero.

In the beginning

◆ How did your career with horses begin?

I started as a rider and jumped at the lower international level until I could no longer continue for financial reasons. But I wanted to continue with horses so I started to teach horse riding, then started as a scout to find horses for other people. Together with Albert Voorn we started to work with Henk Nooren. In the beginning Albert and I were looking for horses, Albert was a good friend of ours. When Albert left, Henk suggested that we work together in the business and to take over the scouting for horses. I did the communicating with the clients and finding suitable horses for them, while Henk was working as chef d'équipe for the Dutch team. After a while when I had saved some money, I invested that together with Henk in horses. Eventually we grew apart for several reasons and we parted ways, so I continued to develop myself as a scout, so that was also my first job.

◆ What was your next step?

I left Henk Nooren in 1992 and had the luck that Mr. Vincenzo Muccioli of San Patrignano put his trust in me and asked me to build up an important international sporting stable. I was responsible for buying the horses, so that was my breakthrough in this business. Apart from the people at San Patrignano I had a good friend, Tim Grubb, who lived in the United States and who maintained his clients with me. All the horses we sold to the United States went through Tim Grubb.

Franke Sloothaak and I started to work together at the end of 1992, and in 1994 Franke became world champion at the

World Equestrian Games in Den Haag in the saddle of San Patrignano Weihajwei. Michel Robert finished second, also riding for San Patrignano, in the saddle of Miss San Patrignano. In 1993 Franke was number one on the world ranking list. We could work really well together as he was an excellent team player and wanted to help everybody. Franke was competing at shows and I accompanied him. We decided what horses would go to the show, etc. All the horses that Franke and Michel Robert were riding were found by me. I was given carte blanche by Mr. Muccioli to give the riders I brought in the right horses. After the World Equestrian Games of Rome in 1998, the activities at San Patrignano diminished. (Note: Franke Sloothaak won the individual bronze medal at WEG in Rome riding San Patrignano Joly Coeur, and this combination won gold with the German team.)

Club Hipico la Silla

◆ What was your role at la Silla?

After San Patrignano I continued with dealing horses by myself. My own business was also continuing during the times I worked with San Patrignano and La Silla, but I always offered the horses to the people I worked with to avoid any confusion or misunderstanding. For example, I was able to buy Ninja (Guidam - Olympica x Lys de Darmen, bred by; Stoeterij van Uitert-Huijsmans), and I offered this horse to La Silla. The rest is history.

A while after San Patrignano, Mr. Alfonso Romo, the owner of Club Hipico la Silla, asked me if I wanted to manage the breeding and sport of La Silla. The first time I went to La Silla I took Norbert Boley with me because Mr. Romo wanted to get to know him. During this first visit we decided that the mare Armonia La Silla would be flushed from Quintero, and Breittling W was the result of this cross. Shortly after I started to work with La Silla I also purchased Levisto (Leandro - Hirtin x Carolus I, Stamm 4965, bred by Klaus-Peter Wiepert). Two years prior I purchased the mother of Levisto whom I had sold to the United States. I had already noticed Levisto at the Holsteiner stallion approvals, but the breeder did not want to sell him. He promised me that if he was going to sell him that I would be the first he would call. He kept his promise and I was able to buy Levisto.

◆ How did the story with Rosalia La Silla start?

I purchased Rosalia La Silla (Cassini I - Iorella x Contender, Stamm 1907, bred by Volker Redderberg) with the help of Norbert Boley in Holstein when she was three-and-a-half. The plan was to bring Holsteiner blood into the breeding program of La Silla. I purchased seven or eight foals from the best damlines in Holstein and a couple of three-and-a-half-year-old mares, and Rosalia was one of them. Mr. Romo was not always enthusiastic about Rosalia La Silla, but the main reason for buying these mares was to improve the breeding program with the best blood coming from Holstein. In the end Mr. Romo wanted these mares to all become top sport horses which was unrealistic, and nothing to do with the original idea as to why we purchased them. I selected the foals according to their motherline and I selected the three-and-a-half-year-old mares on their type, free jumping, and motherline.

Rosalia was big and weak when she was young, but was always very careful. She needed time to get stronger and to develop. A very positive thing was when Alberto Michan got Rosalia to ride because he absolutely believed in the possibilities of the mare. This is, I think, very important for every rider and horse: that the rider believes in the horse to reach the goals.

◆ How was it for you to see Rosalia la Silla doing so well at the 2012 Olympic Games?

It gave me a lot of gratification that all the work paid off. She had always been very careful but she did not have the ideal conformation, and thanks to our management she reached her peak performance during the Olympics. This was very gratifying for the rider, for La Silla, and for me.

◆ How did it start with Rolf-Göran Bengtsson and la Silla?

When I was at la Silla for the first time, Mr. Romo and I started the plan to build up something new at international level after he parted with Jan Tops. We wrote down a few names of riders and when I came back home I talked with these riders and we decided to try with Rolf-Göran Bengtsson. He had just left Jan Tops. In agreement with Norbert Boley I used the same system for Rolf-Göran with the Holsteiner Verband as I had with Franke Sloothaak at San Patrignano. Franke rode Cassini



San Patrignano Joly with Franke Sloothaak (GER)

I and Corrado I. Rolf rode Casall and Quintero and it grew from there. Ninja La Silla had unbelievable success with Rolf-Göran Bengtsson. In 2008 they were silver medalists at the Olympic Games of Hong Kong, and became individual champions at the European championship in Madrid in 2011.

I stopped working with La Silla after the Olympic Games of 2012 in London. My wife wanted me to spend more time at home, so our ways parted. One day I received €32,000 into my account for the sale of Creta LS, who was half mine, because I owned the mother. I made the deal with Mr. Romo that the foals from Santana 329 (Silvio I) the mother of Creta LS belonged to us both and suddenly there was €32,000 in my account.

◆ How did you become the chef d'équipe of the Mexican team?

The Mexican rider Albert Michan (note: now riding for Israel) was riding with me and he won the Olympic selection in Mexico for the London Games by a significant margin. He already stood out during the Pan-Am Games in 2011 in Guadalajara where he finished fifth riding Rosalia La Silla. They won team bronze, and I was also attending that championship to help Alberto. The next year they asked me to help the team in their Olympic preparation. I did this together with Norbert Nuxoll from Germany. We worked very well together as we had also already known each other for a long time. I had a lot of success with Alberto Michan. He also won classes in Wiesbaden and in Falsterbo in the Grand Prix, all with Rosalia la Silla. Alberto is a top rider.

En route to the Olympic Games in Tokyo

◆ Tell us something about your rider Hikari Yoshizawa?

Hikari came from Japan to my stable nine years ago. She was looking for horses accompanied by my partner from Japan, Shuichi Toki. She recently qualified for the Olympic Games in Tokyo. The question mark, however, will not be her performances, but if everything will be organized in a correct way. If we look at the results of all riders today, then Hikari for sure deserves a place in Japan's Olympic team. Hikari would have already deserved a place in the team two years ago.

Bloodlines and breeding

◆ How have you seen breeding and sport develop?

Sport is currently at a very high level. It is, however, becoming much more of a social or lifestyle event than ever before. The real horse people are a dying breed. In breeding they have many more possibilities through embryo transfer. This is something I learned in a good way in Mexico where they did that at La Silla at a very high level. I am not so positive about ICSI, because I find that quite painful for the mare. I also don't really believe in cloning, because we haven't seen real proof that it brings success. In breeding we have now much more possibilities.

Breeding is being ruled by the success of the stallions that



Michel Robert (FRA) riding Sloothaak's blue-eyed San Patrignano Weihaiwej during the rotation final of WEG 2004

are in the sport, and those are the stallions that are being used. Young stallions are getting fewer chances, I have to add that this seems less of a problem in the Netherlands or in Holstein, where young stallions still cover quite a few mares. It is a sign of the times that breeders are currently using mostly the stallions that are shining in sport. It has changed to a populist decision from a financial point of view.

◆ **What about your own start in breeding?**

It started with mares that I owned who had had a good career in the sport and had to retire because of an injury. I had the choice to sell them as broodmares for normal money, or to breed with them myself. It was like this with Corona (Coriall - Donina x Lombard, Stamm 1907, bred by Klaus Goettsche-Goetze) and with Inken I (Cassini I - Dolli II x Caretino, Stamm 2294, bred by Peter Carl Petersen). Before that it was the same with the Holsteiner mare Cashmir (Carthago - B-Carissima x Cantus, Stamm 7669, bred by Claus-Juergen Kahlke).

Inken's only foal before her sport career, Ninken (Littorio), is mother of Clicksem (Cardino), who jumped at 1m55 with Hikari Yoshizawa. He is already a great advert for the breeding possibilities of Inken. After her sport career, I crossed Inken with Quintero, and the result was the mare Quinka, Inken's second foal, who is currently competing at 1m50. Seven of her offspring are also currently competing. A friend of mine who rode her as a young horse told me that she would be just as valuable a broodmare as a sport horse. As a sport horse she had an amazing character. The Holsteiner approved Dinken (Diarado) is another of Inken's sons. He won the state championship as a six-year-old in Schleswig-

Holstein, then an injury prevented him from continuing with his sport career. Meanwhile, he is working on his career as a stallion and so far his offspring are looking very promising. I really think that Dinken can make a positive contribution to the Holsteiner breeding. Clicksem is still competing at 1m50 and only started his breeding career a couple of years ago because he really enjoys being at the shows. His oldest foal crop is now four.

◆ **Where does your interest for bloodlines come from?**

I have always been interested in bloodlines and I was curious how the good horses were bred and where they were coming from. It is also important to know the origin (from what motherline) of the horse when you buy a good sport horse. If I purchased a horse from people that I did not know, or if I did not know the history of the horse, I often make a mistake. It is important to know the motherlines and to have the right background information. I did a lot of reading and asked many questions. If you go to a show today you can get a starting list with pedigrees and you research more online. There has been a huge improvement in gathering information. Plus don't be too scared to ask questions.

A good education for me has certainly been the Holsteiner Verband. For many years I have been a regular there. I learned a lot from people like Norbert Boley and Dieter Mehrens who both know a lot about breeding. In the eighties I went to Holstein because I was curious about the breed and the first Holsteiner person that I got to know was Dirk Schröder. I drove to Dieter Mehrens and on that day in the afternoon I sat in the saddle of an unbelievable horse: Orchidee (Martini - Jenni x Little Lion xx, Stamm 275, bred by Hans Peter Breiholz). She gave me an amazing feeling and when I arrived at home I offered the horse to George Morris. He went there and called me, saying, 'if you ever show me such a bad horse again, then you don't need to show me any more horses!' Orchidee was a member of the German Olympic team that won the gold medal in Seoul in 1988 under the saddle of Dirk Hafemeister. So I kept coming back to Holstein and it grew from there.

◆ **Who would you say is your favorite jumping horse?**

This question is not so easy to answer because you have to see each horse and rider in a certain moment of time. You have to take into account the period during which the following horses were jumping: Jappeloup, who is not a classic jumping horse. His pedigree alone is not classic with the Trotter blood. His way of jumping, his elasticity, his scope that is something I have never seen with another horse. Jappeloup would be able to jump the tracks of today. Pierre Durand went to the Olympic Games in Seoul as the favourite and showed an unbelievable performance with Jappeloup. After what happened with them in 1984 in Los Angeles this says a lot about his determination. That is really worth a compliment.

To mention some other amazing jumping horses: Gem Twist, ET and Joli Coeur. Yes, those horses are for me the best horses of all time. ■

Genomic breeding for OCD: What are the benefits?

BY CHARLOTTE DEKKER / KWPN

In 2016, the KWPN introduced the osteochondrosis genome breeding value, which represents the genetic predisposition of a horse relative to the current KWPN population. This value is useful both in the Netherlands and abroad. In this article, we explain the technique and its benefits.

Let's begin with a brief explanation of how the genome breeding value works. First, a horse's hereditary traits are recorded in its DNA, a type of blueprint for controlling all processes in the body. The horse's body, like our own, consists of billions of cells; and each cell contains DNA: a molecule with codes that are unique for every person and animal. DNA is the main carrier of hereditary material and ultimately determines the color of a person's eyes or type of hair. For horses, DNA determines coat color and athletic ability, for example.

DNA is the spiral-shaped strand consisting of genes and the total package of genes – in other words, all DNA collectively. It is also called the horse's 'genome'. Genomic selection means that we consider the composition of the genome when selecting a horse. Through this process, we can identify the hereditary material present in a better or lesser variant for certain characteristics (performance, health and conformation). For example, genomic selection for osteochondrosis maps how likely a horse is to pass on this disorder to its offspring. The likelihood of doing so is expressed in a genomic breeding value in which all information about the DNA of the horse and its relatives is assembled and compared with the average DNA composition of the KWPN population.

The Genomic Breeding Value

The genomic breeding value for osteochondrosis indicates the genetic predisposition of a horse relative to the current KWPN population. The average of this KWPN population is set at 100, although individual horses in the population may score higher or lower than 100. Furthermore, those with a genomic breeding value between 96 and 104 do not truly deviate from the average. If, however, a horse has a value of 105 or higher, it is less likely to pass on osteochondrosis to its offspring. Conversely, if a horse scores 95 points or less, the chance is greater that it will pass on osteochondrosis to its offspring. With respect to these values, the KWPN developed the D-OC predicate to distinguish mares and stallions which score average or better relative to passing on osteochondrosis. This predicate is awarded to horses with a score of 96 or higher.

Reliable information for breeding

The genomic breeding value offers a tangible benefit for breeding, namely if a horse will pass on osteochondrosis to his offspring. Certainly a genome study is recommended when selling a horse as breeding stock or before breeding. After all, it is important for the breeding industry to identify the genetic risks associated with OC heritability.

The results of the study for the genomic breeding value provide significantly more, and more reliable information than a horse own's radiographic findings, which was the selection strategy before. The genomic breeding value is three times more reliable for breeding purposes than a radiographic study. For example, a breeding decision based on the genomic breeding value is about 45% to 50% reliable, compared to the approximately 15% reliability of the radiographs. Radiographs are a snapshot of the horse: pictures taken today may not be good a month from now if the horse sustains trauma, for example. Although the cause of the trauma will likely not be genetic, the horse then becomes less eligible for breeding as this is not accepted by most studbooks. The genomic breeding value can differentiate between trauma and genetics as it deals with DNA and a horse's susceptibility to OC



All DNA collectively is called the horse's 'genome'.

Genomic selection means that we consider the composition of the genome when selecting a horse

and whether its offspring will inherit the disorder.

On the other hand, radiographs are indeed beneficial in determining if a horse can maintain its sporting career or if its radiographs are sufficient to sell it as a sport horse. In these situations, radiographs are the better option because they indicate the current state of the horse itself.

Lower than average OC Genomic Breeding Value

Sometimes decision-making based on the genomic breeding value requires a nuanced approach. For example, a mare out of a top line with numerous sport horses but with a slightly low genomic breeding value for OC may still prove a good broodmare if she has a high value for the most important trait: sport. In such a case, it is wise to choose a stallion with a high OC score, as approved and recognized KWPN stallions also are assigned a genomic breeding value.

Non-KWPN horses

In order to calculate a high-quality genomic breeding value, a horse must be related to a certain degree to the



The genomic breeding value offers a tangible benefit for breeding, namely if a horse will pass on osteochondrosis to his offspring

composition of the reference population (see sidebar). For most Western European sport horse bloodlines/breeding programs, the genomic breeding value is possible to estimate and are the results beneficial to the breeder and breeding program. For more information or to apply for a D-OC predicate please visit www.KWPN.org ■

Reference population

To calculate a valid genomic breeding value, we must compare DNA composition with the trait which interests the breeder, in this case osteochondrosis. This is a so-called prediction equation. This equation is developed by marking a horse's DNA at approximately 70,000 points and linking the results to the horse's radiographs. By performing this procedure on many horses, a pattern eventually emerges, showing a comparison between the DNA markers and the degree of osteochondrosis. Horses used for this study and thus for compiling the equation are called the 'reference population', which is the foundation of the genome study.

In 2016, the KWPN compiled this reference group, which at that time contained about 3,000 horses. It is important to keep this reference population up to date and close to the current breeding population in order to obtain the highest quality genomic breeding value estimate. For these reasons, this population is expanded each year with horses of the youngest generation and bloodlines that are common in the total population but less available in the reference population.

Osteochondrosis

Osteochondrosis (OC) is a relatively common developmental disease caused by a failure of normal cartilage development at the end of long bones (such as those found in the legs) and vertebrae (in the neck and back). If the disease is associated with a bone/cartilage fragment visible on radiographs, it is referred to as osteochondrosis desiccans or OCD. Osteochondrosis can cause pain and lameness. With respect to equine durability and welfare, curtailing OC is very important.

Genomic Breeding Values of stallions in the KWPN database

You can find the genomic breeding values of approved and recognized stallions in the KWPN Database. To find a stallion's values, first search for a particular stallion. On that stallion's page, you'll find the heading Genetic Profile. The genomic breeding value will be listed under that heading by the trait 'OC Health'.

BN Stallion Directory: What do the statistics tell us?

BY JEAN LLEWELLYN

GRAPHICS: GEMMA ALEXANDER

In the past month, we have published our annual BREEDING NEWS WORLDWIDE SPORT HORSE STALLION DIRECTORY 2020 – our 16th edition – which includes information for 9,000+ living stallions that are licensed/approved by member studbooks of the WBFSH.

One of the Directory's regular editorial features focuses on statistical information that is, due to space limitations, presented in a less than ideal pie chart format.

The charts illustrate:

- Geographical Distribution of stallions on a global scale, per birth studbook. We only include those countries whose total represents a significant percentage of the featured stallions. In this case, per previous years, Germany takes the largest piece of the pie at over 45%, followed by France (SF and AA), the Netherlands (KWPN, NRPS), Scandinavia (Danish, Swedish, Finnish and Norwegian Warmblood), and Belgium (BWP, sBs, plus Zangersheide). We continue to include Thoroughbreds in our analysis as they are licensed for Warmblood breeding with virtually all the major studbooks, but have no relevance to birth countries.

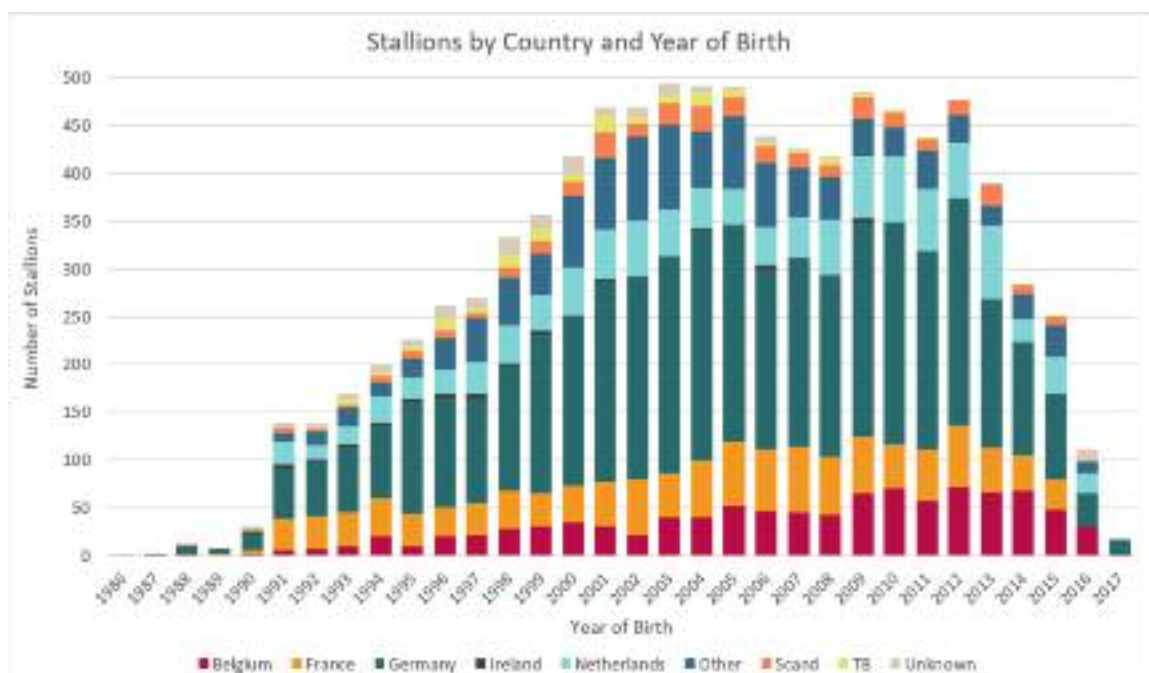
'Other' includes Spain, Portugal, Brazil, Mexico, Australia, NZ, South Africa, North America, etc., representing virtually every continent that boasts world-class sport horse breeding, but with a much smaller percentage of

approved stallions.

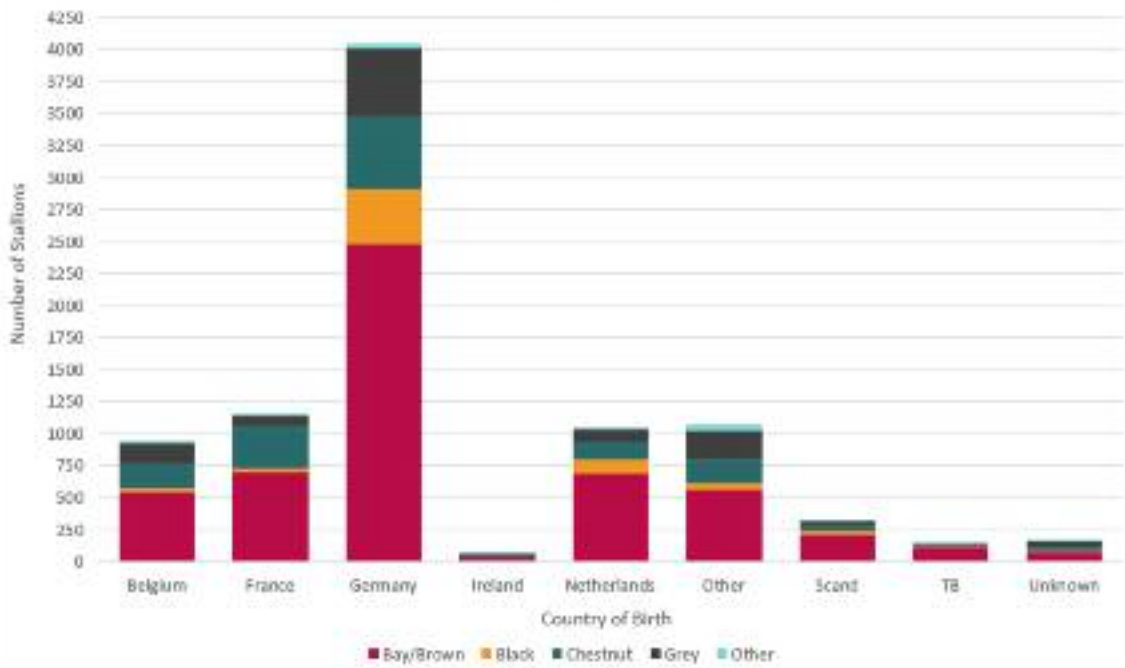
Additional pie charts include years of birth, colour, and size across the sport horse stallion spectrum. Although there are small differences from year to year, these are more likely due to the upgrading of information as it becomes available, rather than any specific breeding trends.

For the first time, thanks to Gemma Alexander, we are delighted to present the aforementioned information in graphs that are more representative of global distribution and with geographical comparisons: Stallions by country AND year of birth; Stallions by country of birth AND colour; Stallions by year of birth AND height.

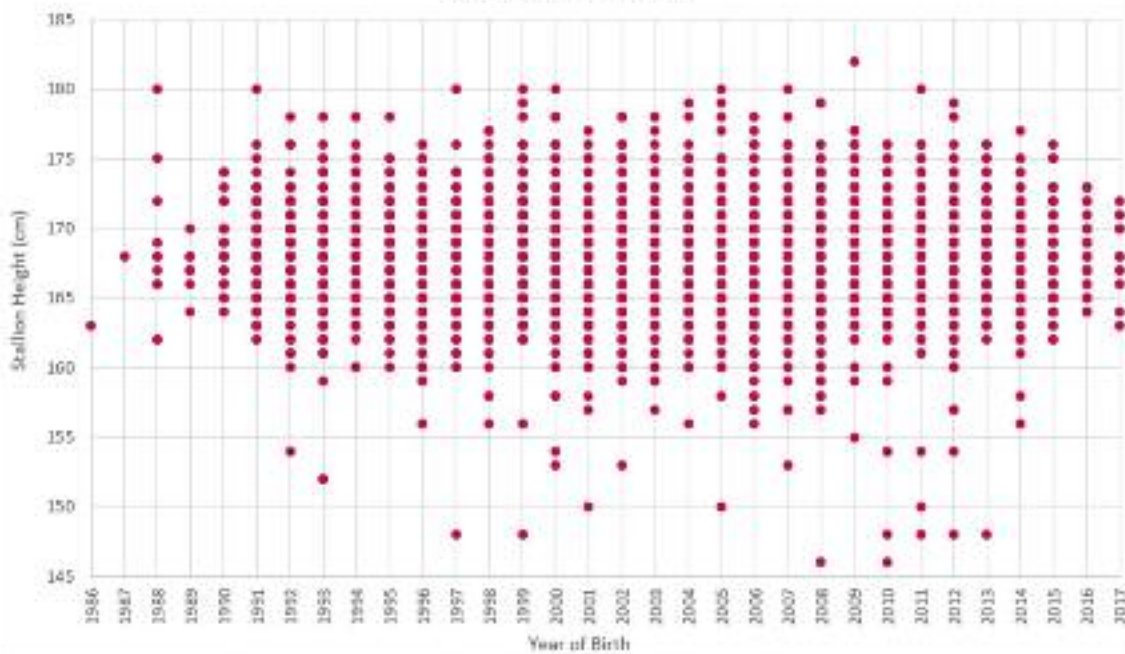
Of course, as always, such statistics can only be viewed based on the information provided, which may not be consistent across the world's studbooks in terms of their presentation or format. However, we are constantly endeavouring to cross-reference information so it meets the needs of the Directory as well as providing a useful information resource to our breeders. ■



Stallions by County of Birth and Colour



Year of Birth vs Height



HSI stallion selection results/ Irish-bred eventing success

BY ANTONETTE DORAN / HSI

GRAPHICS: LAURENCE DUNNE/JUMPINACTION

The 2020 Horse Sport Ireland Stallion Selections took place in Cavan Equestrian Centre on March 10/11, when a total of 30 stallions were presented for inspection, eight Irish Sport Horse stallions, 19 Irish Draughts, two Thoroughbreds, and one pony stallion.

Of the 11 stallions presented for Stage 1 for the Irish Sport Horse and Irish Sport Pony Studbook, four met the Stage 1 requirements on the first day. This includes an in-hand conformation assessment using linear profiling, while movements are assessed on the triangle then on a hard surface, followed by a loose or ridden athleticism assessment.

Three Irish Sport Horse stallions met the Stage 1 requirements and were presented for Stage 2 assessment on Wednesday where they were ridden by their own rider and subsequently by Capt. Geoff Curran, the test rider for the Irish Sport Horse Stage 2 assessments. The four-year-old Lithium V.S. (Etoulon VDL [KWPN] x Guidam [SF]), and the five-year-old Kaiden Leva WD both met the criteria and were classified as Preliminary Approved.

Commenting on the 2020 inspections, Alison Corbally, HSI Director of Breeding and Programmes, stated, "There was strong representation of 19 Irish Draught stallions who came forward for inspection this year, eight Irish Sport Horses, two Thoroughbred's and one pony. The preparation and turnout of all stallions was excellent, and on which both inspection panels commented. I would like to acknowledge the effort put in by the stallion owners and their support staff in producing these young horses so well. I hope that breeders, will consider using these newly classified stallions and give them an opportunity to start their breeding careers with good mares."

Irish Sport Horses Eventing success continues

Irish-bred horses continue to dominate the international eventing circuit. Sixty-two Irish-bred horses, a huge number for this early stage in the season, finished inside the top-ten in international CDI events in February and March.

Ireland's Cathal Daniels and Irish Sport Horses OLS King Aragon and Shannondale Mari (Shannondale Sarco St Ghyvan X Lux Z) took first place in both the CCI3*-S and CCI2*-S classes respectively in Barroca, Portugal in February and then followed up with a third place finish with OLS King Aragon in the CCI4*-L class at the same venue in March. OLS King Aragon is by the sport horse stallion Samgemjee and out of the dam Just Beauty Queen (ISH). The dam who is by the Thoroughbred sire Seaman-ship competed up to four-star level with Irish rider Susan Short, including a successful appearance at the Athens 2004 Olympic Games. The owner and breeder, Kieran Connors, has bred other progeny out of this dam that are competing successfully at CIC2* level.

The ever-consistent Daniels also finished in fourth place with the Irish Sport Horse Shannondale Percy in the CCI4*-S class. Shannondale Percy is by Shannondale Sarco St Ghyvan (BEWB) out of Shannondale Maria (ISH) by Lux Z (Hann). The breeder is Martin Walsh from Co. Clare.

In the Ocala Winter Horse Trials in Florida, Irish Sport

PROVISIONAL IRISH SPORT HORSE STUDBOOK STALLION INSPECTION RESULTS 2020

| Stallion name | YOB | Sire | Damsire | Owner/Breeder | Classification |
|--------------------------------------|------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Kaiden Leva WD | 2015 | Kannan [KWPN] | Numero Uno [KWPN] | Sandra Duffy/ W. Dekker | Preliminary Approved |
| Lithium V.S. | 2016 | Etoulon VDL [KWPN] | Guidam [SF] | Ennisnag Stud/ H.H. de Vries | Preliminary Approved |
| Passed Stage 1 Carneyhaugh Trojan | 2016 | For Pleasure [Hann] | Don Juan de la Bouverie [sBs] | Paddy Breen/ Paddy Breen | Not Approved 1 |
| Kentucky LVP | 2016 | Rotchild du Bosquetiau [sBs] | Carolus I [Hann] | Gary Frew/ LVP Stables | Not Approved 1 |



Lithium V.S. ridden by Damien Griffin, with Nial Hughes

horses including Lukeswell (ISH) and Catch Me Cooley (ISH) were among those to finish in first place across the classes. Lukeswell is by the sire Puissance out of Gentle Servant (ISH) by Kings Servant (ISH) [TIH]. Lukeswell was originally campaigned by Irish rider Sam Watson, where they enjoyed success up to CIC3* level. Current rider, American Hannah Sue Burnett is now riding Lukeswell at CCI4* level. Breeder Teresa Walsh from Co Kilkenny has bred other successful eventers from the dam Gentle Servant including Horseware Ardagh Highlight, who was part of the Irish eventing team that won silver at the World Equestrian Games in Tryon in 2018 with Sam Watson.

Catch Me Cooley (ISH) (previously known as GRC Brigade) is a 2012 gelding by Clover Brigade (ISH) [TIH] out of Loughnavatta Sabrina (ISH) by VDL Arkansas (KWPN). Breeder Rory Costigan has bred both showjumpers and eventers out of the dam Loughnavatta Sabrina, including GRC Paris who has showjumped up to 1m40 level will Swedish rider Lilly Johansson; Loughnavatta Indigo who is showjumping at 1m60 level successfully with Irish rider Jonathan Corrigan; and Loughnavatta Ash who was originally ridden by Michael Pender at 1m40 level but is now being ridden by Canadian rider Alicia Timm. ■



Kaiden Leva WD, ridden by Brendan Murphy, with owner Vinny Duffy



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Conference on International Breeding: Raising a success

BY AGATA GROSICKA

PHOTOGRAPHY: LUKASZ KOWALSKI

The second edition of the International Breeding Conference 'How to raise success' was organized on the last day of February 2020 by Cichon Stallions, in Radzionkow, Poland. Ahead of any coronavirus lock-downs, the event gathered together 250 breeders, as well as representatives from most of the European studbooks – including Hanoverian, Oldenburg, Holsteiner, AES, Danish Warmblood, Zangersheide – and, of course, Polish PZHK.

The first part of the conference was dedicated to lectures highlighting the different aspects of foal raising presented by Dr. Krzysztof Skorupski – a well known veterinarian and psychologist who lectured about 'Psychology of a horse's individual behavioral differences'. Aleksandra Nejman of Light Equitation discussed the importance of imprinting, and how to efficiently work with a foal from birth to its preparation for a future sporting career. Dr. Katarzyna Marchewczyk from TA Praxis, Drs. Janetzko and Lange, discussed the major threats foals may encounter at a very young age. Finally, Dr. Paulina Wozniak of International Institute of Translational Medicine lectured on epigenetic regulations of bone mineral density.

Much anticipated was the presentation of Heinz Meier from Schockemoehle Pferdehaltung and Gestüt Lewitz, which generated a lively Q&A, which has been extracted below:

On national vs. global breeding: "Breeding is global with only one exception, the Trakhener Verband, which will sooner or later also become global. All the other Verbands

are now open to horses of different breeds, and carry 'open books'."

On foal raising: "With a thousand horses every year in Gestüt Lewitz, it's difficult to maintain a bond with a foal all the time, so those between the ages of one and two years lose the connection, which is later rebuilt individually at the age of three."

On embryo transfer: "During the breeding season we use the best broodmares a couple of times, as the same gene combination is not repeatable. In breeding, one plus one never equals two, so embryo transfer makes success come faster."

On the showjumping selection process: "With a thousand foals every year we make sure that 70% reach 1m40 competitions. The first selection comes right after birth, then at the age of 12 to 14 months we see them going through cavaletti, and finally, at the age of three, after a free jumping test, we make the decision whether to sell or keep the horse in our herd."

On the broodmares: "We have over 1,000 broodmares and every year we rebuild our herd by choosing 50 new broodmares that are then used exclusively for embryo transfer in their first breeding seasons. After three years they give birth naturally once or twice, then either return to the embryo transfer program or are used for sport."

On foal evaluation: "In their first days we can only evaluate their gaits; jumping comes later. In the case of dressage horses, movement can be evaluated very early, and if based on natural type, these features are sure to stay."

Christian Springborg, the young-horse manager from Helgstrand Dressage presented the By Ravnstrup Center in Denmark, a facility specially dedicated to raising young horses: "The foals come to us at the age of six months. The first winter is the most important period in their lives. You have to be with them all the time. We keep them in paddocks on concrete to ensure their hooves and tendons grow strong, and feed them lots of hay. Typically, out of of



Presentation by Eva-Maria Broomer (AES), sitting l-r: Janusz Lewandowski (PZHK), André Hahn (Oldbg), Piotr Kuczynski (Hann), Maren Schlenker (Hann)

80 foals we see only four or five who may be lame. The first selection comes at the age of one with the focus on type and gaits. During the following winter they're outside to stimulate their growth and build their muscles. Training young horses has to be diverse, we loose jump them even if they're dressage horses. They work three days a week, are lunged in a round pen, side reins. With young horses the results come very fast".

Afternoon debate

The afternoon debate of studbooks was a long-awaited moment as it gathered together a number of luminaries: From the Hanoverian Verband, Maren Schlender, deputy breeding manager 'breeding abroad, seminars for breeders, and Piotr Kuczynski, Polish representative; André Hahn, deputy breeding director of the Oldenburg Verband; Roland Metz, auction and marketing manager from the Holsteiner Verband; Eva-Maria Broomer and Joanna Rosicka-Tyszko from AES; Joanna Banas from Zangersheide Polska; and last but not the least, Janusz Lewandowski from PZHK.

Each presenter opened with the following topics: The history of the studbook, selection criteria, prices, formalities and the availability of the studbook in Poland. It was followed by a short Q&A session which, due to lack of time, focused more on certain topics than on the others, foal evaluation criteria being one of them. Polish breeders of dressage horses expressed their need for having more options to present their foals, an area where foreign studbooks stepped forward. André Hahn from the Oldenburg Verband announced two summer shows this year – one on the western border near Szczecin and the other in Central Poland, near Warsaw; Roland Metz confirmed a Holsteiner Show in Nowy Tomysl in the western part of Poland; Joanna Banas announced a Zangersheide Festival on August 1, 2020 near the city of Lodz.

Similarly, Janusz Lewandowski from PZHK confirmed two late-summer foal evaluation in Jaruzyn and in Udorz which will also feature dressage foals. He also announced that starting in 2020, all local Polish sport horse breeds will become one 'umbrella brand' – Polish Sport Horse.

The presentation by Eva-Maria Broomer from AES was widely discussed by the breeders, who appreciated the fresh approach and 'colour coding' criteria. Here is the interview that followed:

◆ **What makes your studbook different from the older European ones?**

"Because we are very young. In 2014 there was a



Pawel Gaszka presents broodmare Zaira-J with her foal by Goldfinger x Jazz, bred by Jaskulscy

complete change in management and we had an opportunity to really think afresh about what we wanted to start from and where we wanted to take it. I joined the studbook in 2016 and found a blank canvas which allowed me to learn the best things from all the studbooks and think how we can use them to create a really fresh approach that works harmoniously with sport. I myself am a dressage breeder and a rider and I work a lot with people like Carl Hester. We share the opinion that the very crucial stage of a horse's development is when you have to send a horse away to be ridden by another rider. You feel very nervous about that because these years are very influential for the horse's further development. We really should think of Grand Prix as the end goal, and GP meaning not the flashiest young horses but trainability and soundness overall. So I designed our rating system because, for me, it's such a great investment to get a horse to GP level, it's years of training, it's very expensive, and we have too many horses that break down too early. Seeing a horse go lame at the age of 14 is going to ruin the sport because people have invested too much. I want to see horses competing at the age of 18 and beyond. So that's why we have these guidelines and how I redesigned the system

◆ **What are your expectations concerning the Polish market?**

"In Poland we started very small; we are not aggressive in the way we act. People are coming to us by picking up the phone, liking what we do, and thus we grow organically. We've grown incredibly fast worldwide and we've doubled the number of horses since we took over in 2014. Yet we do not want to grow for growth's sake, we want to maintain our principles and we want to stay true. As far as Poland is concerned we would very much like to take things farther as we want to do mare gradings and foal evaluations, and we

have to find the ways to work with other people in Poland and come together as studbooks because individually we might be small, but together we might make it work. I'll give you an example from Britain where we organize the Stallion Show by British breeding, of which we are a part. Stallions from all studbooks can enter and we get about 15,000 visitors and 90 stallions. If it was down to each individual studbook it wouldn't be worth doing, it wouldn't work financially, but also you wouldn't get the right number of stallions. The Polish breeders should get the same opportunities we do in our country."

◆ Which discipline has the biggest potential in the Polish market? Is it eventing?

All three [disciplines] in different ways. The dressage market is very strong and commercial and it's not difficult to sell a young horse because you can already tell a lot about them and their potential. Showjumpers, and especially eventing riders, are very nervous about that because until you see a horse really jump you might have everything in the right place but still not have the right horse. In eventing, it's

even more complex as it's not only about the way to jump and the ability to move, but also to be brave enough for the cross country. That's why eventers are more interested in buying horses of five and six years of age. These are very different challenges, and in further development we have to think about very different economic propositions. It's very different for a breeder to say I can breed something and sell it as a foal next year than to say I can breed something, raise it, then find someone to produce it and to show it. The costs grow but sometimes the monetary return does not. I wish I knew how to help and challenge the market in that way. If sport success is there (eventing) it always drives the interest. And there is a lot of strong heritage in Poland for eventing in breeding and a lot of natural identity about that sport.

The idea about our scoring system and the fact that it's open to the public is that it gives buyers the confidence because they can go online and they see how we evaluate the horse. It is part of their buying decision."

This is how a young Polish breeder, Karolina Badora, summed up the event: "As a breeder of dressage horses, I was keen to attend the conference in Radzionków, which



Presentation of Don Deluxe (2011: De Niro x Rosario), 2013 Oldenburg licensing champion

promised to bring together a faculty of experts from different areas of the equestrian world and provide a great opportunity to meet other breeders and exchange opinions and ideas. Being the only event of this kind in Poland, it was a 'must-go' for me. The very intense day at the conference started with useful and informative lectures from veterinarians and behavioural specialists, who discussed topics related to horse psychology at different ages, disease prevention, and optimal conditions for raising youngsters. Importantly, all the speakers were available for discussions during breaks and proved very approachable and happy to answer any questions."



l-r: Janusz Lewandowski (PZHK), Piotr Kuczynski (Hamm), André Hahn (Oldbg), Maren Schlender (Hamm)

Practical demonstrations

Subsequently, we moved to the indoor school to see some lovely horses presented in hand and free jumping while representatives from the Schockemöhle and Helgstrand stallion stations provided a commentary. The conference concluded with a debate-style overview of different sport horse breeding associations operating in Poland, which hopefully allowed those yet undecided to choose where to register their foals.

For next year I would encourage the organisers to consider a two-day format as many speakers sadly had their talks cut short due to the strict timetable. Some of the talks were also rather academic and could have been simplified for the benefit of the wider audience present. While I do admire the efforts to discuss presentation of young horses, it is something that takes time and practice and is definitely not feasible to learn at a one-day event. Indeed, most breeders seek professional help when preparing their young stallions for approval or mares for the mare performance test. From a breeder's perspective, it would have been more useful to see how others go about recognising the horse's potential from a young age, so that the best horses can be given an opportunity to shine.

Finally, the atmosphere of the breeding associations' debate was somewhat confrontational. It could have been more relaxed and informative if each association had prepared a FAQ sheet and set up a desk/booth where a representative would be available to answer any questions as breeders came around to chat.

While there is always something that could be improved, the conference was, overall, time well spent. I learned a lot in a day, made useful contacts, caught up with some acquaintances that I have not seen for a long time and... absolutely fell in love with one of the (showjumping!) horses presented: Dark Chocolate Maxx, is both a successful broodmare and a real eye candy. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the organisers for their efforts and wish them every success with next editions of the event.

Conclusion from the organizer

Mateusz Cichon from Cichon Stallions who organized the event talked about the reasons for doing so and the feedback he received from the breeders afterwards: "I evaluate the second edition of the breeding conference in a very positive way, first of all in terms of the stature of the speakers, second in terms of the number of attendees, which exceeded 240 breeders. The very comprehensive formula with nine hours and only two breaks was very interesting because of theoretical and practical panels and a huge variety of topics – every participant could find something right for him.

The primary goal of the debate of the invited studbooks was to present the breeders with all the possibilities, advantages and disadvantages, as well as interesting facts regarding each studbook. The breeders very often ask us for advice and recommendations while choosing the studbook for their foals. We want to stay objective, so organized this conference to give breeders a chance to form their own opinions on the subject. It was also a great opportunity to invite to Radzionkow many acclaimed representatives of western studbooks – I think it was the first ever breeding event organized in Poland which gathered such distinguished personalities.

"The debate created many emotions and comments from those expressing a slight disappointment that the speakers were not at each other throats, to the voices of appreciation of Mr. Janusz Lewandowski from PZHK who managed to deliver a very good presentation of the Polish studbook on quite uneasy ground. The conference itself received a lot of positive feedback which motivates me to continue its formula in the upcoming years. I have already come up with the main topic for 2021."

Hopefully with an extension to a two-day event! have a suggestion to extend it to two day event! ■

Success for Blue Hors Monte Carlo and Blue Hors Fortron

BY SUSANNE BUNDGAARD

PHOTOGRAPHY: KIKI BEELITZ

Seven stallions were selected for the premium ring during the Danish Warmblood Stallion Show in Herning – of which two wore the Blue Hors stamp. Breeding manager, Martin Klavsén believes they offer the whole package in terms of being naturally equipped, so has high expectations for Fortron, Monte Carlo and Dalian – three exceptional stallions.

Blue Hors Fortron (For Romance II x Desperados x Wolken Hit), presented himself exquisitely and received high praise for his appearance. He will represent the new blood in the Blue Hors stable for which Danish breeders have been asking. According to Klavsén, "He is a stallion that fits really well with the blood we already have, and he can advantageously be used for mares by Zack, Don Olymbrio, and all the Dutch blood, for which we have long been looking for a good match." Fortron will be stationed with a Blue Hors partner in Germany, but semen will be available in Denmark on the same day it's collected.

Klavsén believes he had great luck in purchasing the powerful stallion Blue Hors Monte Carlo at the KWPN stallion licensing 2020. Possessing three high-quality gaits, his strong engine with powerful hind-leg mechanism puts him in a league

of his own as a stallion for high-level sport. His excellent bloodline – Dream Boy x United x Jazz – displays strong performance that leaves nothing to chance. He was bred in the



Blue Hors Fortron



Blue Hors Monte Carlo

Netherlands by W. Den Besten and is out of a super damline that has produced Grand Prix horses such as Murdock and Balzflug, Annette Ballerina and Scandic, Bolero and Johnson, alongside licensed stallions such as Joop TC (Ravel) and Son De Niro (De Niro).

Blue Hors breeding manager Martin Klavsén said; "When we first saw the stallion at the licensing in the Netherlands, he stood out as a very strong mover and attracted a lot of attention. Therefore, I got in touch with stallion keeper Joop van Uytert, and we agreed that we could come and test ride Blue Hors Monte Carlo after our stallion show in Vechta. We were very excited and clearly envisaged his great potential for greater tasks in future. I am very fond of the combination of bloodlines which

is uncommon in Denmark."

Joop van Uytert, Tim Coomans, and Nico Witte, maintain 50% ownership of Blue Hors Monte Carlo, who will now be trained and stand at stud at Blue Hors.

Finally, Blue Hors Dalian represents a classic combination of German dressage blood, so his pedigree is excellent for a wide range of mares. Dalian's sire, Dancier was one of the most influential De Niro sons in breeding who fathered nearly 40 licensed stallions and over 100 state premium mares. Klavsén said, "He's the Dancier son we have been looking for, he is not only incredibly light-footed with lots of impulsion and carriage, he's also a very uncomplicated horse and a pleasure to work with." ■



Blue Hors Monte Carlo



New Zealand Horse of the Year Show: just in time!

BY SALLY REID

PHOTOGRAPHY: CORNEGE PHOTOGRAPHY, PEGASUS COMMUNICATIONS

It was a very close call, but New Zealand's six-day Horse of the Year Show took place in March with a full quota of international FEI officials: Covid-19 restrictions were enforced the night the show ended. Within days, all further equestrian competitions were cancelled until further notice, so HOY was likely the last major sporting fixture of any type to be held in this country. The national dressage championships and ESNZ Jumping Series Finals were not so lucky.

The Olympic Cup, HOY's most prestigious competition, was another close call: a battle between two magnificent Warmblood mares. Both jumped faultlessly in the first two rounds, over a track which caused plenty of problems: more about that below.

Two breeders in particular had good HOY results this year: Sharlene Workman of Xtreme Sport Horses in the age-group jumping, and David Woolley of DW Stud with a pair of Johnson sons in the Grand Prix dressage. There were also some great results from European-bred Warmbloods.

Olympic Cup: Absolutely fabulous Andrea!

A Holsteiner mare, imported by a man who – at the time – knew almost nothing about sport horses and their breeding, is 2020's NZ Horse of the Year. She is, of course, the absolutely fabulous LT Holst Andrea (Casall Ask -Palaune x Lavaletto), who is a regular in BN reports from New Zealand.

Andrea was bred in Germany by Hans-Joachim Gerken of Hammoor, and is from the highly regarded Stamm 2067, which has produced a number of 1m60 jumpers. She jumped triple-clear over a course designed (appropriately) by Germany's Werner Deeg, who has now built the HOY tracks several times. It caused other top horses to make errors, but posed no problems for the cool-headed Andrea and her rider Brooke Edgecombe, who co-owns her with Ewen Mackintosh

of Lake Taupo Holsteiners.

LT Holst Andrea has been the ESNZ's leading mare for the past two seasons and looks certain to claim the honour for a third time. She has a daughter by Clinton (LT Holst Elizabeth), and two embryo

transfer daughters by Colman (LT Holst Freda and LT Holst Francis). Both Freda and Elizabeth are competing successfully here; Francis has her own very exciting daughter by Emerald, and has gone to Brooke Edgecombe to start her competition career. There is absolutely no doubt that all of these mares will play a major role in NZ breeding history.

Second place, for the second year running, went to Graffiti MH (Graf Top - Elodie x Earl) bred by Matthews Hanoverians, owned by Judith Matthews and Angela Miller, and ridden by Melody Matheson. This big mare is certainly impressive; a stand-out beauty with a terrific jumping style who came agonisingly close to winning this year after two perfect rounds, but a single rail in the jump-off.

Graffiti's dam, Elodie, who is no longer owned by Matthews Hanoverians, had two foals for the stud: Graffiti and the nine-year-old Ballerina MH (Bonifatius), whose own filly by Fürstenball, Fendi MH (2017), was a premium foal at the 2018 Hanoverian inspection tour under Volker Ehlers. Ballerina MH also has a 2018 daughter, Graffiene MH by Graffiti's sire, Graf Top – a very exciting prospect, and Graffiti's three-quarter sister. She, too, has been sold.

Third place went to the NZ Warmblood gelding, Windermere Cappuccino (Corofino II - Vespa x Voltaire II), who has been such a hero for the past few seasons, and who jumped beautifully in round one. In fact, he looked invincible, but tipped a very unlucky rail in round two.

Windermere Cappuccino is owned by his breeders, the Parkes family, and ridden by Tegan Fitzsimon. His sire, the imported licensed Holsteiner Corofino II (Corrado I -Valeska IV x Fernando I), stands at Sharlene Workman's Xtreme Sport Horses and has been enormously successful here, winning the ESNZ leading stallion title several times. He was bred in Germany by Hobe Bernhard and is from Stamm 318D2, with the blood of For Pleasure and Furioso through his damsire, as well as a duplication of Corrado I – who is not only Corofino II's sire, but is also Fernando's damsire.

More of Corrado I's blood can be found in the Australian-bred Holsteiner gelding, Carado GHP (Caretino - Only You V x Corrado I), who finished fourth in this class. He was bred by Paula and Olivia Hamood of Glen Haven Park, is owned by Debbie Francis, and ridden by her teenage daughter, Annabel.



Olympic Cup winners LT Holst Andrea and Brooke Edgecombe

He is a small but brave gelding with a very big jump, and won the Gold Tour Final at Takapoto last season, over a Frank Rothenberger course against some serious competition – including Australian entry Finch Farm Cadel (Charlemagne Ego Z x Aachen) and LT Holst Andrea, who finished second and third respectively. Carado's dam is a studbook mare from Stamm 730B, who has a number of other sons and daughters.

Another Australian-bred Holsteiner took fifth place: the talented 10-year-old mare Cera Cassina (Cassini II - Caletta x Caletto I) ridden by Kimberley Bird. She is from Stamm 7126 and was bred by Kerri Parker of Cera Performance Horses. Earlier this season, Cera Cassina was the winner of a World Cup round – her second start at that level. She has super jumping blood right through her pedigree, including Capitol I and Cor de la Bryère. The mare's half-sister by Clearway, Cera Calista, is one of Cera Performance Horses' top broodmares.

Sixth went to another mare, but this time a Hanoverian: Henton Faberge (For Edition - Galatoire x Genius). The lovely 15-year-old chestnut was bred by Henton Lodge's Dave and Bridget Sutton who also own her, and is ridden by Emelia Forsyth. Like Windermere Cappuccino, she carries the blood of For Pleasure and Furioso through her sire. Her dam is by a stallion who was a major influence in Warmblood breeding here, the G-line Genius (Garibaldi - Dreamy x Diskus). He was imported from Germany in the early 1980s and had a long stud career until his death in 2003. He sired 111 registered Hanoverians and many more Warmblood-registered foals, as well as 21 studbook mares.

Young Horses of the Year

The Young Horse classes at this show are part of the ESNZ Age Group Series, but carry separate Horse of the Year titles and, with these, their own special prestige.

The seven-year-old class seemed most likely to go to Vicki Wilson's imported Holsteiner stallion Daminos TWS (Diarado x Cachas x Carolus I), who has been unbeaten in his age-group outings this season. However, the eventual winner was Carpaccio BDV Z TWS (Clintissimo Z - Walanka x Indoctro), also an imported stallion, and also owned and ridden by Vicki Wilson. The two young greys arrived here as four-year-olds, and the Belgian-bred Carpaccio, who has Zangersheide, KWPN and Holsteiner lines, has been a little in the shadows of his illustrious stablemate until now. However, Wilson thought he would eventually prove the better of the two – so it will be interesting to watch the progression of this pair.

Carpaccio's sire, Clintissimo Z, is by Clinton out of Idylle CB (Cathargo x Calypso I), a Holsteiner Studbook mare from Stamm 2666. His dam, Walanka (Indoctro - Galanka x Appolonius xx), is a KWPN Stb. Sport(spr) mare, all of which adds up to some pretty major jumping talent.

Reserve in the class was Campari (Corofino II - Lilliana x Littorio), bred and owned by Penny Tapley, and ridden by Tegan Fitzsimon. This NZ Sport Horse gelding – who has a lot of Holsteiner blood – was also runner-up in the national seven-year-old young horse championship earlier in the season. His

dam, Lilliana, is by the Holsteiner Littorio (Lord x Ladykiller xx x Carneval), out of a mare called Just Good Fun (also known as Paleface), by a New Zealand stallion called Romanov. Romanov's own sire was the KWPN Ramzes II, whose sire was the Holsteiner Rigoletto. So, yes, a lot of Holsteiner blood, which seems to be a common theme among New Zealand jumpers at the moment. Campari has finished the season as the highest-ranking horse on the ESNZ seven-year-old jumping leaderboard.

Third place went to another Holstein flagbearer: the dependably good mare, Selena C (Cardento VDL - SoFee x Powerfee), for Vicki Prendergast who bred, owns, and rides her. She has been wonderful throughout her career, with numerous age-group wins and placings, and has been victorious against older, more experienced horses too. In fact, she won the very competitive Pro-Am title at HOY last year, aged just six. This year, she finished third in the same class, and finishes the season in third place on the ESNZ seven-year-old rankings.

Selena C's dam, SoFee, is the daughter of Prendergast's NZ-bred eventing mare Sanderston (San Mellay xx - At Easer x Winnebago), who was a member of the sixth-placed Brazilian team at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games ridden by Serguei Fofanoff. Sanderston has progeny who have jumped at World Cup level, but SoFee was injured as a foal, so has been used only for breeding. She has had six foals, including Selena C and two particularly exciting young prospects: a son by Hector van d'Abdijhoeve, and a daughter by Cohinoor VDL.

Fourth place went to another Holsteiner mare, Global PH Mylorde (Mylord Carthago - Sinfonie D, Hauptstutbuch Staatsprämie x Contender) from the influential Stamm 776. Bred by Jenny McIntyre of Global Performance Horses, owned by the stud and ridden by Pieta Milne, she is definitely one to watch.

Another mare, Haupouri Da Vinci (Untouchable M - OSH Approved NZPH x Frisbee Kerellec) was fifth. She is a gorgeous-looking grey NZSH, bred by New Zealand Performance Horses and owned and ridden by Alex Loiselle, who wisely retired her in the jump-off after an awkward moment with a fence. She has a six-year-old full sister, Haupouri Ellen, bred by Warwick Hansen at Haupouri Sport Horses. This mare has a 2018 gelding son, Haupouri Jigsaw, by Contendro. Warwick Hansen, one of the joint founders of NZPH, set up Haupouri Sport Horses in 2019 as a new venture with his daughter, Bridget Berry, and her husband Jono.

Sixth place went to Daminos TWS (Diarado - Blanca Nieve Birkspremie x Cachas), who was bred by Klaus-Peter Wiepert, is owned by Vicki, Amanda and Kelly Wilson of



Enjoying the moment, Melissa Galloway riding 2020 GP Dressage Horse of the Year Windermere J'Obel W (Johnson NOP) bred by David Woolley

Team WS, and ridden by Vicki Wilson. Daminos won the 2018 six-year-old title at the Young Horse Show, and the seven-year-old title in 2019. He is an exceptional young stallion with tremendous scope, and this somewhat disappointing result in no way reflects his quality or the season he's had: victory after victory. His dam, Blanca Nieve, is a Bezirksprämie mare from Stamm 3488.

How heartening for New Zealand breeding to see a group of young HOY winners with three mares and two stallions in it!

Six-year-olds going to Xtremes!

This class was a standout success for one particular stud as four of the top six place-getters were bred by Sharlene Workman at Xtreme Sport Horses, whose stallion, Corofino II, sired three of them – including the overall winner, the Holsteiner gelding Casanova Xtreme (Corofino II - JK Good Looks x JK Lucas). He is owned by Takapoto Estate and ridden by Jaime Tiller. Casanova jumped clear throughout the competition, and is a lovely horse to watch in action, with a very good pair of knees. He finished second in last year's five-year-old series, and recently won the six-year-old final at Takapoto Estate's prestigious two-week show. He is the top horse on the ESNZ six-year-old rankings, which will not have a final competition this year.

Casanova Xtreme's damsire, JK Lucas (Lander - Monogem x Monopol), was one of two Holsteiner stallions imported to New Zealand in the 1980s. He was bred by Holstein Park in Australia and left many good progeny, including the dressage mare JK L'Amour, and a stallion son, JK Latano.

The reserve six-year-old was another Holsteiner, but this time a mare: Mojito GNZ (Lordano - On Song II x Lansing). She and Casanova Xtreme were the only two horses to finish the competition fault-free.

Mojito was bred by Goldengrove Stud and is owned and ridden by Emma Power. She is a brave, scopey jumper with a great turn of speed, which may well have been inherited from her wonderful sire, Lordano. He was a licensed son of Lord, from Holst Stamm 4539, ridden in Europe by Rolf-Göran Bengtsson until injury ended his jumping career.



*Casanova Xtreme, 6yo Horse of the Year
ridden by Jaime Tiller*

Lordano sired good progeny on both sides of the world, including some excellent studbook mares. Among these are the Staatsprämie Luzie II.

Mojito's dam, On Song II (Lansing - Elle x Zabalu), a New Zealand Warmblood, was also injured and retired from competition; in her case as a five-year-old. She is also known as Bree and was the first Lansing foal ever born in this country – the first, in fact, of many. This stallion was a producer of approved sons, state premium mares, and premium foals, and had a large number of sons and daughters competing in New Zealand and internationally.

Third place went to another from Xtreme Sport Horses, the big dark bay gelding Avenger Xtreme (Andretti - Corteza x Collins), who is owned and ridden by Logan Massie. Once again, this is a youngster with super international jumping bloodlines and a huge amount of promise. His sire, Andretti (Acorado I - Liane x Come On) is a licensed Holsteiner from Stamm 776, who has had a successful Grand Prix career of his own here. He was bred by A.J.W. Bolscher. Avenger's damsire, Collins (Calando I - Z-Freya x Caletto II), was a German import to Australia, who was later exported back to Germany after jumping for Australia internationally. He carries a double cross of Cor de la Bryère.

Carbon Xtreme (Corofino II - Ngahiwi Chrome Xtreme x Corland VDL), also ridden by Logan Massie, and bred by Sharlene Workman, was fourth in the class. She is a lovely grey mare, and was the winner of the style prize at the young horse championships. Her dam, Chrome (Corland VDL - Violet x Cisco Crier) is a New Zealand Sport Horse bred by Bruce Holden at Ngahiwi Station – she had jumping and show hunter (equitation) wins with Vicki Wilson.

It was Vicki Wilson who rode the fifth-placed horse in this class, too: the NZ Warmblood gelding Royal Levado VW (Showtym Levado GNZ - Quiz Me VW x Euro Sport Centavos). His sire, Showtym Levado GNZ, was bred by Goldengrove Stud, and is a son of the imported Holsteiner, Littorio (Lord x Urban x Romedio). Littorio features in a number of these young horses' pedigrees, so it's worth taking a moment to remember him. Bred by Heinz Christian Albertsen in Germany, he was the Verband's 1995 Grand Champion. He also has BWP Ambassadeur status. In his first season in New Zealand, he produced many premium foals and the overall Australian champion foal. The following year, 2005, he was represented by the champion filly, colt foal, and yearling. During his life here he sired a lot of top performers, including 2015's national Grand Prix showjumping champion, Leugo GNZ, and the 1m60 jumping mare Lights Out, whose dam is by Brilliant Invader xx.

Sixth went to the gelding Corona Xtreme (Corofino II - Legacy Xtreme x Littorio), another from Sharlene Workman and her 'super-sire', Corofino II, with – yet again – Littorio featuring as the dam's sire. The dam herself, Legacy Xtreme, is also the mother of Luke Dee's talented Clearcut Xtreme (Clearway).

William wins five-year-old title

After a tough 15-horse jump-off, it was the small, fast and popular skewbald gelding Keltorn William (Mustangs Bandit - Fergie xx x His Royal Highness xx) who took this title. The win was well-deserved, as he really did shine throughout the competition in the hands Jesse Linton. He is co-owned by Linton and Kim Best; unfortunately, his breeder is unrecorded, but his sire was bred by Oakhaven Sport Horses in Hawke's Bay. "Not many five-year-olds are jumping 1m20 for a warm-up," Linton commented after the class. "He finds jumping quite easy."

Unlike Keltorn William's hazy breeding details, plenty is known about this class's reserve: the Sport Horse gelding Double J Hurricane (Euro Sport Centavos - Double J Breeze x Voltaire II). He is ridden by young Samantha Carrington, who part-owns him with his breeder Wendy Jacobs; the pair are mother and daughter. Hurricane's dam, JJ Breeze (Voltaire II - French Kiss xx x Take A Risk xx), has been a consistently good jumper at the lower levels with Jacobs. She is the dam of the successful 10-year-old mare Double J Breeze On, who is JJ Hurricane's full sister, and is also ridden by Samantha Carrington. JJ Hurricane finished his five-year-old season at the top of the ESNZ rankings.

Third place at HOY went to the chestnut mare, Tolley (Euro Sport Heartbreaker - Mrs Murphy x unrecorded). She is listed as a Westfalian; her sire ES Heartbreaker (Hamlet x Ramiro Z) is an approved Hanoverian, who was bred at Gestüt Rahmannshof in Germany. Breeding details of her Westfalian dam, Mrs Murphy, are unrecorded. Tolley is owned and ridden by John MacLennan; she was double clear in the competition.

Also double clear was the handsome bay NZSH gelding Cassio Xtreme (Cassiano - Corodette Xtreme x Corofino II), who finished fourth. He was bred, of course by Sharlene Workman at Xtreme Sport Horses, and is owned and ridden by Logan Massie. His sire, Cassiano, is an imported Holsteiner (Cassini I - Zivia x Calypso) from Stamm 6691, who stands at Xtreme Sport Horses. Cassio's dam, Corodette, is a lovely Holsteiner-cross whose own dam, Corteeza (Collins x Latus), is also the dam of the well-performed Avenger Xtreme (Andretti), who was third in the HOY six-year-old category this year.

Fifth went to BMW Braveheart (Bravado Ego Z - Belcam Aarcadia x Aachen), a Warmblood gelding bred by Jasmine Sketchley. He is owned and ridden by Michelle Wakeling. Young Braveheart is showing plenty of class, as befits his pedigree, and finished his five-year-old year in second place on the ESNZ rankings.

His sire, Bravado Ego Z is a Zangersheide who jumps at World Cup level in New Zealand. His damsire is an Oldenburger bred in Europe and originally registered as Azzaro (Argentinus - Uta II x Luciano). He is the sire of the Staatsprämie mares Antigone and Azalee P.

Joopiter (Euro Sport Centavos - Just Joop xx x Abalou xx), owned by Sonya Mason and ridden by Anna Trent, was the fastest of the four-faulters and took sixth place. He is a

Hanoverian-Thoroughbred cross.

Once again, Holstein blood was well and truly dominant in these age-group classes, as was Xtreme Sport Horse's wonderful Holsteiner stallion, Corofino II.

Special mention: Euro Sport Centavos

No article about HOY 2020 jumping pedigrees would be complete without special mention of the young rider class, in which the first four placegetters were sired by the super imported Hanoverian, Euro Sport Centavos (Escudo I - Annabell x Argentinus). They were, in winning order, Double J Breeze On, a nine-year-old mare out of Double J Breeze (Voltaire II), bred by Robin and Wendy Jacobs; Cardo (out of Biloxi x Abenaki Chief) a 10-year-old gelding bred by Daniel Webb; Flirtini (out of Pip x Waikiki Star xx), a nine-year-old gelding whose breeder is unrecorded, and the eight-year-old Hanoverian gelding Vali (out of Gaddadream x Dream Boy), who was bred by Michelle Dicken. ES Centavos himself was bred in Germany by Heinz Schütte, and is owned by Peter, Vicki and Claudia Hay, founders of Euro Sport Horses. He was NZ's Horse of the Year in 2015.

Grand Prix dressage horses of the year

Team Nijhof's Johnson, KWPN's 2019 Horse of the Year is, appropriately, the sire of New Zealand's 2020 Grand Prix Dressage Horse of the Year, the NZ Warmblood gelding Windermere J'Obei W (Johnson NOP - Miss Pompeii xx x Pompeii xx). Bred by David Woolley and ridden by Melissa Galloway, this nine-year-old gelding was unbeaten in all three of the CDI FEI GP classes. He is in his first season at this level – in fact, this was only the second CDI of his entire career – but he displays talent well beyond average. Not only did he win all his classes, but he was given top marks by every judge.

And, on the subject of judges, special dispensation was given by the FEI for just four officiating instead of the usual five. Covid-19 had just begun its grip on the world, and Sandy Hotz of the USA decided not to risk travelling. The four who did judge were Mary Seefried and Susan Hoevenaars (both FEI 5*) from Australia, and New Zealanders Sue Hobson (4*) and Betty Brown (3*).

Windermere J'Obei W had just returned from Australia, where he and Melissa Galloway finished second (to a record-breaking performance) in the CDI4* GP Freestyle at Willinga Park. They won last year's Level 8 title at HOY, the NZ National Level 8 Championship, and ended that competition season at the top of the FEI World Prix St Georges rankings, which is probably a first for this country.

Windermere J'Obei W is a very handsome chestnut – as, in fact, are the other two top placegetters in the class. All three of them are also NZ-bred Warmbloods, which is possibly another first for this country.

The reserve championship went to Raukura Satori MH (De Niro - Grand Gift x Genius). This Hanoverian gelding was

bred by Judith Matthews of Matthews Hanoverians, who has had such a huge impact on the quality of competition horses, particularly for dressage in this country. The impressive 16-year-old Satori is owned by Rosemary Carter and ridden by William Millar. He finished fourth in this class last year.

In third place was another Johnson son out of another Thoroughbred dam, bred by David Woolley and ridden by Melissa Galloway: Windermere Johanson W (Johnson N.O.P – Miss Phillips xx x Kilimanjaro xx), who was sixth last year. Like J'Obei, Johanson is still young (11). He is owned by Melissa Galloway's parents, Rodney and Anne Parkes of Windermere Equestrian.

Young dressage horses of the year

The seven-year-old title class was a strong one with very close scores. The win went to a Hanoverian gelding, Timbermill Prequel (Prestige VDL - Crystal x Dream Boy) ridden and owned by Grand Prix rider Vanessa Way. Bred by Kerry Sanders at Timbermill Sport Horses, this young bay looks all set for a career at the higher levels: he's a very nice type. His damsire, Dream Boy (Dream of Glory - Erntekrone x Eisenherz II), was a licensed Hanoverian from Stutenstamm 1192208, Schridde 718, Bred by Gustav Eylmann in Germany, Dream Boy left a good number of winning progeny, many of them very similar to him in looks.

The 2020 reserve champion is Astek Geronimo (Kinnordy Gym Bello - Fleur di Mimosa), a New Zealand Warmblood bred by Sue Fowler of Astek Stud and ridden by his owner, Kellie Hamlett. His sire, Gym Bello (Gymnastik Star x Graf Landau x Silky Baby xx) is an Australian-bred Hanoverian from the famous G line, bred by H. and M. Schmorl of Kinnordy Stud in Queensland. He is one of the resident stallions at Astek Stud. It's worth noting that Astek Geronimo won the HOY advanced-medium class, with Timbermill Prequel in third place behind a nine-year-old Westfalian mare, Fiorenza (Fürst Jupp – Littana x Littorio) ridden by Franz Van Bruggen-Smit; all three on very close scores.

The six-year-old title winners also have Australian blood –

in fact, the winner was an exceptionally good Australian Warmblood mare, Jalyn Special Effects (Sir Donnerhall - Jalyn Royrumba x Royal Oak II). She was bred by Rebecca Rundle of Jalyn Performance Horses, and is ridden by her New Zealand owner Hannah Gibson. This gorgeous young horse was the top mare of the NZWA classification tour in 2019, and now has 'excellence' status in the NZWA studbook.

Reserve went to Lindisfarne Danseur (Donnerubin - Viennetta x Voltaire II), a New Zealand Warmblood gelding bred by Rosehill Sport Horses in Central Otago. He is jointly owned by Antonia Nicholson and Roseanne Rix, who rides him. His sire, Donnerubin, is an Australian Warmblood with super Oldenburg/Hanoverian bloodlines that include Donnerhall, Rubinstein, De Niro and Wenzel I.

An imported KWPN gelding, Kameroen de Jeu (De Niro - Eseda x Vivaldi), bred in the Netherlands by M. van Heel and owned and ridden by Bridgitt Barclay, took the five-year-old title. This young horse has an impressive pedigree. His dam, Eseda (Vivaldi - Reseda prest ster prok pref x Cocktail), is a KWPN elite mare from Merrielij 29, fokfamilie 28. Kameroen has two stallion full-brothers, Jemen GPSH (2014) and Lagos (2016), and a Totilas half-sister (2017), Meseda. Kameroen arrived in New Zealand last year, and is certainly one to keep an eye on. And, just in case the fact had escaped notice, his sire, the legendary De Niro, also sired the reserve Grand Prix champion, Raukura Satori MH.

Reserve five-year old was a lovely mare from Judith Matthews and Matthews Hanoverians, Hi D'Zine MH (His Highness - D'Zine MH x Dancier). She is owned and ridden by Allie Harper, and is another youngster with a very impressive pedigree. Her dam, the beautiful D'Zine, is out of state-premium mare Wel Kantje, who was imported by Judith Matthews from Germany in 1996 and was an outstanding broodmare for the stud. Hi D'Zine's sire, the superb His Highness (Hohenstein x Donnerhall x Feiner Stern), was the 2002 Hanoverian licensing champion whose life was cut so tragically short in 2007. It's good to know we have a daughter of his here: In his few years at stud, His Highness sired an extraordinary number of staatsprämie mares.

The four-year-old title went to CDS Donstar (Donnerubin - Gymnastik Grace x Gymnastik Star) – another by Donnerubin, who sired the reserve six-year-old. Excitingly for New Zealand breeders, CDS Donstar is a stallion. He was bred and is owned by Jacinda Younger at Chevaux Dansants Stables, and was ridden by Cooper Oborn. His dam is an imported Australian Warmblood.

Reserve four-year-old was another imported Australian Warmblood: the gelding Frieden Star (Fidertanz - Remi Royal Star x Royal Diamond). He was bred by Audrey Kirchner and is ridden by Amanda Macpherson. His sire, Remi Royal Star, is out of a premium and elite Australian Hanoverian mare, Remi Wolkenstar (Wolkenstein II).

As well as his reserve place in the title class, Frieden Star won the Preliminary 1B title beating CDS Donstar. However, Donstar won the Prelim 1D title, beating Frieden Star. These two look set to be career rivals.



Eventing Horse of the Year: Tresca NZPH and Bundy Philpott

HOY three- and four-star eventing

A 13-year-old gelding who has some excellent Selle Français blood, coupled with a touch of Cleveland Bay, is 2020's Eventing Horse of the Year. Tresca NZPH (Fuego du Prelet - Paradise NZPH x Barbarian), bred by New Zealand Performance Horses and owned and ridden by Bundy Philpott, was super in all three phases, with some particularly spectacular jumping efforts across country. Philpott describes him as a real worker: "The more you put in, the more you get out," she says.

Tresca NZPH won the Puhinui three-star CCI as an 11-year-old in 2017, and has had a lot of top-ten placings; his win at HOY was certainly no fluke. What is a fluke is the fact that he can compete at all: he is the survivor of a broken pelvis – as is Bundy Philpott, whose own pelvis was broken in a fall from another of her horses several years ago.

Tresca's dam, Paradise NZPH (Barbarian - Tropic x Meldon) has some intriguing blood. Her own dam, Tropic, is by a Cleveland Bay stallion, Meldon, whose only other traceable offspring is a 1977 gelding, Remington Auto. This horse, according to one website, jumped at international level, although it's been impossible to verify. Tropic's dam, Waimeha, doesn't seem to have left any tracks either. However, Paradise NZPH herself has been a good broodmare. Tresca NZPH was her first foal; she is also the dam of the promising Eldorado NZPH (Pezetas du Rouet), Atomic NZPH (a full brother to Tresca); and Casanova NZPH (Jokus Latour), who was the five-year-old champion at the young horse show in 2017, and the six-year-old horse of the year in 2018. [NB: A different Casanova from this year's six-year-old winner, Casanova Xtreme.]

Fuego du Prelet (Jalisco B), Tresca's sire, passes on the jumping blood of the great Almé Z and Ibrahim, and has a lot of jumping offspring, though Tresca is possibly his only four-star eventer.

Reserve went to last year's Eventing Horse of the Year, Just Kidding xx (Fusaichi Pegasus xx - Gypsy Princess xx x Sadler's Wells xx), an Australian-bred Thoroughbred whose Kentucky Derby-winning sire was one of the most expensive horses ever sold. The very talented Just Kidding has wins and high placings in numerous competitions. He finished fourth in the Adelaide five-star CCI-L last year, and was second there in 2018.

In third place was Monica Oakley's lovely and very consistent black gelding, Acrobat (Euro Sport Centavos) who finished second in the four-star at Puhinui in 2019, just a single point behind the winner, Clarke Johnstone's imported WB Aces High, who finished seventh at HOY this year. The name of Acrobat's dam is unrecorded, as is his breeder, but he is listed as a Warmblood-Thoroughbred cross.

Fourth went to another Warmblood-Thoroughbred cross, Waitangi Pinterest (Cassiano - Amberlou x Aberlou) who was bred by Jos Bayly and is owned and ridden by Madison Crowe; these two finished second at HOY last year. Waitangi Pinterest is an 11-year-old mare – one of only two mares in the field. The other, Kiteroa Lara (Landioso) was eliminated.

Your Attorney xx (Legal Opinion xx - Polar Crown xx x Carry the Crown xx), an Australian-bred gelding, was fifth with Diane Gilder, and sixth place went to the steadily improving Alto et Audax (Northwood Jet Stream - Croftlea Amazon xx x Zabalou xx), a 10-year-old gelding bred by Imogen Neale and ridden by his owner, Beth Wilson. This horse's paternal grandsire is Coalman's Touch, an Irish Draught.

The 2020 three-star Horse of the Year is DSE Cluny xx (Traditionally xx - Flirtatious xx – Elnadim xx) a 12-year-old Thoroughbred gelding. He was bred by A. and R. Peart, is owned by Gaye McClunie, and ridden by Donna Edwards-Smith, who describes him as having 'the fastest knees ever'. Cluny finished third in the four-star at Taupo last year and was second at Puhinui.

Reserve went to another Thoroughbred, Artist xx (Guillotine xx - Maxamore xx x Volksraad xx), who was bred by Windsor Park Stud and is owned by Mary Petersen. He is ridden by Monica Oakley still a young horse (eight years old), and full of promise.

Quite amazingly, the horse who finished third is another eight-year-old Thoroughbred by the stallion Guillotine xx. This must be something of a first, and, as Guillotine himself is only 15, his progeny will be well worth watching. Even more interesting is the fact that this particular horse, Cutting Edge xx (Guillotine xx - Qui Vivra Verra xx Stravinsky) is a mare – and a beautiful grey. She was bred by M.R. Nicholson and is owned and ridden by young rider Vicky Cole-Brown. Guillotine xx (Montjeu xx - Refused the Dance xx x Defensive Play xx) is also grey and also very good-looking. He was a successful racehorse and is the half-brother of a Melbourne Cup winner, Efficient xx (Zabeel xx). However, he seems to have disappeared from Thoroughbred breeding registries, although one lists him as being in Australia. One fact about him is certain: he was bred by Cambridge Hunt Ltd (Graeme Hunt).

Fourth place went to a 12-year-old Rheinland gelding, Donner XS (Donnerwind - Belmont Ballerina x Gruenhorn du Trichon) bred by Jody Hartstone and ridden by Alena Dorotich. This horse's sire, the imported Rheinlander Donnerwind (Donnerschlag - St.Pr.St. Furinde x Voltaire), was bred by Stal Nijenhuis in Noordwijk, Holland, and they retain part-ownership of him with Jody Hartstone. Donner XS's dam, Belmont Ballerina, is also the dam of Belmont Backstage (Belmont Golden Boy) who has competed at five-star level in Australia.

Fifth was Bing Bong (Cyrkon xx - Z-Courouche x Carlos DZ), an imported eight-year-old Holsteiner from Stamm 1947, bred in Germany by Frank Bade of Braderup. He is owned by Alex and Joe Giannamore, and ridden by Olympian Jock Paget.

Sixth went to Ngahiwi Lenny, a 16-year-old gelding bred by the very successful Bruce Holden at Ngahiwi Station. Lenny's sire and dam are unrecorded, which isn't particularly strange for a Stationbred. He is ridden by Savanna Stirling and owned by Deidre Stirling. ■

Swedish Warmblood stallion performance test 2020

BY HILLEVI BRASCH

PHOTOGRAPHY: ROLAND THUNHOLM / SWB

The Swedish stallion test took a different turn this year in moving four hours northwest of Flyinge, hence making it easier for stallions from parts of Sweden other than the south to attend. The reason for this was ultimately cost, combined with the satisfaction of trying something new. Improvement does not happen without change!

Many were skeptical and many were excited for this change of venue, but would there be enough stallions attending? The test would certainly draw a new audience that otherwise would not attend when taking place in Flyinge. A fun twist, as it also serves as an educational moment for anyone riding and showing but perhaps not so knowledgeable in breeding and stallion selection. The regional SWB association had worked hard to present their venue in the very best way and to make it as pleasant as possible for riders, judges, the public attending and, most of all, the attending stallions. The consensus is they did a fabulous job and, despite typical Swedish cold weather and snow, everyone agreed it was a great event.

What is the SWB test all about?

The SWB stallion test is a short test with the stallion being shown under its own rider except for the test-riding event. The test in its current format has been the same essentially since 2002, with a few tweaks here and there

during the years. Just as other associations have undergone changes in their stallion selection program, Swedish Warmblood is also looking closely at perhaps implementing a new format in the years to come.

The 2020 test encompassed the following events:

- Three-year-old stallions: Complete a five-day test, with one day of rest, including veterinary inspection, conformation evaluation, free jumping and gaits under rider. The dressage stallions are shown twice in gaits, the jumping stallions only once. The jumping stallions are shown twice in free jumping instead where the dressage stallions likewise are shown only once.
- Four - and five-year-old stallions: Complete a longer test divided into two phases. Phase I includes veterinary inspection, conformation evaluation, free jumping or jumping under rider, and gaits under rider. Jumping stallions must be shown under rider in the jumping test. Phase II has the stallions divided into dressage or jumping at stallion owner's choice. The dressage stallions are shown in gaits under own rider and under test riders. The jumping stallions are shown in jumping under own rider and under test riders. The free jump moment is optional for four- and five-year-old stallions dressage stallions who have received G2 as three-year olds.
- Stallions with merits that meet the requirements to undergo a stallion evaluation according to the SWB Rules and Regulations but do not have the merits to be awarded a breeding license directly, are shown at a veterinary inspection and a conformation evaluation and otherwise perform according to what the stallion committee has decided they want to see. Stallions with merits will only be shown in its specific discipline.

An index is then calculated for each stallion (dressage or jumping index). Three-year-old stallions must have an index of no less than nine for approval. An approved stallion will be awarded the breeding merit class G2 which entitles the stallion to breed for two years. Four- and five-year-old stallions must have an index of no less than 17



Approved 5yo C-Future 1370 (Casall) bred by Jan-Gottfried Böning, ridden by Ralf-Göran Bengtsson, owned by his wife, Evi Bengtsson

for approval. Approved stallion will be awarded the breeding merit class G and a lifelong approval for breeding.

- Stallions automatically qualified are stallions that are to be standing in Sweden and already meet the requirements for a breeding license. Mandatory events for these stallions are the veterinary inspection and conformation evaluation that need to be passed for the activation of a breeding license.

The attending stallions were fewer than last year; however, the quality was excellent according to Christina Olsson, head of the inspection committee. "The stallion owners have done a really good job selecting the stallions at home that would have a chance at passing the eye of the needle," she said. Adding, "They need to be at the top of their game when they are here, and we feel most everyone have done a super job preparing them for the test."

The test riders for jumping were David Maarse, the Netherlands and Jennifer Fogh Pedersen, Denmark; with Theo Hanzon, the Netherlands and Philip Hess, Germany for dressage. The sport representatives in the committee were Pieter Kersten, the Netherlands in jumping and Hella Kuntz, Germany in dressage.

Swedish Warmblood is an open studbook which means accepting top stallions from other associations within Europe. The stallion test is no exception with no fewer than 19 stallions from other associations entering the test, and eight SWB stallions making a total of 27. Paul Schockemöhle and PS Flyinge entered four, Lövsta Stuteri had three, VDL



Fortnite 1411 (For Romance I) bred by Paul Schockemöhle/Gestüt Lewitz, owner Lövsta Stuteri AB – 4yo dressage test champion stallion

two. Remarkable, however, is the feat of Swedish breeder Per-Arne Persson who had two SWB stallions in the test and both were approved. Both stallions were prepared and shown by Yvonne Österholm, also the owner of SWB Quercus (2015: Quaterback x Don Schufro). Another SWB, St Louis (2016: Blue Hors St Schufro x Blue Hors Zack) also joined the approval ranks.

The stallion test champions are chosen from the four-year-old group, and this year Lövsta Stuteri walked away with both titles. In jumping Enelzkey SR 1409 (AES: Eldorado van de Zeshoek - Penelza Z x Papillon Rouge) impressed the judges and ended with a final index of 17.90 for jumping. The stallion is also approved in BWP. In dressage, Fortnite 1411 (Oldbg: For Romance I - Donna Salina x Don Schufro) performed a lovely test and scored a 19.30 in the dressage index. His canter work had stellar hind-leg activity and the test riders gave him 8.00/9.00 for rideability. Both stallions are bound for a bright future this breeding season.

The five-year-old stallion King Olymbrio L 1414 (KWPN: Geniaal - Olymbria x Ferro) is a half-brother of the successful Grand Prix and breeding stallion Don Olymbrio. 'The King' received 20.50 in the dressage index and, as such, had the highest index across all age groups. He also received the only 10 for rideability that was awarded this year. Test rider Philip Hess was impressed.

The five-year-old C-Future 1370 (Holst: Casall - I-Lorain x Landadel) is owned by Evi Bengtsson, wife of Rolf-Göran Bengtsson. Her husband was on hand and rode him throughout the test week. A true treat for anyone coming to watch the event. The test riders loved C-Future and gave him 9.00/9.50 for rideability. He received 18.60 overall for jumping and topped the index for jumpers of all ages.



Saint Louis 1412 (Blue Hors St. Schufro) breeder/owner Per-Arne Persson – 4yo approved dressage stallion



**Four-year-old stallion test champion Enelzkey SR 1409
(Eldorado van de Zeshoek), breeders Erik and Marie-Jose Sleutels NV**

Approved 2020 stallions

Three-year-old jumping stallion

- Sorrento HQS 1406 (2017/Hann Skyliner - Perugia HQS x Perigueux) breeder/owner Lena Henriques Ahlström

Four-year old dressage stallions

- Fortnite 1411 – stallion test champion (2016/Oldbg For Romance I - DonnaSalina x Don Schufro) breeder Paul Schockemöhle/Gestüt Lewitz, owner Lövsta Stuteri AB
- Saint Louis 1412 (2016/SWB Blue Hors St. Schufro - Denice (F.2*) x Blue Hors Zack), breeder/owner Per-Arne Persson

(* F.2 relates to the famous Spinda mare family from Flyinge – one of Sweden's oldest and most successful mare families.)

Four-year-old jumping stallions

- Dom Perignon Z 1408 (2016/Z Dominator 2000 Z - Lary x Lucky Boy) breeder Societa Agricola MM Sport Horses, owner Lövsta Stuteri AB, Stal Roshoeve NV, Malin Baryard AB, and E-Equestrian AB
- Enelzkey SR 1409 Stallion test champion (2016/AES Eldorado van de Zeshoek - Penelza Z x Papillon Rouge) breeder ZG Erik and Marie-Jose Sleutels, owner Lövsta Stuteri AB and Stal Roshoeve NV
- Capriolo VDL/ex Laphriog VDL 1407 (2016/KWPN Cohinoor VDL - Goklahoma VDL xvMr. Blue) breeder/owner VDL Stud
- Everton VDL 1410/ex-Linus M (2016/KWPN Etoulon VDL - Harjolijn x Indoctro) breeder L. Mulder-Broekman and M. Mulder, owner VDL Stud

Five-year-old dressage stallions

- Quercus 1415 (2015/SWB Quaterback - Delight (F.2) x Don Schufro) breeder Per-Arne Persson, owner Yvonne Österholm
- King Olymbrio L 1414 (2015/KWPN Geniaal - Olymbria x

Ferro) breeder J. Lamers, owner Gränsbo Stuteri and Fölet Ridsport AB

- Fürst Sinclair S 1413 (2015/Oldbg For Romance - La Bonita x Lord Sinclair I) breeder Monika Staerk, owner Sisse Sejrbo

Five-year-old jumping stallions

- C-Future 1370 (2015/Holst Casall - I-Lorain x Landadel) breeder Jan-Gottfried Böning, owner Evi Bengtsson
- El Barone 111 Z 9412 (2012/Z Emerald van't Ruytershof - Naktibro x Libero H) breeder Stal Harrie Theeuwes and Baron de Borrekens, owner Lövsta Stuteri AB
- Cujo 1416 (2005/Westf Cayetano L - Fevienna x Frieden-straum I) breeder Bernhard Mersch, owner Max Sillfors
- Insider VDL/ex Itoulon van de Katenh 1403 (2013/ KWPN Etoulon VDL - Wianka H x Corland) breeder

J.A.J. Verschoor, owner H3K Equestrian AB

- Cornetto de Lys PS 1418 (2015/Oldbg Cornet du Lys - Centella x Centadel) breeder Paul Schockemöhle/Gestüt Lewitz, owner Paul Schockemöhle Pferdehaltung GmbH
- Kaiser des Forets VDL 1419 (2015/SF Contendro I - Lavande des Forets x Le Tot de Semilly) breeder: Fabrice Paris, owner: Stall Boarp
- Hometown/ex Hornrose 9313 (2012/KWPN Apache - Torose V x Ferro) breeder J.A.G. Bouwmeester, owner Lövsta Stuteri AB

Thoroughbred stallion

- Aces Star xx 1417 (2007/xx Monarchos xx - Pray for Aces xx x Pulpit xx) breeder John C. Oxley, owner Vivika Nilsson

Christina Olsson of the inspection committee commented: "The jumping stallions this year are complete individuals with not only excellent jumping ability and bloodlines but also nice movement in all three gaits. The dressage stallions are bred for their purpose and with excellent gaits and rideability. We try to approve stallions of various types and abilities as the mare base needs different types to choose from. One stallion cannot fit every mare. And let's not forget temperament which is becoming increasingly important. We take the temperament into account when selecting the sires of the next generation of sport horses. ■



Pre-retirement conversation with Augustin Walch

BY CHRIS GOULD

PHOTOGRAPHY: PRIVATE COLLECTION

“You have to have luck. Without luck you have nothing.” This was the modest theme that repeatedly came up in a conversation I had recently with Augustin Walch, founder of W Charlot Farms. Now turning 80 this year, after immigrating from Munich 40 years ago, he is arguably Canada’s most successful Warmblood breeder. Certainly he has the numbers and the accolades.

W Charlotte Farms stallions have over 300 offspring in the Canadian Warmblood Horse Breeders Association (CWHBA) studbook alone. No doubt there are hundreds more in other North American and European studbooks.

Walch will, however, accept some credit for his intuitive ability to select horses, claiming “I see a horse; if I like it I buy it.” Horses like his stallions Rio Grande, Viva Voltaire and Cabardino are well known examples of how good his ‘eye’ is. What is less well known is that Walch, in addition to breeding, has imported over 200 horses mostly for resale and mostly for the hunter market.

“In North America the hunter business is the best business... if the horse is three or four and looks good and jumps nice, people buy it.” He knows what he is talking about having been top of the USEF Leading Breeder of Hunters list from 2004 to 2013, and again from 2016 to 2019.

When asked if he had a business model right from the start, he again pointed to luck. Luck in starting with a good Hanoverian mare Sarabande and her daughters, Sandra and Sabrina, by Kassio. In Germany he bred horses as a sideline to a 50-horse boarding stable, so clients were on site. “In those days you lunged the horse in both directions, trotted

in hand, and if it looked sound, you shook hands and the horse was sold.” He learned two things. First “if you have good customers you have a good name,” and, second, sell the buyer what they want. “If someone wants a foal we sell a foal, if someone wants a three-year-old we sell a three year old.”

This might seem like simple advice, but with the advent of x-rays and vet checks, selling became more complicated. If the x-rays were not perfect Walch has often offered a five-year warranty on specified risks. This requires trust on both sides. It also builds buyer confidence. He has only ever had one horse come back and that was resold quickly as well. This emphasis on trust has resulted in a network of clients that buy horses on a regular basis year after year. “When you have happy clients the business goes on.”

Augustin Walch is a big advocate of getting your horses into the show ring. This is not always easy, but he feels he has been lucky making connections with the right rider at the right time: Rio Grande and Eric Lamaze, Erynn Ballard and Futurist, Cabardino... and an impressive list of others. He gives a lot of credit to good riders. “Horses are not machine.” In his view good horsemanship is important, requiring sensitivity and tact.

Walch likes to ‘connect’ with his horses, suggesting he might have a gift that helps him when he gets up close and personal with a horse. Today, “people look at their phones not at the horse.”

Since his early days in Munich he has seen many changes including the advent of cell phones and instant messaging, but it is clear that Augustin Walch has always been able to adapt to the times while adhering to his principles of good breeding and good horsemanship. That and some luck have brought W Charlot Farms to the apex of Warmblood breeding in Canada. A position that will continue as daughter Inge Walch-Allard now takes over the operation. ■



Augustin Walch

A new star duo that began by winning a raffle prize!

BY HILLEVI BRASCH

PHOTOGRAPHY: ROLAND THUNHOLM / SWB, AND PRIVATE COLLECTION

Swedish dressage's new star duo has been much in the news lately: Sandra Dahlin (30) on the spectacular mare Ichi (F.2) (SWB) born 2006 by Bocelli out of Dynastie (F.2) (SWB) – Donnerschlag x Amiral. The tale of Ichi, the horse born out of the raffle-prize mare Dynastie, is almost like a fairytale; a beautiful mare, the perfect person to win the raffle and a talented rider in combination. The puzzle pieces have all fallen into place.

We all know that the cornerstones of success are talent and hard work, but luck? This holds true for Dahlin as Ichi's dam Dynastie (bred by Flyinge AB) was the grand raffle prize at the Gothenburg Horse Show 17 years ago. Dahlin was there with her group of barn friends to watch the show, and at the same time just happened to buy a couple of raffle tickets. The family was overjoyed when they realized they had won. The director of breeding at Flyinge, Birgitta Bentzer, probably second guessed her decision to donate the lovely well-bred mare. Unfortunately, Dynastie had a career ending injury relatively early and that's when Dahlin's mother, Birgitta, a long-time breeder, decided to relaunch her career as a broodmare – using Swedish Warmblood Bocelli (Don Schufro - (SWB) – Bernstein), a former team horse for Sweden who was chosen as the sire, and enter Ichi.

Queen of the stable

Ichi is a strong-willed horse with great integrity, and she wasn't an easy horse in her younger years. Many were the times when she reared up on her hind legs in protest. Dahlin

stuck it out, although at times was hesitant whether she and the horse would ever make it together, saying, "My father was increasingly anxious and worried about Ichi and was not happy I when I got up on that 'crazy' horse. We have a racetrack in the vicinity, and I decided one day that I was going to take her out there for a hack – one way or another. Ichi was not cooperating and almost launched me a couple of times. My father saw all this and yelled 'I'm going to shoot that crazy horse before she kills someone!' He has regretted that statement many times over since then, Dahlin laughs.

"I really had to learn to get along with her, because to force her would never have worked. Sometimes a day's work would consist of just getting her down to the indoor arena. Slowly, however, she started to take to the training, or perhaps it was when she started to really enjoy it that she accepted it. It wasn't until she was five- to six-years-old that I finally got the feeling that YES! It's the two of us now, we're a TEAM. The final and victory in Falsterbo as a seven-year-old and victory in the seven-year-old SWB championships in Flyinge a few months later were fantastic. After that everything has really taken off."

An ordinary day in the life of Ichi looks like this: solarium in the morning, hand walking followed by turnout in pasture, and training under saddle (she gets ridden five times a week). Then it's time for another walk, pasture turnout and general care. Once a week she gets on the water treadmill which is something she really enjoys. Other days she may go on the regular treadmill, now and then with a slight incline.

"Yes, she's spoiled," says Dahlin with a smile. "But after all these years I've learned how she wants things – and she gets it too. Another important aspect is I want my horses to be happy athletes with plenty of pasture turnout."



Michigan (Van Vivaldi - Ichi x Bocelli)

Dahlin feels a good dressage horse should, other than rideability, also have that tiny bit of ‘spark’, nothing wrong with a bit of spice. It needs to be balanced and have a good hind end with legs that are used in the right way and placed correctly underneath. “Ichi’s strength is that she loves to perform and has a stellar ability for collection. She really has no weaknesses in the Grand Prix movements. She is responsive, and sometimes can get a little too reactive.”

The duo did a fantastic performance, their debut none the less, in the Grand Prix Special during SWB Equestrian Weeks last October. The Equestrian Weeks is appealing in its new format says Dahlin; “It’s so exciting to see horses from a very young age all the way up to Grand Prix level in the same week.” The duo has continued their success with victories both in Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle in Helsinki. A nice come back as the mare had a slight injury from being a little too happy in her turnout last spring which put a halt to the spring -and summer season last year.



Sandra Dahlin riding Ichi (Bocelli - Dynastie x Donnerschlag)

◆ **What is coming up on the agenda with Ichi?**

“We are working on a new freestyle and of course getting her even stronger and really solid in her movements. We are part of the Swedish Equestrian Federation’s up-and coming group, the goal is of course a spot on the team eventually.”

Dahlin and Ichi recently placed fifth in the World Cup Grand Prix Freestyle at Gothenburg Horse Show in February, a feat considering this was only the duo’s fourth international start.

At Stall Fastbo located about two hours west of Stockholm the younger generation of sport horses can be found. The 10-year old gelding that is just under Ichi’s level in competition unfortunately had an injury and will be in rehab for quite some time. Ichi’s three offspring are waiting in the wings where Avichi (Zuidenwind) is the oldest at four years of age. Consequently, there’s a gap in horse material, something that Dahlin is not too worried about. She is not actively looking, unless a suitable proposal for a partnership came her way.

Goal-oriented Dahlin

Dahlin began her riding career in both jumping and eventing at pony level before she decided to focus on dressage when she was 14 years old. In order to free up more time for her horses she did her high school years online. The road to her success went through the prestigious Ehrengranat Academy at Flyinge where she received a scholarship. She worked for Susanne Gielen, former team Sweden rider and for Kristian von Krusenstierna. After starting the new business Stall Fastbo Training & Rehab, she also made time for a few training sessions with Kyra Kyrklund in England.

Dahlin also credits dressage trainer Eva-Karin Oscarsson for being a great help for many years. Today Sandra rides with Kyra when she’s visiting Sweden and she is also summoned to the Equestrian Federation’s training clinics. The work at Stall Fastbo is busy with 13 horses in training/and or rehab and six horses of her own. Before Ichi, Dahlin rode a gelding by Master-Amiral that she trained up to Grand Prix. A nice horse but not with the same qualities that Ichi possess.

◆ **What advice would you give young riders today?**

“Don’t wait too long to go from pony to horse. Ride as many different horses you possibly can. Don’t be afraid to ask and get help. Surround yourself with knowledgeable people. Of course, finances can play a big part in riding the nice horses, but it is also possible to work your way up. This is no time for being comfortable, it’s time to get to work.”

◆ **Breeding a competition mare**

“When checking out Ichi’s pedigree page on blup.se it doesn’t take long to realize she has a whopping index in dressage of 146, she’s at her best age and at the same time has produced three offspring, through embryo transfer.”

◆ **Why did you decide to do embryo transfer and why so late in her career?**

“When Lövsta Stuteri started their embryo transfer program we decided to give it a try with Ichi. We so badly wanted a foal out of her but not at the expense of her training and show career. Embryo transfer gives the ability for us to have mares in competition.”

Today the four-year-old Avichi (Zuidenwind), the three-year-old Borichi (Van Vivaldi), and Michigan LVST (Van Vivaldi) are all out of Ichi. The filly Avichi is a carbon copy of her dam in every which way. Both in conformation, in gaits, AND in temperament, which means she is quite a challenge at the moment. Hence the future looks extremely bright. ■

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

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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'Arsoilles | 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)*

ALTHOUGH WE APPRECIATE THAT MANY EVENTS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED OR POSTPONED DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS, SOME AUCTIONS ARE BEING HOSTED ON-LINE, SO WE ARE CONTINUING TO PUBLISH THIS CALENDAR WITH WEBSITE INFORMATION, AND ALSO BECAUSE SHOWS MAY RETURN AT DIFFERENT TIMES DEPENDING WHEN RESTRICTIONS ARE LIFTED IN CERTAIN COUNTRIES

2020

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)

92nd Oldenburg Spring Elite Auction and 9th 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)

3rd 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

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

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

29 Vechta (GER)

19th Elite Oldenburg Foal Auction

Tel: +49 (0)441 93550

Fax: +49 (0)441 935599

info@oldenburger-pferde.com

www.oldenburger-pferde.com

30 Vechta (GER)

28th Vechtaer Oldenburg Foal Market

Tel: +49 (0)441 93550

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