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WORLD BREEDING NEWS
for Sport Horses



BN #294

Breeder interviews

Stallion profiles

Bloodline analysis



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EDITORIAL

BREEDER RANKINGS; SERIES CHANGES IN PERSPECTIVE?



good (bad) reason: The Covid-19 pandemic and its consequences.

With the slowdown or virtual cessation of competitions, as in other sports, it has been necessary to adapt. So, equestrian sport adopted the same protocol as, for instance, tennis. Thus, in showjumping, the joint commission in charge of the LONGINES rankings – namely three representatives of the FEI and three representatives of the Club des Cavaliers (Kevin Staut, Henrick von Eckermann, and François Mathy) – decided to count the results of regular competitions towards the monthly rankings over a two-year period, instead of one, to counter-balance the effects of minimal activity.

On the other hand, nothing will change for the results of the Olympic Games and the world championships (every four years) or the Continental championships (every two years): In this case, for 2021, the results of the postponed 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games and those of the various European championships: dressage in Hagen, Germany; showjumping in Riesenbeck, Germany; eventing in Avenches, Switzerland.

In addition to the slow recovery in activities, there are uncertainties related to the participation – or not – of riders in these major events that weigh heavily on the evolution of the rankings. In other words, will all the qualified athletes actually participate?

The clear, well-argued, and unequivocal answer from one of the leading players on the showjumping circuit, Canadian Eric Lamaze, inclines to be cautious. In a press release dated May 17: 'Eric Lamaze Withdraws from Olympic Consideration'⁽¹⁾ – the rider who has climbed onto three podiums at two Games (team silver and individual gold in Beijing 2008 with Hickstead, and individual bronze in Rio 2016 with Fine Lady 5) – clearly explains why he has chosen to forfeit Tokyo 2021. There are, of course, personal and health rea-

sons for this, but not exclusively so....

Other competitors, other teams, other breeders around the world may find themselves considering similar dilemmas, leading them to also give up.

We must also mention here the risk of herpes virus type 1 (EHV-1 – rhinopneumonia) which presented in February in Valencia (Spain) in showjumping, and occurred again at the beginning of May in dressage during the CDI-4* d'Ornago in Italy?

According to a statement from the RESPE⁽¹⁾ crisis team, which met on May 10 for the seventh time since the crisis began in Europe, the situation seems to be stabilizing with 89 clusters registered on that date, but still with nine new cases since the end of April.

Naturally, scheduling between the major events of this season will also impact the world rankings in the three Olympic disciplines.

For a rider to participate in the Tokyo Olympic Games or in the European Championship, or both, will only be technically possible in dressage and showjumping? In this case, will he or she choose to ride the same horse?

Let us add that over nearly two seasons some older horses have disappeared from circulation, while many young ones have been patiently and carefully prepared during this long and painful interlude. So from this perspective there are many surprises waiting.

And, if this editorial has focused on the virtual paralysis of the world rankings for riders over the past 18 months, and on a likely major upheaval to come this autumn, it's because the riders, their owners, partners, and supports are not the only ones concerned.

The breeders of the horses they ride, as well as the managers and members of the studbooks with which they're registered, are equally anxious, as the breeders rankings that determine the year-end LONGINES-WBFSH Breeders Awards depend on these performances via the agreement between the WBFSH and the FEI, and based upon the said performances.

I can't wait for autumn!

Xavier Libbrecht

⁽¹⁾ Starting Game Communications: <https://ericlamaze.com/canadas-eric-lamaze-withdraws-from-olympic-consideration/>

⁽²⁾ Equine Disease Epidemic Surveillance Network



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THE TYRANNY OF GEOGRAPHICAL DISTANCE



During these uncertain and unprecedented times that Covid 19 has brought to the world, there may be no better place to be residing than New Zealand. As an Island nation in the South Pacific Ocean,

we have been easily able to close our borders and thus become the envy of many a European nation as we continue to live our 'normal' lives Covid free.

New Zealand boasts some of the best and most economical growing conditions for young horses in the world. We have green grass that rivals that of Kentucky and Kildare, and great weather conditions that mean young horses can live year-round in large pastures with their friends. Mares are foaled outdoors, and the NZ Thoroughbred horse provides some great blood for mixing with the Warmblood to produce the ultimate athlete.

We produce some of the world's best riders, particularly in eventing. It is one of the few places in the world where nearly any child can afford a pony, and you learn to ride by clinging to your galloping steed over the hills and on the beach with not a riding school in sight.

But spare a thought for our horse breeders in New Zealand, where our isolation and small population (five million at last count) can really count against us on the world stage.

We have never had an outbreak of equine flu in New Zealand, which means we have no need to vaccinate. However, this also means that horses do not require passports, nor is microchipping or any form of identification necessary. There is no national database of horses bred, and in fact the Government has no idea how many horses are even in New Zealand or

where they might reside, although some have reported a figure of 120,000 give or take...

Horses are not viewed as farm production animals by the Government of New Zealand, nor are they slaughtered for human consumption. Thus, the recording of the use of veterinary drugs for the food chain is not seen as important.

There neither Government or Regulatory Body laws (other than the Animal Welfare Act) pertaining to studbooks, nor the recording of equine births. This has led to a lackadaisical approach to the registration of sport horses bred in New Zealand with an estimated 70% of eligible sport horse foals having no studbook papers. This was the case with the eventer *Bal-moral Sensation*, who only a few years ago led the WBF SH world rankings with no studbook beside his name.

We do indeed breed some eye-wateringly good horses down here, but with many breeders seeing no value in registering their foals, many of our top horses in international competitions show no trace of their country of origin.

Even the governing body for equestrian sport – the ESNZ – does little to encourage the correct recording of birth dates and bloodlines of the horses it registers for sport. There is at this stage no need to provide birth papers or passports to prove a horse's date of birth for age-group classes, and breeding is more often than not recorded with no DNA testing or proof of sire or dam. Indeed, most horses here are bought and sold with only the seller's word as proof of parentage and age – leading to court cases on more than one occasion.

Twenty years ago we had a fairly strong market exporting sport horses to the USA. However, the NZ dollar is now quite strong against the US dollar. So when you add the cost of



importation into North America, and the fact we are at the mercy of the freight companies and airlines who no longer fly horses directly to Los Angeles from Auckland, our export opportunities are limited.

Another issue is the cost of importing horses from Europe or North America. On top of a five-week quarantine, the fees to import will set you back €21,500 or approximately US\$26,000. Disease control at our borders is very strict, with no horses allowed to be imported that have EVA, EIA, CEM, piroplasmosis, or the like.

Our strict borders also make the importation of semen very difficult with strict protocols meaning stallion stations in Europe often have

to quarantine the stallions and release special batches of semen to meet the NZ Government protocols.

So, whilst New Zealand really is a paradise on earth for both people and horses in these tough times, spare a thought for our WBFSh member studbooks. We have access to the very best stallions and mare lines in the world, along with some of the best reproductive vets. But getting our top sport horses onto the world stage to represent us is a real and ever-present challenge.

Jody Hartstone
President

New Zealand Warmblood Association

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BRIEFS



Judgement with Beezie Madden (USA)

At a respectable age of 30 years old, Judgement (Consul) has passed away. The first KWPN approved stallion bred in the United States performed successfully for many years with Beezie Madden. The news was announced on John and Beezie Madden's Facebook page. "We are saddened to hear of the passing of Judgement ISF, but so proud of the long life he led and the legacy he leaves behind. He changed our lives, and I am forever grateful to Mary Alice Malone for giving me the opportunity to ride Judgement at the beginning of my career. He made us better horsemen and there was no better feeling than heading in the ring at Spruce Meadows with him." Beezie Madden continued by saying: "He rose above himself time and time again. That's why we are so grateful that he has enjoyed so many more wonderful years of retirement at Iron Spring Farm, where he was wonderfully cared

for to the end." Bred by Iron Spring Farm, Judgement (Consul - Faletta ster pref x Akteur) was born in 1991 and won around US\$1.5 million through his competitive career. The KWPN stallion was a member of the US team for many years, and participated in two World Cup finals, the World Equestrian Games in Jerez de la Frontera, and 10 Nations Cup classes. His career highlights include winning the \$1 million CN International at Spruce Meadows. He remained active in sport until the age of 18 and also enjoyed a well-earned reputation as a sire. In 2005 he was recognized by the KWPN based on his own sport achievements and under the NAWPN he produced Grand Prix show jumpers such as Counselor, Worlds Judgement, Judge Not, Better Judgement, Ghiradelli and Judgement Call. (A comprehensive profile of Judgement will appear in our July 2021 issue, as part of the ongoing series of stallions – living or deceased – who were born in 1991 and celebrate their 30th birthdays this year.)

Two of New Zealand's best-loved horses retire: The first was the European-bred dressage star Vom Feinsten (Fiedermark - Wellcome x Weltmeyer), 'Steiny', who finished his career with a superb win at Takapoto for owner/rider Julie Brougham. (Full story on page 48 in this issue.) Soon afterwards, Clarke Johnstone announced the retirement of his five-star eventer, Balmoral Sensation (Senator VDL - Aberzanne x Aberlou xx), a horse who has fans around the world and who is known far and wide as 'Ritchie'. He was bred by David Goodin. Ritchie is 16 years old, turning 17 in August, was being prepared for Tokyo selection, and went to Australia for the Sydney 3DE. "After jumping a fantastic clear cross-country with his ears pricked all the way to the finish flags like he always does, it became clear that he had picked up an injury and that he wouldn't be continuing in the competition," said Johnstone. "Sadly, this has also ruled us out of Olympic contention. After all of the wonderful moments and memories that he has given me, I have made the very sad decision to call time on Ritchie's brilliant eventing career." Balmoral Sensation won the Adelaide CCI5* in 2017, fifth at Badminton in 2016, fifth at Aachen in 2018, and sixth individually at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. He was New Zealand's Eventing Horse of the Year twice, won Puhinui, as well as the National Three-day and One-day titles. **S.R.**



Versaille (Vitalis x Don Romantic)
Photo: Hannoveraner Verband

Viva España – top-priced foal sold to Spain: Following enthusiastic bidding, the Vitalis son, Versailles, will be moving to Spain for €40,500, making him the top price of the third edition of the Hanoverian Spring Foal Auction – a result impressively higher than the average €11,000 paid for 25 representatives of the 2021 vintage. Regular customers from Spain and Denmark battled for the coveted Versailles son out of a Don Romantic mare (bred and exhibited by Gerda Stein). The petite dark-chestnut colt is the second offspring of Hanoverian Pr.St. Delilah for whom 45 bids were made. His full sister, Vanellope, was sold almost exactly three years ago for €62,000. The unlucky stallion breeder from Denmark still found what he was looking for in the high-quality collection, purchasing the second son of Vitalis, Vis A Vis (bred and exhibited by Sabine and Jen Feuerbach), as the last lot of the evening, another chestnut who sold for €28,000. The top-priced jumping-pedigree foal

Coeur de Cornet (Cornet Obolensky x Tlaloc la Silla), sold to Lower Saxony for €12,500. A few days earlier, her full brother, the former Verden auction horse Cornet XL, qualified for the Bundeschampionat for five-year-old showjumpers. Apart from Versailles, 12 of the 25 foals will leave Germany. Please turn to our calendar page at the end of this issue for coming Hanoverian online foal auctions.

Canadian Olympian Eric Lamaze forfeits Tokyo Olympic Games: In a statement issued on May 17, Lamaze (53) announced that he'd withdrawn from consideration as one of five athletes named to the Canadian Olympic short list. Lamaze cited his personal health as the primary reason for his decision, considering the current state of emergency in Japan due to the Covid-19 pandemic. For the past three years he has been undergoing treatment for a brain tumour, and continues to battle the condition with the support of his medical teams in Brussels, Belgium and Paris, France. "My health is something that I take very seriously, and I've decided that Tokyo is not the best venue for me." And, "While my health is stable at the moment, there are risk factors that have to be taken into consideration. [...] Having my owners there, my friends and fellow teammates, and all the fans, is what makes the Olympics special for me. [...] I cannot be a true competitor without my team." Lamaze, who has the full support of his owners, also noted that the world remains in a precarious position with equestrian events only now beginning to return on the European calendar. Lamaze is the most successful Canadian equestrian athlete in Olympic history. In 2020, it was announced that he and his Olympic champion partner, Hickstead, would be inducted into Canada's Sports Hall of Fame.

KWPN and German dressage horses: A judgement call!

BY LUDWIG CHRISTMANN

PHOTOGRAPHY: HANNOVERANER VERBAND

The Dutch breeding of sport horses has become one of the most successful breeding programs worldwide for all three Olympic disciplines. The breeding area is located in the adjoining German neighbourhoods of both Hannover and the Rhineland. Hence KWPN stallions also attract the interest of breeders of the Hannoveraner Verband.

There is a lot of interest in Dutch genetics, especially with respect to dressage horses. So there are good reasons to take a closer look at KWPN dressage horse breeding.

What is the origin of the breed?

The Netherlands was home to two Warmblood breeds. The Groninger was bred in the north and was similar to the Altoldenburger and the Ostfriesen. The Gelderlander was bred in the south, its build is lighter. It was originally used as a workhorse for agriculture and as a cart horse. After World War II, as mechanization in society and agriculture gained momentum and equestrian sports increased in popularity, these horses were also used under saddle. "The Gelderlander was a real all-rounder; for work in the countryside, at the weekend for riding in dressage, jumping or eventing, and on Sundays as a means to get to church. Its characteristics were just as versatile: a strong horse with a

good walk and trot with a lot of flexion in the joints and a sublime front-leg technique with a lot of shoulder freedom and knee action. At the time, the selection process for character and willingness to perform already existed: People parted with horses that did not want to work," said Johan Hamminga, a dressage trainer up to the Grand Prix-level and a member of the KWPN licensing commission, in his description of the Gelderlander.

According to literature (Wikipedia), the Andalusian, Neapolitan, and Anglo-Norman breeds, as well as Norfolk Trotters, are mentioned as breeds that influenced the Gelderlander. In fact, the latter, of English origin, influenced various trotter breeds.

Changing the breeding process towards creating riding horses began as early as the 1950s with imported stallions such as the Anglo-Norman L'Invasion or the Holstein Normann and later Amor, to name a few. But also the Hannoveraner Eclatant by Duellant x Ableger II out of the

mare line of Nehrung (breeder: Claus Schmoldt, Hollerdeich) played a role. This stallion, born in 1963, sold to the Netherlands at Verden's stallion sales in 1965. In the 06/1965 issue of *Hannoversches Pferd*, he is described as a "strong stallion with a very steadfast character, a short cannon-bone and very good, swinging movements".

In 1969, the existing studbooks merged and the Royal Warmblood Studbook of the Netherlands (KWPN) was founded. Since 2006, there have been four official breeding directions: The dressage horse, the showjumping horse, the

carriage horse, and the Gelder horse. Foreign genetics were heavily used in the



The Hannoveraner Eclatant (Duellant x Ableger II) out of the mare line of Nehrung (breeder: Claus Schmoldt, Hollerdeich)

development of the dressage and show-jumping breeding lines: Trakehner stallions such as Doruto (born 1962 by Komet) and Gribaldi (born 1993 by Kostolany), Holsteiner stallions such as Flemmingh (born 1987 by Lacapo), Selle Français stallions such as Le Mexico (born 1970 by Mexico, a right-hand brother of Furioso II), but also Hannoveraner stallions were used. In particular, Voltaire by Furioso II x Gotthard (born in 1979; bred by Erika Kuwert, Mülheim), had a strong, positive influence on the development of the breeding of Dutch showjumpers. Lord Leatherdale by Lord Loxley x Ferragamo, born in 2003 and bred in the Rhineland by Zuchtgemeinschaft Pleines in Uedem, continues to be popular in the breeding of dressage horses. Among others, he is the sire of Glamourdale, the world champion of young dressage horses 2019.

The breeding principles

In the book *The KWPN Horse*, published by the KWPN in 2012, the breeding objectives and selection characteristics of the Dutch dressage horse are described in detail. The breeding goal is explicitly defined as striving to produce a horse that has the conformation and movement to be successful in Grand Prix. Many criteria are similar to those in Hannover, but some accents are definitely set differently. "Raising the forehead is one of the basics of dressage and that is why we prefer an upright (vertical) neck carriage in the dressage horse," as formulated in *The KWPN Horse*. Great importance is also attached to the horses being constructed uphill and, above all, to them moving uphill, bringing the forehead up in the movement, having good self-carriage, and being light-footed. For this they should be supple in the joints with an active hind leg and a bit of knee action.

What are the experiences in the Hannoveraner Verband with Dutch genetics? In the *Hannoveraner Yearbook Stallions 2021*, the breeding values of nine KWPN dressage stallions are published and shown in the chart on page 8. The estimated breeding values from the studbook evaluations confirm an overall positive heredity with regard to the conformation of horses: The average was 118, ranging from

JOHAN HAMMINGA

Johan Hamminga is a member of the KWPN licensing commission and an experienced dressage trainer up to the Grand Prix-level who spoke to *Der Hannoveraner*:

DH: Where do you see the Dutch and the German dressage horse breeding program?

JH: We are looking for a rideable horse with a lot of basic quality that can make it to the big arena. The KWPN has invested a lot in health and correctness of the horses and thus also in usability. You can have a very nice, good horse, but if he does not have a proper foundation (correct hooves and legs) and is not sound, he won't go far.

DH: As this year's licensing showed, the KWPN continues to use German stallions. What should be improved with the use? Are there any preferred lines?

JH: We need German blood for more frame and to maintain the blood diversity in the breeding of dressage horses. So far, we have had good experiences with the offspring of Donnerhall and Rubinstein. For example, with De Niro: As the sire of Desperados, he is also represented in Glock's Toto Jr, who now successfully competes at the Grand Prix-level and who has proven himself as a producer. We furthermore would like to maybe use stallions out of the Hannoveraner B-line. Last year, Bloomberg FS, a son of Bon Coeur, was the winner of the stallion performance test in Ermelo.

DH: How important are the walk and the relaxedness in the KWPN breeding program?

JH: Walk and relaxedness are very important topics for us. In the past years, the KWPN has applied a strict selection process to the walk. We have managed to improve the walk in a few years. For us, a good walk flows through the entire body and creates a relaxed movement.

In the Netherlands, however, we talk about a 'German' or a 'Dutch' walk. For us, it is most important that the walk is active and in a clear four-beat rhythm, that it flows through the whole body and creates an overstride by about the length of three hooves. My experience as a trainer has taught me that a horse with such a walk has more reaction in its body and can learn starting the piaffe easier and faster from this walk [with not too much overstride].

91 to 143. From a statistical point of view, these breeding values are quite well secured. Between 29 and 49 daughters per stallion were evaluated, with an accuracy between 0.78 and 0.86.

The Hannoveraner breeding value dressage is estimated from the assessments at the broodmare tests and from the evaluations at Verden's auctions. The number of horses evaluated was between 13 and 52 per stallion, the accuracy between 0.68 and 0.88. Changes may still be expected in the breeding values, which show a low accuracy.

Of the breeding values for the basic gaits, the one for canter is the highest with an average value of 111 and a range of 87 to 130. But clear individual differences can be seen. The worst breeding value is the walk with an average value of 98, ranging from 81 to 112. The average values for trot (106) and rideability (105) are in between. The average overall dressage breeding value is 105 with a range of 94 to 119, which is rather sparse for potential dressage specialists.

The picture is completely different when looking at the sport-based breeding values. The average FN breeding value for young-horse tests (which includes results from stallion performance tests, broodmare tests, and dressage horse tests) is 134 with a range of 117 to 150. Eight of these nine stallions already have a breeding value for 'highest achieved class', and the result is outstanding. The average breeding value is 157 with a range of 133 to 184.

Interpreting the results

From my impressions at mare performance tests, I can confirm that offspring of Dutch stallions are more often endowed with less swinging trot movements when compared to Hannoveraner or Rhineland mares. The canter often is the best gait, the walk the weaker gait. Could it be that the horses need more time in their development, allowing their undoubtedly present talents to emerge? Ingo Pape's comment fits this theory; "In the first phase under the rider, the Dutch horses often appear to be running. The movement is not very swinging. The horses then certainly need the influence of a suitable rider to add stability to the rhythm, as well as springiness and increased suspension to the movement, whose mechanics are labor-intensive."

It is fitting that the Hannoveraner breeding values, which are mainly based on the evaluation of three- and four-year-old horses, are relatively low. With increasing age and appropriate rider encouragement, the movement sequences are developed, resulting in higher horse show-breeding values. Furthermore, just sufficient movement with less swing can be advantageous for collection. A predisposition for

Grand Prix does not require very big movement; the rideability of a Grand Prix-talent does not have to be easy. There are enough examples of successful Grand Prix horses, including Hannoveraner, that were difficult and required greater riding skills.

In conversations with Hannoveraner breeders, there was scepticism about the use of KWPN stallions. The scepticism is based on self-made experiences. Henning Schulze from Tiddische near Gifhorn, who is one of the larger breeders in the district association of Lüneburg, observed that rhythm and impulsion are often lost and the walk is not good enough. "But without a walk, I can't sell a dressage horse today," he says.

Herbert Kruse from Hamburg, also one of the larger and more successful breeders, who has already produced numerous licensed stallions such as Don Nobless, emphasizes the importance of rideability, "I need rideable horses that the recreational rider can also ride. The horses must be clear in the 'head' – that is the be-all and end-all." He sees deficits in this respect in many Dutch stallions.

Rudolf Schepergerdes from Meppen knows the market in Emsland very well. He is a successful breeder himself, but also the contact person for many foal buyers and sellers, who said; "I see a decreasing interest in foals by KWPN stallions. Breeders tell me that starting the young horses is more complicated." On the other hand, he has had good experiences with offspring of the Hannoveraner-bred Totilas son, Toto Junior, who is popular in the Netherlands, adding; "Many breeders in Emsland use stallions from the neighbouring country, to be able to offer different genetics than those, which everyone has."

Heinrich Behrmann, a successful and experienced Hannoveraner breeder from Stedebergen near Verden, is convinced of the Dutch way. Numerous licensed stallions come from his breeding, of which the great Bolero is best known. "I really became aware of Dutch dressage horses at the dressage World Championships for Young Horses in Verden in 2009 with the stallions Westpoint and Wynton. After that, I got involved with the Dutch studbook and the development of their sport horses. I came to the conclusion that they select more sharply. I have been using KWPN stallions in my breeding program for 10 years. It started with Don Juan de Hus, whom I saw for the first time in Hoya. The horse had an incredible aura and a top canter. I had two very good foals by him. He also confirmed his positive heredity with F-D'avie FRH, the double world champion of young dressage

EMMA BLUNDELL

Emma Blundell has built up the Mount St. John Stud in Yorkshire in the north of England, where around 50 foals are born every year out of the best German and Dutch dressage lines. The breeding goal is the Grand Prix. She compares these different dressage horse breeds:

"The KWPN horses often have a natural uphill conformation with often quite vertical, high-carried necks and a lot of energy and power, which is of course very helpful for the Grand Prix. These characteristics can cause difficulties in the early years. The horse might be more looky and therefore have less of an overstride in the walk, because the horse is not as relaxed and does not use its back in the movement as it could. I often think that the young Dutch horses are ridden with a lot of pressure. I do, however, think that they have a lot of energy. It is probably not so easy for them to relax and walk on a longer rein, as, for example, the young German horses do. These are often more horizontal in their topline and naturally exhibit more swinging in the back, perhaps with softer and slower hind legs. Because of these characteristics, these horses are often more comfortable to sit to, and it is easier for them to become relaxed and show length in their strides. Through training, these horses develop their carrying power in the hindquarters, becoming quicker in their reactions and more uphill. Therefore, the training system to get a German horse to the Grand Prix level is very different from that of a KWPN horse.

"Most of our mare base is German. Therefore I sometimes choose Dutch stallions for these mares to improve the uphill tendency and the speed of the reactions. Vice versa, on some of my Dutch mares that are more vertical in the neck and more gripping, I choose a more buoyant, powerfully moving German stallion, of which I know that he has high rideability and naturally uses his back, while I pay particular attention to the horse's walk and his ability to relax. I make these crosses believing that I can combine the best of both worlds.

Fortunately, as a Brit, I don't have a nationalistic bias towards one or the other. I simply want to breed, as best I can, the best future sport horses for Grand Prix. In doing so, I focus on the strengths and weaknesses of each mare to achieve breeding progress for the next generation."



The Hannoveraner and Bundeschampion Va'Pensiero

horses bred by Dorothee Heitmüller, whom I was allowed to raise.

“I have also had good experiences with Bordeaux. I am very convinced with Asgard's Ibiza, by whom I have nine offspring so far. They are all super-correct horses with a great charisma and good manners. For me, Ibiza as a sire is on the same level as Valentino xx and Absatz in the past, who have particularly influenced breeding in the Verden area. I analyse the dam lines very thoroughly before I use a stallion, because it is also true for the KWPN that not every horse is needed. There is a clear line in the selection of dressage horses in the Netherlands and selection process is very strict. The most important criteria are self-carriage, a stable topline, an active, diligent hind leg, correctness, good angulation of the front leg in the trot, and light-footedness. The greatest value is placed on the canter. I remain ‘Holland-minded’.”

Arend Kamphorst is ‘Holland-minded’ by birth. Born in the Netherlands, he is one of the most successful Hannoveraner breeders with the Dree Bökén breeding farm in Prieros, Brandenburg. He explained; “I look around everywhere for the best stallions. With the KWPN stallions, I like the impressive front end which, from my point of view, comes from the Groninger. However, I would like the walk to be better.”

Emma Blundell is a successful Hannoveraner breeder in England and, looking from the outside, has a no-nonsense view. She sees benefits in combining the advantages of German horses with those of the KWPN dressage horse. (See sidebar.)

The trainers' view

Matthias Klatt is Chairman of the Breeding Committee Dressage of the Hannoveraner Verband and is a successful dressage horse breeder in Hahausen (Harzvorland). He rides up to advanced S-level and is a sought-after trainer. “For me, the German training scale stands above everything.

The training goals associated with it cannot be achieved as quickly with many Dutch horses. The horses have to be ridden differently.”

So, is there a different training philosophy in the Netherlands, is riding done differently there? Matthias Alexander Rath, dressage rider and trainer at the breeding farm Schaffhof in Kronberg, has had his own experiences with Dutch horses (Totilas, Bretton Woods) and with German horses (Foundation, Destacado FRH). He is convinced that this question can be answered with “yes”. “I have ridden in the Netherlands myself. Seat and influence are different. The horses are not constantly on the rider's leg, as is common in Germany, but they have to react to the leg all the more quickly.”

Johann Hinnemann knows the dressage sport in the Netherlands very well. Together with his KWPN gelding *Ideaal* he was Germanteam world champion in Toronto, Canada, in 1986. He was one of the trainers of the senior dressage squad in the Netherlands in 2003 and 2004, and his expertise as a trainer is in demand worldwide. He answers the question about a different training philosophy in the Netherlands with a clear “no”. “The vast majority of riders in the Netherlands ride according to the same classical principles as in Germany. That doesn't rule out that there are individual black sheep, just like there are in Germany.” He considers it a great responsibility for the judges to show, where the limits are. But that is a completely different topic.

Hans-Heinrich Meyer zu Strohen is a member of the Hannoveraner licensing commission, a trainer at Verden's auctions, the national trainer of the junior and young rider squads, and a sought-after dressage trainer. Comparing the mechanics in the movement, he likes the powerful push-off of Dutch horses. The impulsion of the (German) horse has advantages especially at a young age. A little less impulsion can definitely be an advantage for the piaffe, but not for the passage and for the lateral movements. “In Hannover, the mechanics of the movement have much improved over the past 10 years. In addition, the very good basic rideability is an absolute highlight of the Hannoveraner breeding program. When I am on the road internationally, I am often commended also by the Dutch for the great horses that we have for our young riders.”

The Rothenberger dressage stable in Bad Homburg has a lot of experience with both German and Dutch horses. Gonnellen Rothenberger, née Gordijn, comes from the Netherlands and was internationally successful for her home country. Sönke, her son, collected the greatest successes with the Dutch-bred *Cosmo* (team gold in 2018 at the World Championships in Tryon, USA, team European Champion in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, in 2019); daughter *Sanneke* was under-25 individual European Champion in 2016 with the Oldenburg *Deveraux*, and highly successful with the Hannoveraner *Wolkenstein II*-daughter *Wolke Sieben*. The Rothenberger stable not only trains dressage horses, but also raises young horses, including those acquired in the Netherlands. Sven Rothenberger, who also is highly

INGO PAPE

Ingo Pape, a well-known breeder, trainer and stallion owner, always keeps an eye on the development in the Netherlands.

On the mechanics of the movement: “In the first phase under the rider, the KWPN horse often appears to us to be rushing and not exhibiting much swing. The horses then certainly need the influence of a suitable rider, who adds a steady rhythm, springiness and an increased suspension phase to the mechanically complex movement. Top horses must basically be able to move big and small in all three gaits. Therefore, in my experience, it is easiest to train horses that have a medium gait volume but great flexibility and suppleness. Having absolutely no swing in the movement is certainly not an advantage with regard to the collection later, as e.g. the passage requires a lot of swing.”

Regarding rideability: “A neck, which is carried too high due to the exterior of the horse, certainly does not make it easier for the rider to work the horse over its back. Even though Jazz, who is widely spread in the Netherlands, certainly was an exceptional sire, one can see this predisposition in many of his offspring. If this is combined with a lack of relaxation, it often becomes really difficult for the less experienced rider to reach his goals. This is where our Hannoveraner horses have a clear advantage across the board. This is especially true for the amateur sport, which makes up the largest part of the market to be served. Competitions are always decided in the mind. Therefore, being relaxed inside must always precede the outer relaxedness. What we should strive for in breeding horses is a positive sensitivity, out of which a suitable trainer can then develop increased cadence and thus charisma. Just ‘being good’ does not work for the tougher sport, neither does over-sensitivity. Basically positive qualities such as a great willingness to walk, strength, a good constitution and sensitivity can complicate things for less experienced riders at the beginning of the training process. However, these are exactly the qualities that are essential for a top horse. So, as is so often the case, it all comes down to the right balance. I believe, however, that this problem has been recognised in the Netherlands and that countermeasures are being taken. Improved composure will certainly also make it easier to better present the horses at the walk.”

On the breeding goal: “If you want to breed horses for top dressage competitions, the talent for collection is absolutely crucial. Willingness and ability for collection make the difference between a recreational athlete and a top horse. The KWPN recognized this early on and clearly defined breeding goals to that effect. It is very difficult to take into account the breeding selection on the mare side, because the predisposition for collection and the required strength for it can only really be assessed, once the mare is six years of age or older. By then, most mares are already in foal. Therefore, it is all the more important that the stallions are willing and capable of collection. Also in my function as a stallion owner, I have the greatest respect for the consistency, with which the KWPN and my Dutch colleagues have brought almost all line-founding or highly influential stallions into the international top sport. Jazz, Ferro, Cocktail, Krack C, Partout, Gribaldi, Johnson, Totilas, or Apache are just a few examples.

“In Germany, we have actually only managed to do this to a sufficient degree with the D-line (Donnerhall, Desperados, De Niro, Don Schufro, Damsey, Don Nobless). Besides, this verifies and confirms the toughness that is needed for the top sport. Toughness is a huge breeding issue and certainly cannot be defined by any X-ray findings. Since the sport ideally tests the qualities, which are needed in a breeding stallion, the Dutch concept should serve as an incentive for all of us in this respect. I am convinced that this is one of the keys of the KWPN’s success in the targeted breeding of Grand Prix-horses.”

successful in dressage – winning team silver and individual bronze at the Atlanta 1996 Olympic Games with the Hannoveraner stallion Weyden (Westerland), rightly calls for not generalizing too much on the subject; “One must not say that the Dutch horses have no walk. Totilas is a counter-example, he had a good walk himself and often passed it on. In general, I have had the experience that KWPN stallions pass on one thing, and that is health. Here the consequent selection for this characteristic is noticeable. The most important criteria of a good dressage horse are a good canter, willingness to perform, and willingness to go. And this is what I find in the Netherlands. If the willingness to go is too great, it can be difficult for less experienced riders. I think it is good that many of the best young stallions in the Netherlands stay with stallion owners and that these stallions are given the opportunity to prove themselves in competition. A society must have principles and these principles must be adhered to.”

The long-time head of the FN training department and an international dressage judge – often in dressage horse competitions up to World Championships – Christoph Hess from Warendorf naturally also has his eye on development in the neighbouring country; “The Dutch are very pragmatic people. In the development of the KWPN dressage horse they adjusted their breeding program according to what is needed for Grand Prix. The movement is a bit shorter and is easily collected.”

Furthermore, Hannes Baumgart, a member of the Hannoveraner licensing commission, dressage rider, and trainer up to Grand Prix, sees changes in the Grand Prix tests, which could be advantageous for the Dutch way, “The tests have been shortened considerably, giving more importance to piaffe and passage. For the mark for impulsion, the weighting has been reduced.”

Different origins and different breeding philosophies have produced different horses in the Netherlands and in Hannover. Above all, the Gelderlander was the basis of the breeding program in the Netherlands, a carriage-type horse with a

high, impressive trot. In Hanover, besides suitability for agriculture, the focus has always been on suitability for riding. The first stationary stallion performance test, in which riding qualities were tested, already existed almost 100 years ago. Here the suitability as remounts for the military was of utmost importance. In the book *Der Hannoveraner* (The Hannoveraner) from 1967, the then managing director and breeding director of the Hannoveraner Verband, Dr. Arnold Schlie, wrote: "Typical for Hannover... is the flat style of movement in the front extremities.... In Hanover it is agreed that the round gait caused by more or less 'knee action' is more conspicuous but less practical, and less pleasant for the rider. The elasticity suffers, the tendons and ligaments are more stressed, and the stride becomes shorter." So in the Netherlands, the task was to develop riding qualities and thus elasticity and relaxedness in all three basic gaits. In Hannover, the aim in the past decades was to meet the demands of the sport and, thus, also the demands of the market for higher movement without losing elasticity, relaxedness, and a good walk.

In the Netherlands, the reorientation of the sport horse breeding program was geared towards the Grand Prix as its breeding goal right from the start. The specifications for conformation and movement were adjusted accordingly. The diligence in the movement and the quick leg push-off without losing the rhythm are important. In Germany, the breeding goal for the dressage horse is more general. In the foreground are swinging, relaxed, and elastic movements, which were, especially in the past, sometimes a little slow, as well as good rideability with an equally good feel for the rider in the saddle. A Grand Prix horse is developed through consistent training in accordance with the guidelines of the training scale. Whether or not it is possible to breed a Grand Prix horse was and sometimes still is a controversial issue. The breeders in the Netherlands, but also the experiences in Germany especially – but not only – with the line of

Donnerhall, show that this discussion can be put to sleep. Grand Prix as a breeding goal works.

However, previous experiences with Dutch bloodlines, and partially also with other bloodlines, show that focusing on breeding a Grand Prix specialist does not necessarily result in an improvement of the rideability across the board. Actually, awareness is important so that the horses do not become more complicated and difficult. The Hannoveraner is popular all over the world, especially because of its positive interior and its rideability characteristics. These must be preserved in any case, without losing sight of the goal of supplying horses for top international competitions. Maryanna Haymon, a successful Hannoveraner breeder from the USA, once answered the question about her personal breeding goal as follows; "My goal is the amateur-friendly Grand Prix horse." With her breeding philosophy, which focuses on her Hannoveraner Donnerhall x Prince Thatch xx son Don Principe, she has already achieved this ambitious goal several times. The Breeding Committee of the Hannoveraner Verband has decided to start an 'Initiative Grand Prix', thus underlining the importance of strengthening the focus on the Grand Prix horse in the breeding of Hannoveraner dressage horses. In this project, the sport-proven Dutch genetics will be valuable.

Klaus Storbeck, a Hannoveraner breeder and dressage judge from broodmare tests to Grand Prix, says; "The mixture makes the difference. A well-considered use of KWPN stallions can be positive."

So it will be about combining the strengths of Dutch and Hannoveraner genetics. Horses like Toto Junior or, most recently, the Hannoveraner and Bundeschampion Va'Pensiero prove that fascinating horses can come out of this. However, the breeder must know his expectations from the combination. As with every stallion selection, by the way ... ■





Goldfever with Ludger Beerbaum (GER)

Goldfever I: A lifetime of luck and coincidence...

BY ADRIANA VAN TILBURG

PHOTOGRAPHY: PETER LLEWELLYN

The Hanoverian stallion Goldfever I (Grosso Z - Gundula x Galvano, breeder: Sigurd Hochmuth) was an outstanding sport horse for 11 years under the saddle of Ludger Beerbaum. His story is a special one that has a great deal to do with coincidence and luck.

Goldfever's roots are in Hanover, and breeding director of the Hannoveraner Verband, Ulrich Hahne, explains about his bloodlines: "Unfortunately, the breeder himself is no longer alive, but his son Holger is currently still breeding with a full sister of Goldfever I. Sigurd Hochmuth was a typical Hanoverian breeder who successfully bred with one or two mares on a small scale. His entire breeding is based almost exclusively on the granddam of Goldfever.

"The accumulation of G-blood, and above all the combination of Grande and Gotthard, has led to great horses in many cases. For Pleasure's mother Gigantin by Grannus (Grande) x Goya (Gotthard) is another example of this. At the Hänigsen Stud, the Grande son Graphit met daughters of Gotthard directly. This combination has had a positive influence on Hanoverian jumping lines.

"The dam line of Jugendzelt is a relatively small line of mares from which the horses of Mr. Hochmuth particularly stand out. Historically, our EDP only shows 38 registered mares. Even if the historical data is not complete, it can be seen from this that this strain is not very widespread.

"If we look at Goldfever's six-generation pedigree, we find out with his mother that she has through Damhirsch a blood connection to Duellant. When bred to daughters of his mother's father Duellant, Grande produced very good horses. Goldfever II's talent for dressage is certainly based on this. Grosso Z was also influenced by the thoroughbred influence of Furioso xx, an inbred component on Der Löwe xx and the aforementioned Grande x Gotthard combination. These aspects may be part of the ingredients that made Goldfever such a special horse."

His sire Grosso Z (Goliath II Z - Füchsin x Furioso II) won his stallion performance test with 150 points. He was successful in jumping and was later successful at St. Georges and Inter I. Goldfever I was the first foal out of Gundula, whose offspring achieved great results in both dressage and jumping. Goldfever I's full brother Goldfever II was approved in Verden in 2006. Galvano also won his stallion performance test, while Damhirsch was very meaningful for the Duellant line in Westfalia.

Holger Hochmuth recalls: "I rode the grandmother of Goldfever, Dana by Damhirsch, at 1m20. Back then I was at a clinic given by Hermann Schridde, who was based in our area

and was coaching the German jumping team at the time. During the clinic Dana sustained a tendon injury, and Hermann Schridde said, 'That is a good mare, I would breed with a mare like her'. That is how we rolled into breeding, and using Galvano was a super coincidence. We still lived at that time in Koldingen and our neighbor was Karl-Heinz Meyer who bred Galvano and was a friend of my father. We used Galvano who proved himself to be an all-round producer. Grosso Z, whom my father liked, stood at stud with Horst Freise in Wedemark, so we tried him for Gundula. In total she had eight foals, with four by Grosso Z.

"While my father was still alive we had quite a few mares, but now I have downscaled my breeding to just two. One is the full sister of Goldfever, plus I have a granddaughter of Goldfever's dam. Both the mother and grandmother of Goldfever had an outstanding character, although I know that Goldfever could really show that he was a stallion. But he did one season natural covering when he stood at Freise, so he immediately recognized a mare in heat. We also went to him in that year with a mare, so I fully understand that it is like winning the lottery with breeding a stallion like Goldfever, and also like winning the lottery that he inherits the best possibilities.

As a breeder you have almost no influence on the life path of a horse you breed. I remember Goldfever as a foal quite well because he was born a few days after my daughter, and already recognized that he was something special. When he was standing in the box you realized that he was different from the other foals in a certain way. He was very confident, and we sold him as weanling to Uwe Büniger who raised him and presented him successfully at the approvals, when he was purchased by Freise.

"We have followed Goldfever throughout his whole career. Freise's son had a girlfriend who rode Goldfever as a young horse at local shows around Hanover. During that time we had a lot of contact with Werner Schockemöhle, who was then still alive. He immediately congratulated us after Ludger Beerbaum won his first international Grand Prix with Goldfever in Bremen. For us it was the first time seeing him on television, and they are special moments that happen only once in a lifetime. It is now truly astonishing that he turns 30 after having such a long career in sport and that he is still so fit.

Recently I received a video from Beerbaum and Goldfever looks amazing, so I really have to say that Ludger's management of Goldfever was outstandingly handled.

Sporting career

Goldfever completed his stallion performance test in 1994 in performance category I and was then further educated as a young horse by Claudia Neuburg and Dirk Ahlmann. The latter also competed with him in the final of the Bundeschampionat and finished sixth in the show-jumping final of the FEI-WBFSH World Breeding Championship for Young Horses. As a seven year old he started under the saddle of Ludger Beerbaum who continued at the level where Dirk Ahlmann had already started, at 1m40.

Madeleine Winter-Schulze recalls: "Goldfever comes out of the area where I live, and was recommended to us as a very good stallion. He was then six years old so we called the owner to ask if he was for sale, and Ludger was allowed to try Goldfever for himself. He was very excited about him, his rideability, and so on, so we purchased him for Ludger. He didn't come to us but went directly to Ludger who I really have to say recognized his quality right away.

Dieter† and I always had a good connection to Ludger and could always visit Goldfever who became a top sport horse with him. He's now turned 30 and I was just recently at Ludger's stable where Goldfever was standing in his paddock in front of his stable, and I believe that he still knows me. He is such a kind horse, always a very pleasant horse to be around. Sometimes he could get excited but he was always a very kind horse. He can go directly from his box always to his paddock and is very happy."

Dirk Ahlmann recalls: "The history is actually quite simple. Dieter Schulze (the late husband of Madeleine Winter-Schulze) discovered and purchased Goldfever at Freise. I was at that time working as a rider for Ludger Beerbaum, so rode Goldfever for the first time when he arrived at his stable. Goldfever was a real personality during the time I was working with him and riding him as a young horse. I rode all the

Bundeschampionat qualifiers and immediately won the second or third show in which I rode with him. He was an amazing sport horse whom I rode until the end of his seventh year. I also started him at Lanaken and during the youngster tour at international shows.

Goldfever was an absolute freak of a sport horse. He really wanted to fight for the rider and could accelerate out of nothing like no other horse. As a young horse he hated surfaces that were too wet, and was really sensitive to that. For him the arenas of Aachen and Calgary were a dream, and were where he won Grand Prix classes. We also have to take into account that Goldfever was twice part of an Olympic gold team medal. He was an amazing sport horse."

Incredibly, Goldfever contributed to winning Nations Cup teams on several occasions, and won the Aachen Grand Prix twice in a row, as well as major classes in Amsterdam, Bremen, Calgary, Neumünster, and Munich.

Under the saddle of Ludger Beerbaum Goldfever I FRH secured the Olympic team gold in Sydney 2000, European team gold and individual silver in Donaueschingen 2003, European team silver and individual bronze in Mannheim 2007, German championship gold in Balve 2000 and Münster 2001. Up to his retirement from sport at the CHIO Aachen in 2009, Goldfever I FRH had amassed more than €2 million in prizemoney, and in 2010 was honoured as the Hanoverian Stallion of the Year.

He was already 18 when he cantered around the Aachen arena for the last time during the CHIO, enjoying his own personal ceremony on the turf where he twice won the coveted Grand Prix.

Breeding career

Sadly, Goldfever didn't receive the benefits he deserved in breeding, with a total of only 110 offspring registered as sport horses in Germany. Of these, 11 are jumping at 1m40 and higher. His low rate of offspring can be attributed to the fact that he wasn't active in breeding during his international sporting career.

GOLDFEVER	GROSSO Z HANN (1983)	GOLIATH Z RHEIN (1975)	GRAF GOTTHARD Z (HANN/1971)	GOTTHARD (HANN/1949) ADLERGOTTIN (HANN/1959)	GOLDFISCH II (HANN) - AMPA (HANN) ABGLANZ (TRAK) - DONAUHARFE (HANN)
			HEUREKA Z (HOLST/1960)	GANEFF (HOLST/1947) NOBIDA (HOLST/1954)	LOPSHORN (HOLST) - MAJA (HOLST) FALERNER (HOLST) - FULMIANE (HOLST)
		FÜCHSIN G HANN (1973)	FURIOSO II (SF/1965)	FURIOSO XX (1939) DAME DE RANVILLE (SF/1947)	PRECIPITATION XX - MAUREEN XX TALISMAN (SF) - QUE JE SUIS BELLE (SF)
			LISSABON (HANN/1967)	LUGANO I (HANN/1954) FLORETTE (HANN/1956)	DER LOEWE XX - ALTWUNDER (HANN) WELF (HANN) - FRUEHMA (HANN)
	GUNDULA HANN (2007)	GALVANO HANN (1982)	GRANDE (HANN/1958)	GRAF (HANN/1941) DUELLFEST (HANN/1954)	GOLDFISCH II (HANN) - FLUSSSPAT (HANN) DUELLANT (HANN) x FOERSTERFARM (HANN)
			LORELEY (HANN/1973)	LUGANO II (HANN/1958) DASCHA (HANN/1963)	DER LOEWE XX x - ALTWUNDER (HANN) DOMAENENRAT I (HANN) - ASTGIRL (HANN)
		DANA WESTF (1976)	DAMHIRSCH (HANN/1962)	DUFT I (HANN/1957) MAJORIN (HANN/1953)	DUELLANT (HANN) - GOTENSAGE (HANN) MARABOU XX - ABENDLAUBE (HANN)
			WUNSCHGABE (HANN/1968)	WREDE (HANN/1960) ALPFEDER (HANN/1963)	FREVLER (HANN) - FLUEGELPRISE (HANN) ABHANG I (HANN) - FLUEGELSITE (HANN)

One of his most successful offspring is Gotha FRH (out of Pia x Prestige Pilot x Drosselklang II, breeder: Jan Minners). Marco Kutscher and Philipp Weishaupt presented this hugely talented mare in young horse classes before Ludger Beerbaum took over her reins in 2008. Numerous successful appearances followed, including two victories in showjumping World Cups in Stuttgart 2009 and 2011, victory in the Grand Prix of Geneva in 2010, as well as Nations Cups in Rotterdam and Falsterbo, Sweden, in 2011.

From 2013 to 2016 Sweden's Henrik von Eckermann rode the Hanoverian mare, winning the Hong Kong Grand Prix in 2014, the Global Champions Tour leg in Estoril, Portugal, in 2013. They also participated at the European Championships in Herning, Denmark, that same year, and two years later in Aachen 2015. They also competed in the World Equestrian Games in Caen, Normandy, in 2014.

Talking about Gotha FRH, Henrik von Eckermann recalls; "She is the horse to whom I owe my greatest successes so far. She was not only a fantastic partner around a course, but was also a good friend to me."

In 2018, Gotha FRH produced a filly by Comme le Pere. Gotha's breeder, Jan Minners, said; "I used Goldfever because he is interestingly bred and he was a top jumping horse. It has now been 20 years since Gotha was born, and back then everyone was talking about Goldfever. He was a very noble stallion, and I always said when I start to cover my mare it should be with a very interesting stallion. During my career as a breeder I had always been loyal to the State Stud Celle, but I wanted to try something different. I understand that it was sheer luck that Gotha was the result of using Goldfever, although when she was born I was a little disappointed as she was chestnut with quite some white. But we raised her and as a three-year-old we noticed that she had a lot of potential for jumping.

As a foal she was normal and playful, as a yearling and two-year-old mare she displayed some rare habits – always standing alone and scared of no one. In fact, she was extremely brave. Her rideability could have been better and that is what worked against her as a young horse. She was always clear but she was never placed because, although she was valued on her rideability. It wasn't normal how she could jump. She was five when I brought her to Ludger Beerbaum who immediately said I could leave her there. Until then she had only jumped at A level, around 95 cms. Eight weeks later she won the youngster tour in Italy for five-year-old horses



Goldfever I jumping with Ludger Beerbaum (GER) at the Spruce Meadows Masters

under saddle of Marco Kutscher.

As an eight-year-old she had outstanding results and became a very special sport horse. The time of Gotha was also a very special time for me and I bred eight offspring by Goldfever out of Pia. Unfortunately, they never reached the same class as Gotha and I sold them all. It is kind of sad that breeders didn't use Goldfever more, however he wasn't an easy stallion and I think that scared a lot of breeders. If you could see him now, he is 30 years old and he still looks very well. I think it is a very hard and sound line.

Gotha is now retired from sport and breeding but had two foals with Madeleine Winter-Schultze, both fillies."

The Hanoverian-bred stallion Goldwing (Goldfever I - Parodie x Lucarlo, breeder: Manfred Gerken) won the stallion performance test in

Neustadt/Dosse in 2002. In 2003 he covered one season at Stud Kempke Hof, and from 2004 to 2006 was leased as a stallion to the Brandenburg State Stud in Neustadt/Dosse. After that he was prepared for a career in international sport and qualified for the Bundeschampionat under the saddle of Philipp Reimann. Later he achieved success with Roland Englbrecht (AUT) and Sandor Szasz (HUN), who rode him into third place in the first classification at the 2010 World Equestrian Games in Kentucky. Thomas Brandt then took the saddle of the lively stallion, winning the Grand Prix of Nienburg in 2013. Sadly, he had to be euthanized in 2013 following a jumping accident at a show.

Hannoverian breeder Arend Kamphorst remembers Goldfever I: "I used Goldfever for my mares because I was convinced about his willingness to perform. Goldstar 34 (out of Virginia x Voltaire x Adis-Abeda Libero H, bred by Kamphorst) jumped at 1m60 level under the saddle of Mynou Diederichsmeier. Currently I my own-bred Golden Eye (out of Silberrose x Stakkato Gold) at Jos Lansink his stable, he is competing under the saddle of Frank Schuttert."

About Goldfever I, by Ludger Beerbaum

"I can only say that I was really lucky that our paths crossed and that's why I am grateful to Goldfever as he fought for me for 11 years during his competition career.

There are two people, namely Marie Johnson, who looked after him while he was active, and Petra Schmidt, who looks after him as a pensioner, have more than all his riders a very big share in the fact that he is still so spry today at the age of 30." ■

Breeding at Four Seasons: Keeping it in the family

BY HELEN SHARP PHD

PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY FOUR SEASONS, HELEN SHARP PHOTOGRAPHY

Tucked away amid the Irish postcard beauty of the dry-stone walls and fecund fields of County Galway, Four Seasons Stables is one of Ireland's most respected yards for the production of young horses. Partners for 20 years, Olive Clarke and David Scally have an innate ability to coax out and encourage the best part of each horse that comes through their well-organised yard.

Whether it's in the yard or on the showjumping circuit, there is a visible emphasis on solid work and thoughtful refinement with Four Seasons Stables, focusing on the finer details of not only educating and competing the horses but also in the daily husbandry of the animals in their care. A rare and almost forensic consideration for the horses' individual needs makes for impressive animals and equally impressive performances. The seemingly natural ability of both Clarke and Scally has, of course, been honed over many years working in top-level equine sport. Clarke is a highly respected rider, having competed for Ireland in several Nations Cups and numerous big stage competitions, including Hickstead and Dublin. Scally is the Four Seasons yard and breeding manager, and has worked closely with Olympian Cian O'Connor.

The breeding operation at Four Seasons is an exciting one, as not only is it relatively new, but it is the also product of Scally and Clarke's particular combination of skills and knowledge: It is the rider/breeder dialogue that appears to feed successfully into the impressive foals they have produced so far.

As a seasoned showjumper, Clarke has the valuable rider perspective, but perhaps equally importantly, their breeding

endeavour has its beginnings with a special mare with whom Clarke competed. The Four Seasons Stables foundation mare is the 1m60 Paradise G KWPN (In-doctro - Godine x Nimmerdor), bred in the Netherlands by Th. Griffin, on which Clarke won many Grand Prix competitions and placed fourth in the 2006 Hickstead

Speed Derby. The talented bay mare with a whole lot of Thoroughbred on her dam-side was an extremely keen mare who, according to Scally, had an incredible brain for the sport; "Almost too much! She had more ability in her head than in her body." Unfortunately for the sport, she was retired at 13 due to an injury, but fortunately for breeding the team decided to put her in foal.

Clarke says of her; "Paradise looked like a Thoroughbred but wasn't the most blood mare to ride, she wasn't the scopiester horse either, but she made up for that in heart and 'try', and she never gave up in the ring. She had a small canter and was very light in the mouth; careful and super competitive. She had a great brain. For breeding, we try to cross her with scopey, rangy stallions to put some size into her foals."

As a young horse Paradise G produced the 1m55 daughter Rime de Longpre by the BWP Jus de Pomme stallion, Perhaps vh Molenvondel. With Four Seasons Stables, she has produced four Irish Sport Horse offspring: FSS Spotlight by Cruisings Mickey Finn; FSS Daredevil by Heritage Fortune; FSS Copycat/aka FSS Twilight by Kannan GFE; and FSS Zodiac by Cornet Obolensky. The three daughters have remained with Four Seasons Stables as the team are building their breeding program from these sisters, so far with considerable success.

Clarke has a unique family connection with Paradise G as she not only competed successfully with her but also rode her daughter's sire, Cruisings Mickey Finn, winning Grand Prix classes with both. The Cruising Mickey Finn daughter FSS Spotlight, jumped with Clarke and won the Horse Sport Ireland (HSI) five-year-old league and competed successfully in two Dublin Horse Show qualifiers. She was shaping up to be a natural jumping talent when a collateral ligament injury thwarted her career. The prognosis for a career in sport was unlikely. She joined the broodmare herd permanently and was put in foal to the super-talented son of Numero Uno and dam Kicky Queen (Voltaire), Tyson, who won numerous Nations Cups with Leon Thijssen (NED). FSS Spotlight produced the 2019 colt foal FSS Sunlight and she was covered last year by Kannan GFE, resulting in the birth of a handsome colt this past April.

The second foal from Paradise G was FSS Zodiac by Cornet Obolensky, who became reserve champion in the 2015



David Scally and Olive Clarke



FSS Spotlight with her Kannan GFE colt born April 2021

HSI Foal Championship.

Scally and Clarke then added a young mare by Orlando van de Heffinck BWP to their broodmares, Cimenta C, who Clarke had ridden up to 1m35 and who was retired at the tender age of 10 due to injury. She is out of the Carnival mare, Kimenta, who interestingly for a jumper, both dam and sire performed at ZII dressage level, and the breeding lines are predominantly dressage, adding quality movement to the mix.

According to Clarke, “Cimenta was a big powerhouse of a mare. All the scope, not too careful. She looked heavy in the body but was very hot to ride and very sharp in the brain. She was a super mover with a huge step but difficult in the mouth, so we tried to cross her with lighter, blood stallions to improve the quality of the ride.”

Cimenta’s first foal was a particularly beautiful one by Orestus (sadly lost at two years old). The quality of the foal was enough to convince them that Cimenta could be a profitable broodmare going forward, and she has since bred a very special Cardento, FSS Outlaw, who competed at the Dublin Horse Show as a four-year-old and won the six-year-old Youngster Tour Final.

Cimenta’s third foal, FF Plot Gold by Plot Blue, was sold the day he was born to Freestyling Farms in America, a great support and friend to the talented Irish couple. He stayed with Clarke and Scally until he was three, winning the HSI Foal Championships in 2016. He then went to the USA to Trevor and Jill Gaffney, where he recently jumped in the WEC Ocala five-year-old class and proved very exciting, jumping clear in all his rounds this April.

The 2020 foal from Cimenta, FSS Knockout by Tyson, followed the quality pattern, placing second overall in the HSI Championship. Equally promising is filly FSS Drama Queen by Fortune, who was sold as a three-year-old and is currently jumping very well as an eight-year-old at 1m35. Cimenta’s Comme Il Faut filly, FF California, was also sold the week –

born to the Gaffney’s, but again stayed with Scally and Clarke until she was three. The new owners think a lot of her, and she was put in foal as a three-year-old producing a handsome colt by Zirocco Blue VDL. Scally is openly appreciative of the working friendship they have with the Gaffneys, who with vast international industry experience seem to have a similar mindset regarding young horses as Trevor Gaffney explained in a recent interview with *The Irish Field*, “We prefer quality over quantity. We would rather take our time and produce a horse to the best of its ability. I’m a real fan of Irish horses. We’ve bought over 25 horses in Ireland over the past two years and have bought three of the top foals from the Cavan Sales. We invest in young horses more these days, but I am still always on the lookout for five and six-year-olds. A five- or six-year-old Irish horse is like a seven- or eight-year-old that has been produced here. The Horse Sport Ireland (HSI) classes are great, and a bit of cross-country and hunting teaches them so much.”

Paradise G and Cimenta C have already more than proved their worth as dams. It is a testament to the breeding decisions of Scally and Clarke combing rider/breeder observations; from only two mares, the offspring produced has already been so successful both at home and in the USA. The impressive results of the foals bred to date only prove that small-scale breeding with careful stallion choices on familiar mares, alongside top-class husbandry, goes a long way to producing world-class potential.

In the realms of world-class potential is their Kannan mare, FSS Copycat, who is a daughter of Paradise G and whom the team own with Olive’s father, Gerry. “The idea was always to keep her as a broodmare so we just did a small bit of jumping with her to see what stallion would suit. She’s very scopey with typical Kannan power and a loose technique. Great brain too. She has an Emerald three-year-old gelding who looks very nice and then this year’s Tangelo filly.” That impressive, correct filly is FSS Tara and she has just been purchased by Freestyling Farms to join their exciting collection of Four Seasons stock.

More recently, added to the herd is a six-year-old OBOS Quality mare Dartans Gruvy Baby ISH, who was third at the



Paradise G at the age of 24

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Plot Blue Orlando HSI Champion Foal 2016

Dublin Horse Show. The mare sustained a ligament injury and was put in foal to Ganesh Hero Z in 2019. That positive cross produced the HSI Event Foal Class winner with its active trot and plenty of presence. Her foal this year, who was serendipitously born as I write this, is a beautiful blood filly named FSS Clockwork, by Quality Time TN (Quantum - H-Cortonne x Cantus).

Now 24, Paradise G is retired, and when I saw her last week, she had the sun on her back and was enjoying a quiet life in a field of grass at the farm. Cimenta is now a happy, healthy 19-year-old and is in foal to Quality Time TN.

Standing in the foaling barn speaking with Scally about the mares and the breeding program is incredibly refreshing. It's easy to listen to him talking enthusiastically about breeding but at the same time readily admitting he didn't have a clue what he was doing when they began. Perhaps most interesting is that despite his evident excitement by the new breeding element to their business and an admission, the second wish is always for a filly after the first wish for a healthy arrival. He has a determined and loyal vision for building from their strong family foundation. He sees the broodmare herd remaining at no more than five mares, but I'm not sure I believe that'll happen.

Scally maintains that it's a hobby and not big business, and he has an admirable consideration for the mares standing in front of him, for what they have produced, on how they performed, their physicality, and what will suit them.

He notes that breeding from a small herd, it makes more sense for them to use more proven stallions, but it is clear that they have to be the right stallions, and fashion breeding is of no interest.

He freely admits that they have had to face every type of drama for relatively new breeders, from mares needing help to deliver, foals that wouldn't suckle, IGG tests, and plasma

transfer. But it doesn't seem to have put them off; Scally shows a lot of appreciation for their neighbour Olive Brod-erick of Kylemore Stud. She is always there at the end of the phone to answer any questions and generously shares her expertise, and she has been helpful in terms of covering as they are only a few minutes down the road.

Despite the support, when it comes to foaling, as all breeders know, it can be far from easy when the time comes. Scally admits that one mare, in particular, has her agenda, and they are certainly playing no part in it. "No one has ever seen Cimenta foal. She's a stealth-foaler. Last year we were constantly checking, it was the Covid-19 lockdown, and we hadn't left the yard for months. The pregnant mares are all out during the day and in at night and, of course, on the one day we had to head out for three hours, we received a phone call from Olive's father asking what time the mare in the field had foaled."

At Four Seasons, all the foals are kept in for one week regardless of their strength. Scally finds this puts a solid foundation into the foal and prepares it physically for the next step. In the case of Four Seasons Stables, those next steps all appear to be going in the right direction. If the phrase 'start as you mean to go on' is anything to go by, it looks as though the FSS family will continue to produce horses which reflect the high standards already displayed in competition and production. I'm sure we will see the families of their mares competing at the highest level before too long. ■



OBOS Quality: Proving to be both a star and a saint

BY ADRIANA VAN TILBURG

PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY GFE

There is no doubt that international breeding comes to mind when we look at the pedigree and story of OBOS Quality 004 (Quick Star - Reichsdame x Domino, breeder: Paul Schockemöhle). Born at Gestüt Lewitz in Germany, he is an enticing mix of French and Hanoverian blood.

This very impressive 29-year-old stallion has been for most of his life's journey based in Ireland, after he was sold as a six-year-old at a PSI auction. Currently, he is in fifth place on the WBFSH Sire Ranking for eventing.

Hanoverian motherline in Belgium

This particular line is registered in Hanover under the name of the mare 'Ankerauge', who was born in 1932 at the Tietjen family farm in the breeding region of Stade. In total the Hannoveraner Verband has had 93 active mares through the generations of this line, of whom 10 have been awarded with a State premium predicate. Four horses from this same mareline were active in advanced level dressage, while nine jumped at 1m40 and higher. Today, there are only six mares active from this mareline in breeding in Hanover. One such mare, Abendnebel was sold to Belgium at the age of 14, and this is where we take up the story of OBOS Quality.

Nowadays it is often said that Belgium and the Netherlands have bought the top genetics from Germany which are forming the basis of building their own lines. But it seems that this has already been going on for the past 50 to 60 years, and previously we know that Germany has sold top mares to these countries.

In the case of OBOS Quality 004 we have to go back to a mare called Abendnebel (Absatz - Fibula x Fernruf, breeder: Alfred Gottschalk). Abendnebel's sire is one of the foundation stallions of Hanover, Absatz (Abglanz - Landmoor x Landeck, breeder: Wilhelm Brunkhorst). Absatz was the champion stallion at the 1962 stallion approvals in Verden. His sire, the Trakehner stallion Abglanz, was hugely influential in Hanover through his son Absatz, out of the mare Landmoor.

Landmoor's paternal line traces to the famous English Thoroughbred, Perfectionist xx, and carries on her dam's side the Shagya stallion Shagy XVII. Absatz was the sire of stallions such as Argentan, Arsenik, Akzent I and II, Admiral I and II, Aktuell, and Aderlaß, although his masterpiece was undoubtedly Abglanz.

Abglanz (Temit - Abendluft x Poseidon, breeder: Hauptgestüt Trakehnen) was a Trakehner stallion. As a

yearling colt he was evacuated from East Prussia to the Hunnesrück Stud, which played an incredibly important role in saving many Trakehner bloodlines.

The mare Abendnebel found her way to Belgium, where she became a broodmare with Maurice Verlinden. Boudewijn Schepers is a walking encyclopedia of BWP bloodlines, so I asked him what he knows about this line, which in Belgium is known as BWP prestatiestam 20. He recalls; "Maurice Verlinden was always very active at mare approvals and his mares were very impressive. Just last year



OBOS Quality 004

we approved a stallion out of this line for BWP – Ruby DC (Kashmir van Schuttershof - Indy x Clinton, breeder: Rudy de Cooman). This line is not so big, but all the success familiar in Belgium can be traced back to Abendnebel.

“The mare Monza (Landadel - C-Weinnebel van Roelansebos x Weingau, breeder: Eric de Clippel) has also built up a very successful branch, and Rudy de Cooman has bred several good horses from this line. I didn’t know that OBOS Quality came from this mareline, but I think he is an interesting stallion and his offspring born in Ireland have so far done a good job in sport.

“Flügel van la Roche was a very good stallion and he has produced a lot of good horses. Toon Hendrix purchased a lot of his offspring, who were very easy to ride, wanted to work, and had a good character. It could very well be possible that OBOS Quality’s granddam went to Paul Schockemöhle thanks to François Mathy Snr.”

The grandmother of OBOS Quality, Reichlichflugel, was by Flügel van la Roche, a stallion who became very important in Belgian breeding. This was, for example, demonstrated during the 1976 Olympic Games in Montreal: François Mathy claimed individual showjumping bronze with Gay Luron (Flügel van la Roche), bred in Limburg, Belgium.

OBOS Quality was bred by Paul Schockemöhle, who recalls: “I indeed purchased the third mother, Reichlichflugel, from François Mathy Snr. Quality’s dam was a tall mare, a similar height to his sire, Domino. Quick Star wasn’t so tall, but Quality still grew into a 170-centimetre stallion.

Domino, whom I purchased from León Melchior, was by Domspatz x Archimedes, and could jump very well. León Melchior purchased Domino first at the Hanoverian stallion approvals, and I still have this stallion quite a bit in my mares, because besides jumping very well, he was also very elastic. Quick Star was with me for several years having come from the USA with the help of George Morris. Quick Star arrived first, then Meredith Michaels-Beerbaum came some time later. Quality was ridden here as a young horse by Miguel Febrer, who worked for me for 30 years, but I then sold him at a PSI auction. He has since produced a lot of good horses for Ireland. For example the mare Castlefield Eclipse with Paul Estermann who jumped at 1m60. Quality himself also had a good character and was relative easy, a good way of jumping, and was pleasant to ride for a Quick Star. I no longer have the motherline of Quality.”

One year older than OBOS Quality is the gelding Lagerfeld (Lake Placid), out of the same mother, who jumped at 1m40 under the saddle of Dirk Ahlmann. Reichlichflugel also produced the 1m40 horse Goldfeuer (Gepard), a gelding who jumped under the saddle of Annette Hülsmann.

Miguel Febrer recalls: “I remember OBOS Quality very well as I had a special relationship with him, so he’s a horse that I remember fondly.”

Dr. Buchard Bade, director of the State Stud Celle from 1979 to 2007, talks about the stallions from OBOS Quality’s

damline: “Domino belonged to Paul Schockemöhle but he didn’t cover a lot of mares as this was the time when Paul was just starting his stallion station. I believe that Flügel van la Roche was sold as a young stallion to Belgium and really did something good for Belgian breeding. Absatz was not a jumping horse himself, but covered 100 to 200 mares for several years, and for sure produced a few jumping horses. He produced really good types, but his strength was in producing dressage horses. With the stallion Fernruf you go back to the jumping blood, but that is already far back in the pedigree.”

Dr. Gerd Lehmann (director of the Westfalian Studbook from 1966 to 1995) has a wonderful story about Landadel: “Landadel was a very sympathetic horse. I met him several times, including once when he stood at our Landgestüt and had just come out of the clinic. He had laminitis and his front hooves were in a bad shape, but he came to our stud so we could take semen from him to freeze. I really learned to know him during these weeks and had a good connection. He was really a very sweet, sympathetic stallion. Getting his semen worked as we had an outstanding vet who took care of him, and afterwards he was able to still cover for a few years. Certainly, the health care he received in Warendorf was very good for him and he recovered quite well.” The mare Monza is by Landadel from the motherline of OBOS Quality, and has built up a great branch in Belgium.

OBOS Quality in sport

Irish showjumper Denis Coakley recalls: “Quality was bought at the PSI auction in 1998. I think he was one of the most expensive foals of his year when he was sold originally. We were on a tour of German breeding farms organized through an agricultural college in Ireland, which included taking in the PSI auction. I was looking at a couple of stallions during the auction and had an owner with me who decided to purchase the one I chose. I didn’t try Quality myself but saw him being tried and liked him, and he came within our price range. After that I spent three weeks at Schockemöhle’s yard, just getting to know him before returning to Ireland and competing on the Sunshine Tour in Spain.

“That was in early 1999, when he was just eight years old, so I just proceeded to bring him along slowly in 1m30 to 1m35 classes, and just built him up from there. He always had a huge following because he was a very pretty horse, built a bit downhill but he was such an extravagant mover. When I entered the ring for any competition, I would trot in and I would really show him off. The breeders loved to see him going into the ring. He was for me careful and full of scope. My trainer, John Ledingham, and I were producing him with the long-term goal of the Olympics in mind. He was already jumping some national Grand Prix classes in 2001 when foot-and-mouth disease broke out.

“Just before Ireland was locked down, I put three horses on the lorry and I went to Spruce Meadows for the summer

tour. We went there with the idea of getting some really good mileage into the horses for the return to Europe. The first week of jumping of the six-week tour I jumped him in two classes. When I returned from a party on the Saturday of the first weekend at Spruce Meadows, we went to check the horses and found Quality stuck with his leg in the wall. It turned out that he had suffered a possible career-ending injury as he'd harshly severed the main tendon on his back leg, and other tendons had split. Surgery was performed one week later which put him in a full cast on his back leg, and thanks to the great care at Spruce Meadows he was an absolute star patient. He obviously couldn't jump again, but he was so good, and his exceptional temperament really showed. He would walk in and out of his stall every day for hand grazing wearing a big cast, and was like a saint. He proved himself to be like that all the time.

"On returning from Spruce Meadows we scanned his leg and decided to give him the rest of that year off because of continued bone and tendon bruising, so he didn't start again until 2002. We quickly made up for lost time in national Grand Prix classes. We were the fifth combination for Aachen (Nations Cup) and the Aga Kahn in Dublin. We went on to jump double clear during the five-star in Falsterbo, so he was one of the horses I was building up really well. To go back to his temperament, he was also covering a lot at that time.

"There were many times that I was going to jump a Grand Prix on a Sunday, and would stop of at Tom O'Dwyer's

on the way to the shows and we would take semen from him before he went and jumped a major class. It didn't make a blind bit of difference to him, as his temperament was so good.

"He was a very sharp horse in his mind and I think a lot of his offspring are also very sharp. They are all beautiful movers, every one of them, and I've ridden quite a few. He has a lot of offspring in eventing and showjumping, so he seems to cover the whole spectrum.

"I lost Quality at the end of 2002 due to a disagreement with the owner and, to be honest, he never jumped that great for anyone else after that. He was then retired to stud where he has been a phenomenal success. One of his most interesting offspring is a mare called Lisona, bred by Commandant John Ledingham, who was training me with Quality at the time. I gave him the covering for his mare and the resulting offspring was Lisona (out of Clady x Porsch van de Drenkeling). She went on to do Nations Cups and ended up with Jessica Springsteen. Castlefield Eclipse (OBOS Quality - Furisto Clover Hill x Furisto, breeder: Michael and Mary O'Halloran) was one of his top offspring. She apparently came out of a mare that was completely nuts, so again it shows that the whole blood thing seems to be important. Even though he was sharp in his brain he had a super mind and the best cross definitely seemed to be with mares with blood."

OBOS Quality at stud

Kieran Kennedy has had OBOS Quality at his studfarm for the past 15 years and says; "He has a lovely character and is easy to handle. He was also a proper breeding stallion, very fertile and dominant. His biggest contribution to breeding was his movement, scope, and his absolute braveness, and he crossed best with blood mares. He was always busy at stud, the busiest in Ireland for 10 years running. He's retired now, going in the field every day, but what he has done for my family is remarkable. He is a very special horse and there is no other like him."

Tom Brennan recalls: "He was brought to Ireland by Denis Coakley and immediately made an impact as he showed so much scope and canter. He was a very big horse and retired to stud with Tom O'Dwyer who lived some 25 kilometres from me. (Tom was killed a couple of years ago in an unfortunate accident with a horse.) We used him numerous times, breeding MHS Washington from a Cavalier mare. She went to Laura Renwick who won several five-star GCT competitions with her, and was placed at Sauté Hermes too. She also won silver at Lanaken, beaten only by Gregory Wathélet riding Nevados S.

"We also bred Gowran Park whom we sold to Richard Bournes, and she won Grand Prix classes in the United States with his son Andrew. Gowran Park was his first big time horse. We bred and sold lots of



Liam and Kieran Kennedy

others too, but maybe they didn't go to top riders so didn't make name for themselves. We've kept a few mares kept by him and have two very good Luidam fillies to jump later this year who look special. They made very good eventing horses as their step was fantastic and they had good engines (i.e. could gallop). For me he produced very good looking stock with a great trot and powerful canter, and fantastic back ends, and that's why he helped the Irish mares.

"We also bred HHS Calais, now with Marion Hughes, who won a Grand Prix in Villamoura this spring. It's a reverse breeding top MHS Washington as he is by Cavalier out of an OBOS Quality dam. He's now with Kieran Kennedy down in limerick and has bred a very good horse by OBOS Quality that Jack Ryan jumped to win a Grand Prix in Dubai a couple of months ago. He's called KBS Major Player.

Irish breeder Pam Walshe recalls: "I bred Mark Q who competed at five-star and Nations Cup level and was one of the first crops of foals by OBOS Quality. He stood with the late Tom O'Dwyer in Kilkenny at the time. This is the fifth generation of the family. The dam Abbey Emerald competed with me at amateur level, she was by the Thoroughbred Positively xx who stood down the road from our farm. She was sharp and quick and would try like no other, but bucked her whole life. I saw OBOS Quality at a show in Thomastown with Denis Coakley and he was everything she wasn't, much slower, and spent longer over a fence, both were very good behind and the front legs were the weak link but that didn't seem to come through in the progeny. I kept a full sister of Mark Q to breed from and she is the dam of Cooley Jump the Q by Pacino, a very exciting prospect with Max Kuhner."

Pat Kehoe is the breeder of the five-star jumping horse ABC Quantum Cruise who had remarkable results under the saddle of Harry Charles. He recalls: "I used him because his three year olds were popular at the sales. They were all good models that moved and jumped very good. If you go to any of the loose jumping competitions you can spot an OBOS Quality before the breeding is announced just by the way they float around the arena. ABC Quantum Cruise had that x-factor as in 'look at me', he knew he was good. I've used him a few times and they all have the same qualities. Strong characters and take a bit of time to coax them along, but good horses when well produced. The full sister is very like him in looks but so far has an easier temperament. Not that he has a bad temperament, but more so strong opinions. I haven't done much with her yet and still deciding on her future. Obviously she will be used for breeding at some point but I might put her under saddle this year and do ET with her."

Grainne Gibbons educated the mare Lisona, who jumped at five-star level under several riders. She said; "Lisona was a very intelligent mare and she was hardy – which I believe that came from the dam by Porsche. She would drop you if you gave her any chance as a young horse. But having said that she was super to ride, learnt everything very quickly, amazing scope, fantastic paces – from Quality I believe – and very focused. Once she went into the ring she

would focus completely and do her job to perfection. I believe, talking to Jessica Springsteen and Laura Kraut, who was training Jessica and also rode the mare a lot, that she could still take a notion and ensure the rider was sitting tight. To handle in every way she was the kindest most gentle mare, a really lovely girl to work with. And she had a heart like a lion, she would never let you down in the ring. When we sold her to Kevin Babbington I said to him she would win a World Cup class and be back in the main ring in Dublin riding for Ireland. I met him on the Monday before the august 2012 Dublin show began and the first thing he said to me was, "you called it right Grainne." She was some mare and fulfilled all her potential. The proudest day of my life was watching her jump the Aga Khan with Daragh Kerins from the pocket in Dublin. John Ledingham was in Austria with the juniors and I was talking to his wife, Alison, through both rounds as she relayed it to John. Lisona was definitely the horse of a lifetime for a few of us lucky people that were associated with her."

Even though he is now 29, OBOS Quality has some good frozen semen that was processed at Stallion AI in 2018. Ann Pearce of Stallions-Étalons-Hengste (SEH) is his agent outside Ireland. She says; "I was already a fan of OBOS Quality long before I became his agent. I now live in France but I come from the UK and have ridden a few of his offspring. He is a fantastic stallion who has built up an impressive record for producing sport horses and for being a top damsire. I am very excited to see what mares he is used on in Europe this year. His progeny from Ireland have made it all over the world and there is a good demand for him in the USA."

Obviously Best, Obviously Special...

It is very obvious that the Irish breeders and riders love OBOS Quality 004, from top-level to amateurs alike. According to breeders, "He could breed anything, from a pony to an 18hh (183 cms)." "His stallion fee for the first few years was very reasonable." "He bred horses with very good step, great jump, lovely temperament. We would have nothing really in this country only for him." "The mare's I have by him are mostly small, deep type, the type that were here years ago but sadly not around anymore."

Similarly, an owner said; "I bought my [OBOS Quality] mare as a three-year-old because I loved the stallion. Mainly because of his temperament, his 'go', bravery and technique over the jump. My mare is seven now, jumped as a five-year-old in Millstreet, then I brought her back to Germany with me. Due to Covid, no shows at the minute unfortunately."

This story brings together all the diverse parts of worldwide breeding; components from Belgium, Germany, and Ireland. For me it was a fascinating learning experience to improve my working knowledge of Hanoverians and to get in touch with very passionate Irish riders, breeders, and owners. ■

A never-ending Anglo-Arabian love AffAir

BY MARC BERTHON (TRANSLATED BY JONATHAN LANDI) / ANAA

PHOTOGRAPHY: PIERRE BARKI, SHF, PRIVATE COLLECTION

The French Association Nationale Anglo-Arabe has gathered the testimonies of riders who have obtained good results aboard Anglo-Arabians in eventing and also endurance in 2020. As they love, respect, and strive to improve their horses, they all have some great stories to tell.

We have gathered the testimonies of riders – Arnaud Boiteau, Noémie Bosc, Aurelie Vinnac, Gilles Bordes, Donatien Schauly, Bjinse Venderbosch, and Mathieu Lebourlot – who obtained good results aboard Anglo-Arabians in three-day eventing and endurance in 2020. We have focused our attentions on this particularly revealing sample of the riding talent pool as they love their horses, respect them, and strive to improve them. And all have some great stories to tell... Given the endeavours of these women and men, the Anglo-Arabian (AA) breed clearly has a bright future ahead of it.

Arnaud Boiteau

Category: Eventing – CC JC > CCI-5* (Age-group classes for young horses: CCI-5*)

No of horses: 8

Top horse: Quoriano (SF)

Arnaud Boiteau, 47, is an equerry. After a solid professional grounding, which entailed obtaining the mandatory riding instructor and DEJEPS qualifications (needed for an instructorship), he joined the École Nationale d'Équitation du Cadre Noir de Saumur (Cadre Noir National Riding School) at Saumur (Maine-et-Loire region) in September 2000.

“My job involves the education and the sporting development of horses. It's a role which is split between competition, galas, and teaching. I have to pass on technical and theoretical knowledge, and keep the horses I present in the 'Reprise de Manège' events [horses are schooled to dance in time with music], or in national and international competitions, in a state of readiness. It's also incumbent upon me to prepare the horses who are entrusted to our care for the purposes of teaching students.”

Regarding his association with Eau Vive de Brenne (Upsilon - Quandt de Brenne x Sarastro), AA 29.83%, a six-year old grey mare, with an ICC rating of 138, and 'Excellence' classified, it's a more personal story. “Allan Le Pors, one of my school friends whom I got to know in 1996, and very much a horse-lover like myself, had left the world of horses for a long time before returning a few years ago when he decided to invest in young eventing horses. He approached me with a view

to training them. They included, Eau Vive de Brenne, whom he bought from Carine Van Ingen, of Élevage de Brenne fame (Indre region), when she was a two-year-old. He entrusted her to my care with a view to entering her in competition at the age of four.

“Carine Van Ingen, a breeder in the Brenne region, has produced horses who have excelled in competition. Eau Vive de Brenne is one of them, and a well-bred sort at that. Her sire, Upsilon, an Anglo-Arabian, was a prolific performer in the eventing arena and he has sired a number of successful performers in this area. Her dam, Quandt de Brenne, a daughter of Sarastro, was also a class act. When Eau Vive de Brenne was three years old we started the breaking-in process, teaching her how to get used to the saddle and the weight of the rider. At four, the age at which she could have competed for the first time, she was still physically immature. So I desisted from competing with her until she was a five-year-old.

“At about the same time, Allan embarked on a change of career and, unable to keep her any longer, we took her off his hands. The mare really started to up her game as she neared her fifth birthday. She has participated in about around 10 competitions, and has invariably finished in the top third of the field. This trend extended to the Pompadour finals in 2019, where she was ranked in the 'Excellence' class, and continued in 2020, as a six-year-old, when she was also ranked in the top 10. She's a consistent sort and a very lively type.

“She's a warrior who loves to constantly thrust herself into the thick of it. She is never better than when she is competing



Arnaud Boiteau

and is an excellent jumper, and a very talented and natural one at that. She's very fast in the cross-country phases and her attitude is first rate. For all these reasons, I consider her to be an exemplary Anglo-Arabian horse."

Is there a downside? "It's true that she has a strong personality and a great temperament. Very willing, there are some rough edges to her character and she's something of a tomboy. She can get a bit upset when you are standing next to her and holding the reins. She's not fond of kisses or being pampered. Instead, she makes my wife and myself laugh. Eau Vive isn't necessarily super friendly and ours is an up and down relationship. Putting a horse blanket on her, for example, can sometimes prove something of an ordeal. However, it's also this ingrained willpower that makes her a top flight competitor and is why I love and admire her."

Noémie Bosc

Category: Eventing – CC and prep JC > CCI-2* (Age group classes for young horses and JC prep up to CCI-2* level)

Noémie Bosc is only 17-years-old, and is the daughter of Jean-Marc Bosc, the owner and director of the Castéras Equestrian Centre in Ariège. She has ridden horses ever since she was a little girl and started competing when she was five. In 2017 she took the plunge and participated in her first international competitions. Among her most recent forays, the International Eventing Competition at Sandillon, near Orléans, in July, is worth mentioning as she first finished first on Ascot du Castéras (Hoggar Mail [SF] - Vivi du Lirac AA x Demon Dissipe II AA) and was second aboard Stitou du Castéras (For Ever IV [SF] - Malika Vergoignan AA x Quatar de Plape AA): two horses bred by her father. Fast forwarding to the finals for young horses at Pompadour in the autumn, she finished fifth in the age group class for four-year-olds riding

Goodness du Castéras (Upsilon AA - Quiviv du Castéras AA x Tresor du Renom), AA 29.13%, a finalist in the four-year-old division, and ICC rated 127. She can also draw on her third horse, Gemme du Castéras, AA 23.81%, a four-year-old finalist and ICC rated 126 – among other examples of considerable home-grown talent.

'A clear round on the cross-country course in 3m:02s, which is five seconds above the optimal time for this course,' trumpeted the press. Gemme du Castéras has competed in three eventing competitions this season, having respectively finished second, fourth, and seventh.

"Gemme hit the ground running in the Pompadour final, said Noémie Bosc. She's a pure Anglo-Arabian with a first-rate attitude, and an excellent jumper at that. We click remarkably well. I've only been riding her for a year now, but we know each other perfectly and she's very attentive. She exudes power and is very talented. I predict that she has a great future ahead of her in eventing.

"I must also profess a great affection for Stitou du Castéras on whom I've competed at the highest level. Anglo-Arabians are fascinating horses. They're strong-willed and possess all the qualities that wow the genuine rider: exuberance, generosity, elegance, and intelligence, plus a very good mindset and a very game attitude when it comes to cross-country events. The only problem is that they're invariably not always the happiest of animals. This impacts on their mood and so you have to feel your way along gently with them."

Noémie, now in her final year of high school, is thinking of studying engineering, but on condition that she doesn't miss out when it comes to her horse riding. "I ride my horses every day and look after them when I can as it's my passion. I need to be involved in the sport."

Aurélie Vinnac

Category: Eventing – CCI JC > CCE-3* (young horses 4-6)

No of horses: 6

Lead horse : Gibo Von Sebitz (NL)

Sunday, December 13, 2020. On a cold and rainy late afternoon, Aurélie Vinnac is driving to her next destination. Behind her, in the horsebox, an attractive chestnut mare is patiently waiting for the journey to end so that she gets a well-deserved rest in her stable. The young woman, 25, from Corrèze, has just left Orléans, having completed a 15-month stint at the Écuries Pierre de France [stables]. Her destination is Savigné-sous-le-Lude, in the Sarthe region: a village where, a year ago, the dual eventing world champion and French team member, Thomas Carlile, set up shop; he is to become the young lady's new employer the following morning.

Employed as a rider at a professional stable, Aurélie Vinnac explains: "I've been riding since the age of seven. It's my greatest pleasure. I tried my hand at several small jobs but the lure of the horse world quickly consumed me, and it's now my job. My role is to ride the horses bound for the competitive arena and to oversee their training, care, and well-being."



Noémie Bosc with Gemme and Goodness du Castéras

Aurélie Vinnac also competes herself and snared first place in the CCI-3* short-format class at the Montelibretti Championships (Italy) in October. As already mentioned, she didn't turn up at Thomas Carlile's yard empty-handed, as Fortuna Gay (Tinka's Gay AA - C Jewel's Cameo [BWP] x Dominard [Oldbg]) AA 28.69%, a 2015 mare, was also in tow in the wake of her recent ICC 125 'Excellence' rating.

"The travelling went well and Fortuna was very calm, so I didn't worry." For over a year now, Aurélie has been intent on achieving her destiny and is getting to know the mare well. "She hails comes from the stud of Camille Baume and it was Didier Bordas, her owner, who entrusted her to my care since she was a four-year old. I took charge of the breaking-in process, and trained her with a view to entering the competitive arena. She will remain under my care for another year and until such time that she is sold.

"We get along very well. She is kind, curious and intelligent. She's also lively. She exhibits all the qualities we associate with Anglo-Arabians: a breed that was unknown to me before I took her on. A bit temperamental, she also has a tendency to look around. For example, she can very quickly be spooked by something unusual. Sometimes, a little firmness and a healthy dose of diplomacy is called for. As a sporting mare, she has a good gait, jumps well, trots well, but she doesn't gallop fast enough. That's why, in my opinion, she will be an ideal mount for an amateur rider with designs on one-, two-, and three-star competitions."

Gilles Bordes

Category: Eventing – CC JC (age-group events for young horses; PRO Elite, CCI-4* class

No of horses: 8

Top horse: Fire Wall (SF)

Gilles Bordes is a farmer and a rider and, together with his wife Katia, he runs the stables bearing his name that are



Gilles Bordes with Grafity Domerguie



Aurélie Vinnac

located at Sainte-Fortunade, near Tulle. Born a stone's throw from Pompadour, he's a man of the Correze region to the very core. "I was born in the land of the Anglo-Arabian. They're an integral part of my heritage and I've been working with the breed for 50 years, he said. They're horses that require some finesse in the saddle, but they're very willing subjects to the rider being responsive to their mind-set." Adding her own comment, Gilles' wife said: "He's been riding AA horses for as long as I care to remember."

The Haras Nationaux at Pompadour [part of the defunct regional stud system] have often entrusted him with riding these types of horses, and he also has his own AA horse, Orion de Cavalhac (Geriko du Quercus AA - Gentiane d'Or AA x Athos de Ceran AA), bred by Gerard Ginioux, who has participated in several Nations Cup events and also on the 'Grand National' circuit.

During his military service, Gilles Bordes gave riding lessons at the veterinary school of Maisons-Alfort. Later, he took over the running of his parents' business, responsible for leasing horses, and transformed it into a stable in which horses are all client owned. "I oversee the training of horses who are entrusted to me. I see to it that they're developing along the right lines and condition them especially for eventing."

At the beginning of autumn in 2019, the Bordes welcomed a new mare to their stables. Going by the name of Garphity Domerguie (Grafenstolz [Trak] - Meskal de Domerguie AA x Pygargue du Maury AA), AA 24,28%, dark bay/brown in colour, and standing 1.68 cms tall at the withers, she has proved exceptional in her paces, and has also exhibited great elegance and an extraordinary flair for jumping. She was French vice-champion in 2016, French AA champion (section 3) in 2018 at Pompadour, and contested the "Top 100" event in the CCE Cycles Classiques final for four-year olds (Pompadour) in 2020 where she finished seventh and obtained an ISO rating of 120.

"French international rider Thibault Fournier should have been at the plate but was hospitalized for a long time following a serious accident in October 2019, so he asked me

to take charge of her. Born at the stud of Patrick Loudières and Kirsten Blachetta, who oversee the Élevage de la Domerguie at Trioulou, in the Cantal region, the mare remains in their ownership. We share the same passion for the AA breed; they're striving hard to maintain the breed's survival, and ensuring the perennial nature of the bloodlines is central to this. In addition to Grafity, they have saddled us with the task of finding two other AA horses with the potential to make the Pompadour finals."

Gilles Bordes is full of praise for Grafity Domerguie: "Regarding her physical make up, she's on the sturdy side for an eventer, but she is lively and her balance is such that you feel even more secure because of her physicality. When it comes to dressage she has a wise-head and is possessed of a serene temperament. She's also respectful of the obstacles and very brave when it comes to the cross-country phases. She's a high-class mare. Her owners have nicknamed her 'the fighter plane', which says it all."

Donatien Schauly

Category: CC JC (age-group classes for young horses) Grand National circuit/CCE-CSO (eventing and showjumping; international level CCI-4*;

Number of horses: 9-10 horses who are being broken-in/trained, and CC JC (age-group young horses, four to six)

Leading horse: Tsar du Manaou AA (l'Elu de Dun AA - Ienisseie du Loup AA x Rif du Crocq AA)

The cavalry and the army have always been a way of life for the Schauly family. His father, a non-commissioned officer [NCO], oversaw the equestrian division of the Olivay Regiment near Orléans; as for Donatien Schauly, he's a warrant officer at the École Militaire d'Équitation (the military equestrian academy) at Fontainebleau where he is responsible for breaking-in and training of young horses (three to five-year-olds), although that's not his only role: "I've always been involved in military equestrian sports. In fact, my first rides in

competition at junior level were on one of the regiment's horses." Donatien underwent his training at the École Nationale des Sous-officiers d'Active [an academy for NCOs] at St. Maixent l'École, which was followed by a course specifically geared towards equestrian sports at Fontainebleau. "I'm primarily involved in the representative side of things, acting as a link between the Army and the rest of the country via the competition medium. I spend the vast majority of my time ensuring that both the horses and myself are prepared for the eventing circuit."

Donatien Schauly spent part of the 2020 season competing on an attractive Anglo-Arabian horse. "Tsar du Manaou (l'Elu de Dun AA - Ienisseie du Loup AA x Rif du Crocq AA: AA 37.31%, ICC index 141), is a 13-year-old gelding. He was born at the stud of Claude and Christiane Saramon, and began his career with another rider, which was a long-standing partnership. I took charge of him last year. I already knew something about him and have liked seeing him evolve. It proved to be a pleasant surprise, as it enabled me to finalise the number [of horses in my care]. The Covid-19 situation didn't help us get started, but lockdown proved to be the ideal time to get to know the horse. After which we twice tested the waters in a different environment by tackling competitions. It went well on both occasions. We gradually rose up in grade and ended up by competing in four-star classes. We set the ball rolling at the Haras du Pin in August and September, before progressing to CCE-4* and CCI-4* classes at Lignères in October. At the Haras du Pin he was 11th in a field of 80; whereas Lignères enabled us to qualify for the European Championships."

He's not the first AA horse that Donatien Schauly has ridden. However, no two AA horses are alike and the verdict regarding Tsar du Manaou is: "He's a very lively type. He has his own particular character. He likes to protect himself within the confines of his own 'bubble' and operates within his own degree of trust. A very sensitive type, you must be careful when it comes to stroking him, and you need to be very tactful when coaxing him along. He naturally tends to hold back.

"A lovely horse and a great mover, he's quite light framed and is good in the cross-country stages. He's very focused and gives a lot of himself in many ways. He just needs to improve his condition a little so as to make it to the next level. There is scope for improvement in the recovery process after competition so as he can improve his stamina. To my way of thinking, he can continue his rise up the ranks. However, this can't be done in a month. As it takes time.

"My long term ambition is to be competing at the 2022 World Championships in Italy. I'm still getting to know the horse and two years isn't too long as regards gearing him up." It's a great goal to have.

Bjinse Venderbosch

Category: Eventing CCI-3*

Horse: Vésuve d'Aveyron (2009/g Jaguar Mail [SF] - Modene AA x Ryon d'Anzex AA)



Bjinse Venderbosch riding Vésuve d'Aveyron

Anglo Arabs are valued as grading horses by other European studbooks as their offspring inherit their elegance and spirit, all qualities that should be found in any sport horse. Their most distinctive feature is to breed equally Anglo-Arabian sport horses and racers.

2020, KEY FIGURES IN FRANCE

600 studs and breeders, 100 stallions,
1250 Serviced Mares and around 650 total births.

MAIN DISCIPLINES

Anglo-Arabs gather mental and physical qualities: they are elegant, willful, spirited and skilled horses with loose and ground covering paces. Their balance and stamina make them versatile horses able to meet the requirements of any type of riders in any type of sports.



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Mathieu Lebourlot with Galactik de Barban

I telephoned Bjinse in the evening as he returned from Praton del Vivaro, situated south of Rome, and one of the rare competitions to have been staged during the difficult Covid pandemic. He was in the van transporting Vésuve d'Aveyron, AA 24,11%, ICC-rated 145, and born at the stud of Fabien Lasbouygues. Given that the traffic heading north had ground to a standstill, he had all the time in the world to speak to me, and I could sense his joy over the phone. The 20-year-old's record is certainly very respectable for one of such tender years. As it happened, it was aboard the aforementioned AA horse that he made it to the top of a podium in eventing at national level for young riders at Farsseveld in his native Holland during September. The duo repeated the feat, this time at Praton, after landing the CCI-3* class in central Italy during the first weekend of November.

In the presence of the Dutch national coach, Meil Blom, he acquired 'Vésuve', then stabled at Le Lion d'Angers, with Maxime Livio at the backend of 2018. "I had never previously ridden an AA horse. Although I had heard about the breed, but without ever sitting on one of these horses, and I simply love the experience. Vésuve has two sides to his character. He has an aversion to being approached in his box and pins his ears back, bares his teeth, and lashes out with a kick, yet he transforms into the most willing of warriors when he enters the competition arena.

"He's some character. I spend my time coaxing him along, making constant demands, pleading with him, but he only listens when the mood takes him. Eventually he's invariably compliant. He makes me laugh. The more I ride him, the more he gives of himself. I've never ridden such a horse, and think this stems from the infusion of Arab blood in his pedigree. I've never been interested in my horses' pedigrees, but have always been of the opinion that the pure-bred is the ideal type for eventing."

This young and talented rider exudes joie de vivre and has a bright future ahead of him. His life revolves around riding commitments and academia, given that he's studying for an International Business degree at the University of Farsseveld. He's also aspiring to compete at four-star level with Vésuve and remains convinced that the horse can make the grade.

What of his French ambitions? He has already competed

at Le Lion d'Angers, Fontainebleau, and Jardy. So what about a trip to Pompadour? He's certainly familiar with the name and would also like to compete there. He will do so, and that's a promise, but only when the pandemic is behind us.

Mathieu Lebourlot

Category: Endurance, CCJC (age-group for young horses, four to six), plus national and CEI-2* classes

Number of horses: 10

According to Lebourlot; "The Anglo-Arabian is a very attractive breed. Generous by nature, they're also the most expressive [of breeds]. They invariably aim to please and progress, and present something of a daily challenge. No two Anglo-Arabians are alike. You need to treat them as if they're members of the nobility by being polite. They represent the cross between two stamina-laden breeds. For me personally there is the Anglo-Arabian breed and then there is the rest... They're the horse that is most dear to my heart."

Mathieu Lebourlot, 28, a professional rider, lives between Nîmes and Montpellier. After obtaining a 'Bac pro' qualification relative to breeding endurance horses, he passed his riding instructorship and, after plying his trade for different employers, branched out on his own in 2018. "I train horses that are entrusted to my care, including preparing them, giving lessons, and riding them in competition. I work in a stable in the Sauve region where the horses are privately owned, and the rest of the time I'm on the road visiting clients – sometimes over a period of several days – attending to the same duties."

On October 10, 2020, Mathieu finished fifth (elite class) in the Endurance Finals for young horses (four-year-olds) at Uzès. This followed a 40kms trek in an endurance competition aboard the AA gelding (75%) Galactik de Barban (Cashmir Hipolyte - Pyramide de Barban AA x Bugatti (Nld. Arab), born at the stud of owner-breeder Frédéric Petrequin.

Mathieu said, "I came in for the ride at short notice, which is something of a regular occurrence. He had just come into my care, entrusted to me by one of my clients, Stéphane Chazel, who previously oversaw his preparation. He's a very kind-natured horse and one exuding great strength, and has a great gallop. He amazed me. It was by no means a gimme, and I very quickly became aware of his sensitive nature, which doesn't make him a straightforward ride. However, this is my area of expertise. If I'm often given these types of horses it's because I have the savoir faire and feeling with regard to getting the job done well."

A member of the ANAA board of directors and an established breeder, Mathieu Lebourlot owns three AA broodmares, one of which is currently under close supervision as she's in-foal, whereas the other two are resting, so out to grass at a friend's stud in the Burgundy region. ■

BH horses are back on the international scene

BY ROBERTA MILANI / ABCCH (TRANSLATION: CAROLINE PEREIRA CIAGNIWODA PADILLA)
PHOTOGRAPHY: ABCCH

After more than a year, equestrian competitions are starting to resume, with public restrictions and mandatory negative Covid testing. The FEI and organizing committees have been taking the necessary measures to increase awareness and help prevent new outbreaks where vaccine is not widely accessible.

A document containing the FEI's Enhanced Competition Safety during the Covid-19 Pandemic is regularly updated, including quarantine measures with variable time lengths that depend upon local factors (in-country policies, negative PCR testing while in quarantine, vaccination protocols, etc.), which is reassuring for riders and owners as they return to international competition arenas.

Health surveillance agencies have been complying with the same rigorous protocols due to the recent equine herpes virus (EHV-1) outbreak. Measures to resume competition continue to work well and a total of 11,000 horses have been processed at check-in exams performed by FEI veterinarians since its implementation on April 12.

With improved safety and knowledge of preventive methods for both outbreaks, we are following the return of Brazilian national breeding to state competitions as well as national and international club rankings. The Brazilian Showjumping Horse (BH), has conquered space beyond frontiers, reaching good results in competitions on many levels.

Two months ago, in the United States, BH was represented by HFB Versace (Verdi x Indorado), recording clear rounds in 1m35 classes ridden by Fabio Leivas.

Luziada Jmen (Landário Jmen x Calisco Jmen) twice qualified in Junior Medium Jumper series at 1m30 at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center. A BH also

placed third ridden faultlessly by Luiza Leivas Costa, from Rio de Janeiro, over two courses to finish fifth overall.

Haras Tok, represented by the mare Stella Tok (Cardento x Baloubet du Rouet) and rider Carly Anthony, entered the scene in the CSI2* Wellington Equestrian Realty 1m40, jumping clear at both 1m35 and 1m40 in Palm Beach.

Two other well-recognized Brazilian breeding farms saw their products stand out abroad early this season. Haras Rosa Mística with MyLord Mystic Rose, a son of Balou du Rouet and ridden by Juan Bolanos, had zero faults in a class for seven-year-old horses in Ocala. While Haras Umburanas with Canturion das Umburanas (Canturo x Nabab DeReve), ridden by Hercules Gadelha from Rio de Janeiro, also finished without fault in many 1m35-1m40 classes during the Winter Equestrian Festival.

In Europe, one of the highlights was Fast-car Império Egípcio (Diamant de Semilly x Calvaro Z), ridden by Brazilian Francisco Musa, when the pair finished third in the 1m30 series of the CSI2* Azelhof. In the same event, Miss-Sarajevo Império Egípcio (Diamant de Semilly x Canadian River), BH breeding at Haras Império Egípcio, jumped the Grand Prix Jump-off at 1m30, ridden by Francisco Musa to finish 14th. This mare also jumped clear in the CSI4* in Mannheim, Germany.

Android 3K (Zirocco Blue VDL x Indoctro) successfully participated in the CSI2*, in Bonheiden, with Brazilian rider Felipe Amaral.



SL Brazonado, a 16yo BH ridden by Germany's Felix Hassmann



Jose Roberto Reynoso F. Filho, riding Azrael W



Dom da Essência in the hands of Cleison Botelho de Souza

Danna RJ (Quiz Time x Candidus), bred by Haras RJ in Rio de Janeiro, returned to international competition in the CSI2* Bonheiden, Belgium, under the saddle of Sweden's Angelica Augustsson Zanotelli. The pair twice jumped clear in 1m35-1m40 classes during the event. They also stood out in CSI4* Grimaud, in France, completing the 1m40-1m45 series without penalties.

GB Celine (Concorde x Victoria Cooper) was another BH product prominent on the world scene with Portugal's Rodrigo Giesteira Almeida. The mare finished sixth in the opening class of the Dutch Masters at 1m55. In the final class, the pair won the bronze medal for an outstanding performance in the 1m45 NAB Bliksem-beveiliging Prize. And in the Valkenswaard CSI4*, also in the Netherlands, the pair once again jumped clear in a 1m50-1m55 class against the clock.

Sixteen-year-old BH SL Brazonado (SL Baluarte X Silvestre) continued to display health and technical competence at the Hagen CSI2* with Germany's Felix Hassmann. The pair completed a 1m35 without faults to hold top spot among 87 competitors. While on the first day of competition they claimed first place in a 1m30 against the clock in a field of more than 100 pairs from around the world who started the series; 35 of whom jumped clear. Still in Germany, SL Brazonado also claimed a win in a 1m40 class during the Mannheim CSI4* show.

The beautiful dapple gray Cassilano Jmen (Calisco Jmen x Bramo) was also seen at high-level competitions in partnership with Swedish international Rolf-Göran Bengtsson, when the pair took part in the Mannheim CSI4*.

In Brazil, the first international competition of the

season took place at Sociedade Hípica Paranaense, in Curitiba, when 17 pairs jumped in the main 1m60 class of the CSI-W, including nine BH products. All 17 qualified for the jump-off around a course designed by Marina Azevedo, in which Hour Blue Método (Mr. Blue x Burggraaf), ridden by Luiz Felipe Pimenta Alves, finished third, the highest placed BH in the competition.

Jose Roberto Reynoso F. Filho, riding Azrael W, claimed first place with the only double clear round of the first international class, ahead of Rafael Rodrigues dos Santos and Caramel Jmen, a Holsteiner belonging to Agromen Agropecuária. Both are imported horses registered with the BH Studbook.

Finishing fourth was Euclides Método (Zodiaco Método (Ia) x Sidney Método), ridden by Daniel Cesar Maranhão Khoury. RSF Princesa (Coriall x Jus De Pomme), under the saddle of Andrea Guzzo Muniz Ferreira, was fifth, while Carlos Eduardo Massenzi Filho and Diegus Ipiranga (Voltaire x Capitol), completed the ranking.

In the international qualifiers for the Grand Prix, the BH and imported horses registered under the Association were



Stella Tok (Cardento) ridden by Carly Anthony

once again in the podium. Jose Roberto Reynoso Fernandez Filho, mounting Azrael Z, scored a victory with a clear round in 32.67 seconds, followed by Flavio de Castro Martinez who rode Dalouna PJ Champs Elysees with a clear round in 33.61 seconds. Both are imported products with genealogic registrations issued under the BH Studbook. Representing national breeding, the best qualified horse was Dom da

Essência (Douglas (*) x (Ra) Elixir de Madame), who placed third under the saddle of Cleison Botelho de Souza. The pair recorded a clear jump-off round in 35.60 seconds. ■



The 7yo MyLord Mystic Rose, ridden by Juan Bolanos

KWPN stallion performance tests successfully conclude

By SANDRA KARMAN / KWPN

PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTESY KWPN

The third week in March saw the successful completion of KWPN stallion performance tests in dressage and showjumping with 35- and 21-day assessments, as well as Gelder horses (28 days), during which VDL scoring a double hat-trick with six stallions approved.

All 10 dressage stallions participating in the final presentation of the Stallion Performance Test were approved, with the highest scores achieved by two four-year-olds: Merlot VDL and Mauro Turfhorst. As with the jumping stallions, they were presented in couples of two and honored immediately afterwards.

The stallion selection committee, consisting of chairman Bert Rutten, Marian Dorresteyn, and Johan Hamminga, was able to approve an interesting group of stallions. With 85.5 points, the four-year-old Merlot VDL (Bordeaux - Hyacinth-Vrouwe ster PROK D-OC x Florencio, bred by the Klinkhamer family from Sleen) presented by the VDL Stud and Saskia van Musscher achieved the highest score. "This is a very elegant, uphill-moving stallion who is very willing to work and can change gear very easily in movement," Rutten explained. After making some clear selections in the group of four-year-olds during this test, in addition to Merlot VDL, Mauro Turfhorst (Zonik out of Hidaylia ster by Negro, breeder Jan Greve) of Studfarm Turfhorst and Reesink Horses also emerged as one of the better stallions, receiving 84 points.

Approved three-year-old dressage stallions

- Number Two (Just Wimphof x Ferro, registered breeder Gerrit van Esterik) co-registered with Joop van Uytert: 83.5 points
- Neil (Governor x Vivaldi) from breeders Ad Valk and the Andeweg family: 83 points
- New Orleans (Blue Hors Farrell x Jazz) bred by De Dalhoeve Horse Center: 83 points
- Next Romancier (Fürst Romancier x San Amour, bred by J.Th.W. and H. Huls) presented by Rom Vermunt and Joop van Uytert: 81.5 points
- Nick Wimphof (Just Wimphof x Bordeaux, bred by Geesje and Tinus Naber) owned by Joop and Renate van Uytert and Stal Brouwer: 80.5 points
- Night Shadow (Guardian S x Florencio, registered breeder Willy van der Aa) co-registered with Stal Van de Sande: 80 points
- Nephew (Daily Diamond x Johnson, bred by S. Wijnveen), presented by Jan Greve: 78 points

- Nacho (Negro x Krack C, bred by Sandra Maakenschijn) from Van Olst Horses: 76.5 points

Approved four-year-old dressage stallions

- Merlot VDL (Bordeaux x Florencio, bred by the Klinkhamer Family), presented by Saskia van Musscher and VDL Stud: 85.5 points
- Mauro Turfhorst (Zonik x Negro, bred by Jan Greve), presented by Studfarm Turfhorst and Reesink Horses: 84 points.

Showjumping performance test

All 11 stallions participating in the final presentation of the stallion performance test were approved by the KWPN, with New Pleasure VDL achieving the highest score with 87.5 points.

Following the 35- and 21-day assessments, the stallion inspection committee comprising chairman Cor Loeffen, Henk van den Broek, and Wout-Jan van der Schans was very satisfied. "We had to get used to assessing the three-year-old stallions in only 35 days and the four-year-old stallions in 21 days, but we are very satisfied with the way the spring test went and the results," Loeffen said. "Several stallions saw sires approved from their first crop, including Jukebox,



Merlot VDL (Bordeaux x Florencio)

Impressive VDL and Inaico VDL who all saw one son approved.”

Seven of the 11 stallions scored over 80 points, and the For Pleasure son New Pleasure (out of Lady-A ter Putte x Diamant de Semilly, bred by De Maertelaere Family from Bassevelde) finished his test with four nines to achieve a wonderful total of 87.5 points. This stallion, owned by Egbert Schep, has now been sold to the VDL Stud, who managed to get six stallions approved. The four-year-old son of Cornet Obolensky, Mr. Cornet de Regor (out of Ohaj de Regor x Kannan) bred by W. van de Plasse left no doubts whatsoever about his natural talent and was approved with 86.5 points.

Approved jumping stallions

- Nottingham VDL (Arezzo VDL - Ersina keur IBOP-spr x Indoctro, breeder J.F. Abbring) from VDL Stud: 76 points
- Norton VDL (Baltic VDL - Wyrusa H ster pref prest PROK x Corland, breeder A.J. Hazenberg) from VDL Stud: 81 points
- Nebraska VDL (Baltic VDL - Hanolivia VDL elite IBOP-spr PROK x Douglas) from VDL Stud: 80 points
- Newmarkt VM (Chacoon Blue - Nouvelle Star Z x Numero Uno, breeder P.J. van Montfort) from HX Breeding, Kessel and Redfield Farm LLC: 83.5 points
- Nickelson VDL (Cohinoor VDL - Hakilly D Z keur IBOP-spr x Harley VDL) from VDL Stud 81.5 points
- New Pleasure VDL (For Pleasure - Lady-A ter Putte x Diamant de Semilly, breeder family de Maertelaere / Stal van de Zuidakker) from VDL Stud: 87.5 points
- Next in Line (Jukebox - Umosa elite pref prest PROK x Cavalier, breeder A.J. Roosjen) from R. Tewis: 84 points
- Mr. Cornet de Regor (Cornet Obolensky - Ohaj de Regor x Kannan, breeder W. van de Plasse) from Stal Brinkman and W. van de Plasse: 86.5 points
- My Favorite (Impressive VDL - Heraya elite sport-spr D-OC



New Pleasure VDL (For Pleasure - Lady-A ter Putte x Diamant de Semilly)

- x Quasimodo vd Molendreef, breeder D. de Jong) from I. de Boer 77 points
- Mcallister VDL (Inaico VDL - Zoklahoma VDL ster pref prest x Emilion) from VDL Stud 84.5 points
- Messini de F (Kannan - Cambridge B x Carolus II) by W. Nijenkamp & F. Zumkehr: 80 points.

Successful Gelder stallions

Following a stallion performance test of 28 days, two Gelder stallions could be added to the stallion database today. Matiz (Eebert) completed his performance test in harness, while the owners of the stallion McKenzy JHL (Alexandro P) opted for a performance test under saddle. McKenzy JHL was blessed with nines for his canter and attitude.

A total of three Gelder stallions started the test, two of which earned their approval. The stallion inspection committee, comprising chairman Marloes van der Velden, Jan Pen, and Arie Hamoen, assisted by inspector Wim Versteeg, was satisfied with the result. “We have been able to register two very well-developed Gelder stallions, each with their own qualities. Both approved stallions come from mares who took part at the National Mare Championships. The Eebert son Matiz will add to the Gelder stallion stock, especially for enthusiasts of harness horses. McKenzy JHL, meanwhile, may well have a future in dressage, especially due to his posture, front end, and technique in movement, and he also jumps fairly well.” Inspector Wim Versteeg explained, “At this presentation, both stallions were extensively tested outdoors in the field, and their work ethic and character is striking.”

- Matiz (Eebert - Honey ster PROK x Vitens, breeder G.H. Hof from Varsseveld) from R. Lammers
- McKenzy JHL (Alexandro P - Hippines elite IBOP PROK x WV Saron, breeder L. Roerdink from Groenlo) from Heuvelman/Leduc and P.P.L.C. Jansen. ■



McKenzy JHL (Alexandro P - Hippines elite IBOP PROK x WV Saron)

Holsteiner Pferdetage: Sport and breeding at one location

BY DESIRÉE DAHN / HOLSTEINER VERBAND

PHOTOGRAPHY: HOLSTEINER VERBAND

Who would have thought one year ago that the Holsteiner Pferdetage 2021 – Holsteiner Horse Days – would still be influenced this much by the corona pandemic. Nevertheless, the organizers are motivated and confident of staging stage the Holsteiner Pferdetage in the best possible way at Elmshorn from June 10-13.

The elite mare show, foal auction, and the state championships, are the highlights of Holstein's breeding and sports calendar for many breeders, buyers, and riders from Holstein and the world. "That is why we are determined to keep this important event by all possible means," says Roland Metz, managing director of the Holsteiner Verband. At the time of this editorial deadline it had not been decided how exactly the Holsteiner Pferdetage will be hosted this year, and whether spectators can be admitted. We're in a similar situation regarding the candidates for the title of winning mare. The registration tour for three-year-old mares will only finish in the licensing districts of North Frisia and Schleswig-Flensburg on May 26.

Twenty-seven foals in the catalogue

According to Roland Metz, "There are various options in holding this foal auction, which is firmly attached within the calendar, and therefore the possibility for marketing will be

guaranteed." He continued by saying; During the past 15 months the pandemic has forced us to develop ideas and find new ways. We have been able to gain valuable experience regarding online and hybrid auctions which we want to continue using."

A total of 27 Holsteiner foals have made it into the lot. Proven sires like Colman, Conthargos, and Diarado are represented next to numerous rising young stallions. Two sons of Cornet Obolensky – Crack and Cornet's Quaprice – will each have three foals. And for dressage enthusiasts Roland Metz was able to identify three offers. They are by Franziskus and Fidano. "We notice very often that our customers have a high demand for valuable and interesting genetics – on both sides – in the paternal as well as the maternal lines. Therefore, we put a lot of value on this aspect when compiling our collection," Metz explained in describing the background of the selected foals.

High level sport

The Holsteiner state championships are another highlight. Four- to seven-year-old jumping horses and five- and six-year-old dressage horses will compete to find their 2021 state champions following a qualification and final rounds.

An additional sporting program is planned as well. On Thursday, qualifiers for the Bundeschampionate will be held for riding horses aged three and four, and for jumping ponies. While Sunday's Holsteiner Future Cup will be a novelty in which the two top combinations of Thursday's riding horse tests will qualify for this competition.

The big tour offers high level jumping with a final at three-star 'S' level. "Declining numbers of infections and the option to use Covid-19 rapid tests brings us the hope of being able to admit as many spectators as last year," Roland Metz



The young-showjumper championships in Elmshorn are eagerly awaited every year. Ridden by Maximilian Gräfe, Verband stallion Castle Creek competed in last year's state championships

confidently stated in mid May. “However, under the circumstances we might have to omit the members’ congegation.” At short notice, the most up-to-date information will be announced on the website: www.holsteiner-verband.de. ■

THE SCHEDULE

Thursday

- Qualification for Bundeschampionat, three- and four-year-old riding horses
- First test for state championship, dressage horses
- Qualification for state championship, r four-year-old jumping horses
- Qualification for state championship, seven-year-old jumping horses
- Qualification for Bundeschampionat, jumping ponies

Friday

- State championship, five- and six-year old dressage horses
- Qualification for state championship, five- and six-year-old jumping horses
- Big Tour

Saturday

- Holsteiner Shop Window
- Pony fault and style jumping
- State championship, four-year-old jumping horses
- Presentation of foals to be auctioned
- State championship, seven-year-old jumping horses
- Big Tour
- Foal auction

Sunday

- Verband’s mare show
- Holsteiner Future Cup – Championship for riding horses
- State championship, five-year-old jumping horses
- State championship, six-year-old jumping horses



1



2



3

Top down: (1) The best 3yo Holstein mares of the 2018 crop will compete in the Elite Mare Show. Who will be the Holstein Champion Mare? (2) Last years best dressage mare was Kaviera by Zack-Aljano, here with Kimberly Kühl. (3) The Holsteiner Foal auction is the chance to secure top Holstein genetic for the future.

Miracle blue-blooded SF twins born in rural Manitoba

BY JEAN LLEWELLYN (WITH GRATEFUL THANKS TO ED BALCEWICH AND JEFF FROM)

PHOTOGRAPHY: PRIVATE COLLECTION, NEIL CARLETON, FEI/SHANNON BRINKMAN

As sport horse breeding partners, Ed Balcewich, from Winnipeg, and Jeff From who lives in St. Andrews, both in the Canadian province of Manitoba, are one of the most unlikely combinations. Jeff, an experienced horseman, farrier, competitive showjumper, and breeder, and Ed, a portfolio manager with no horse experience, acquired his first horse that happened to be the jumping stallion, Grama Open Main. What a surprise, therefore, when their first attempt at breeding from three mares produced four foals.

Their twin Selle Français fillies went to full term, were both full size, and 100% healthy on the day of their birth: April 28, at 6:30 a.m. They arrived complete with a great pedigree.

When it was all over, Jeff admitted; “We were in shock to see two babies being born.” Their mare, Zena QV, had been on 24-hour watch as she had gotten really large, and when she finally laid down Jeff was there to monitor the birth. However, he was soon on the phone with the vet when a third hoof showed up, believing that the foal’s back leg was in an awkward position and therefore needed to be pushed back to adjust it, only to find another head and another hoof trying to get out. The slightly larger foal arrived first, with the second following quickly behind with no complications.

Zena QV had already produced two previous foals by Grama Open Main who are now six and seven years old, so the partners knew that any resulting foal from this crossing would be an athletic jumper with lots of scope, a sound mind and willing disposition, just like its sisters. Ed admitted; “Zena QV got big, then she got bigger, and we nervously joked that it

could be twins, yet we all knew that was hardly feasible because the odds of twins surviving was worse than one in a million.”

Since they were born they’ve generated a great deal of interest from curious clients, family, friends, veterinarians, and experienced horse people, who had never heard of live twins before. Not only are these twin fillies special as survivors, but they were intentionally bred to carry showjumping royalty in their genetics, as full sisters to Sapphire and Geneva.

Inspired by Beezie Madden and Darry Lou

It was nearly two years ago, at the 2019 Spruce Meadows Masters, when Jeff completed two nice rounds on Grama Open Main in the All Canada Ring and Ed recalls; “We had front-row seats (in the international ring) for the \$3 million CP International Grand Prix where we watched Beezie Madden win with Darry Lou, and it perked my curiosity as to the make-up of modern jumping bloodlines. They certainly don’t come any more modern than Darry Lou, and looking over his pedigree we realized we could just as easily be looking at Jeff’s horse, Sapphire, a big, beautiful, and powerful athlete who would be old enough and ready to compete during the Spruce Meadows 2020 tournament season.

It was Jeff’s decision some years earlier to breed Grama Open Main (Hello du Reverdy x Voltaire) to Zena QV (Quite Easy x Burggraaf) two years in row to produce Sapphire and Geneva. “They turned out beautifully and are everything that a high-level showjumper should be, so breeding them again was a no brainer.”

Common Ibrahim sire lines

Ed continued by saying: “At first glance, Darry Lou (Tangelo van de Zuuthoeve x Nabab de Reve) and the twins (Grama Open Main x Quite Easy) don’t look similar, yet when we dig a little deeper



l-r: Ed Balcewich and Jeff From with the twins



Beezie Madden (USA) riding Darry Lou, Wellington, FL, 2020

into their pedigrees, the commonalities are uncanny. On the sire's side both Darry Lou and the twins come from a 'tail sire line' of Ibrahim in the fifth generation as well as both having four gender-balanced crosses of Ibrahim and two of Almé Z: Founding stallions of the Selle Français breed, even though Almé Z is the son of Ibrahim. Looking at the names of recent FEI winners, these two frequently occur."

Genetically identical damline 'engine rooms'

"Here is where it gets interesting. When we explored their pedigrees further, we found that in the engine room – being the fourth to sixth generations – their damlines are almost identical, with so many big-name ancestors occurring in the same places on their damlines: Names such as Burggraaf and Quidam de Revel in the third generation; Jalisco B and Landgraf in the fourth; Ibrahim, Almé Z, Ladykiller xx, and Cor de la Bryère in the fifth, and of course more of the same in the sixth.

"At that time I contacted Kathleen Kirsan, author of a number of breeding and bloodline books, including *North American Sport Horse Breeder* and *Become Your Own Tesio* (<https://www.sport-horse-breeder.com>). We had many online conversations about breeding in general as well as breeding stallions specific to Jeff's herd.

"Kathleen had reviewed Sapphire's (and the twin's pedigree) and said, 'Zena (Sapphire's mother) has the power-gender balance of Landgraf close up, jumping potency guaranteed, and Sapphire is genetically the best, with the strongest Ramiro and Landgraf balance, and she carries something we don't see often: a Corde daughter. Well done. [...] This is serious jumping genetics [...]'.
 "Jeff, being a lifelong, experienced horseman, has a good instinct for breeding quality sport horses. In fact, he used Grama Open Main some 18 times over the years and produced beautiful offspring, of which almost all are competitive showjumpers. It's not uncommon to go to a Hunter/Jumper competition in Manitoba and see four or

five of his offspring in the same show ring, and doing very well."

Much of the knowledge that Ed gained was from the online conversations with Kirsan and from her books. His professional background as a stock trader and portfolio manager proved valuable as he was familiar with assessing large amounts of data, graphs, and charts. So reviewing generations of pedigrees, bloodlines, and common ancestors made for interesting reading during the Covid-19 lockdown days of Spring 2020 in rural Manitoba.

With subscriptions to online databases Ed created hypothetical matings for hours, looking at influential combinations of potency, pedigree, and gender balance. When he found a superior match with Zena QV and her daughters, Ed would shop to see if any frozen semen was available, and there was plenty, which supported Tesio's theories of the importance of his mares. "In fact, I was gaining an all-round better understanding of the Tesio method which indicates that the mare is far more important than the stallion. A poor stallion to a quality mare generally produces much better offspring than a great stallion to a poor mare, hence quality to quality produces the best results, on paper."

Interestingly, Ed discovered that shopping for frozen semen is almost as easy as buying products on Amazon, but the mares are much harder to identify and purchase, especially if she is a genetic gem. "Jeff jokes that from his herd of all mares he has been unable to produce a colt in 13 years. To Jeff's credit, this is how Federico Tesio operated, with a herd of only genetically rich mares, without owning a stallion himself.

"We do differ from Tesio, however, as we have a stallion Grama Open Main (affectionately nicknamed Chachi)," and while Ed has only owned him for four years, Jeff has a long friendship and history with the stallion dating back to 2010 when he was imported from Argentina. "Chachi is a great horse to ride and knows what it is to work. The fine character he has in the sport, he passes on to his progeny. Of course, he inherited these traits from his own ancestors as they are well known for their power, work ethic, and calm, easy-going personalities."

Breeding jumpers with powerful pedigrees

Ed continued; "We reviewed research into the pedigrees of the world's top 300 showjumpers, showing that 99% of these horses have no line-breeding in the first two generations. As we are only breeding showjumpers we are generally not concerned with the first three generations, but rather the 'engine room', being the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations where the true power of line-breeding provides us with a much higher chance of developing an exceptional showjumping horse. This helps explain why we can see a successful showjumper with the blood of insignificant stallions in the first three generations as they serve as a conduit for the DNA from the different lines of more

THE TWINS	GRAMA OPEN MAIN SF (2003)	HELLO DU REVERDY SF (1995)	BAYARD D'ELLE (SF/1989)	DOUBLE ESPOIR (SF/1969) TOSCANE D'ELLE (SF/1985)	IBRAHIM (SF) - QUATRIEME ESPOIR (SF) GRAND VENEUR (SF) - JESABELLE D'ELLE (SF)	
			DIVA DU REVERDY (SF/1991)	QUITO DE BAUSSY (SF/1982) TRAVIATA (SF/1985)	JALISCO B (SF) - URGANDE B (SF) ELF III (SF) - GERBE D'OR (SF)	
		QUENATA METODO BH (1993)	VOLTAIRE (HANN/1979)	FURIOSO II (SF/1965) GOGO MOEVE (HANN/1975)	FURIOSO XX - DAME DE RENVILLE (SF) GOTTHARD (HANN) - MOSAIK (HANN)	
			RENATA (WESTF/1983)	RIBOT (WESTF/1978) RABBIT 4 (WESTF/1978)	RAMIRO Z (HOLST) - DORINA (WESTF) RENALDO (WESTF) - FABRICE (WESTF)	
		ZENA QV CWHBA (2004)	QUITE EASY I HOLST (1994)	QUIDAM DE REVEL (SF/1982)	JALISCO B (SF/1975) DIRKA (SF/1969)	ALINÉ (SF) - TANAGRA (SF) NANKIN (SF) - ONDINE DE BAUGY (SF)
				BIRTE II (HOLST/1987)	LANDGRAF I (HOLST/1966) U-CAPITOLA (HOLST/1982)	LADYKILLER XX - WARTHURG (HOLST) CAPITANO (HOLST) - FOLIA (HOLST)
	PEBBLES B KWPN (1997)		BURGGRAAF (HOLST/1983)	LANDGRAF I (HOLST/1966) LOANDA (HOLST/1974)	LADYKILLER XX - WARTHURG (HOLST) COR DE LA BRÛÈRE (SF) - URBINE (HOLST)	
			LA BAMBA B (KWPN/1993)	RAMIRO Z (HOLST/1965) NOTHA A (SF/1972)	RAIMOND (HOLST) - VALINE (HOLST) LARGNY XX - TIC DE PIRIDIS (SF)	



Grama Open Main (Hello du Reverdy x Voltaire)

powerful ancestors.

“According to an excerpt in Kathleen Kirsan’s latest book, *Be Your Own Tesio*, ‘The aim is not to simply pump in as much duplication as can be found. The aim always is to maximize the probability. This is done by first building up a large mass of genetic commonality in the sixth to twelfth, and then having lines in the fourth, fifth, and sixth generations which have inbreeding to the pattern of strength further back.’”

Sharing common ancestors

According to Ed, Kirsan commented on the twins’ pedigree as follows; ‘These bloodlines are a who’s who of the European jumping horse [...] and you made the most of those jump conduits by picking mares that enlarge the

power, and now you know you had it right.’

“Tesio painstakingly did everything by handwriting the lineages. Now, with a click of the mouse we can look back over one-hundred years and see that both the Darry Lou and the twins’ lines carry multiple crosses of influential ancestors. The list is too numerous, and you would have to Google the names to get a true picture of their power and lineage, however, here are few examples as to what a great pedigree looks like in the first nine generations of line breeding.

- Orange Peel: Darry Lou = 11 crosses, the twins = 16 crosses – ‘[...] great influence on the breeding of showjumpers’
- Son In Law: Darry Lou = 11 crosses, the twins = 11 crosses – ‘[...] seen in the pedigree of the top 100 showjumpers’
- Dark Ronald: Darry Lou = 11 crosses, the twins = 12 crosses – ‘Cor de la Bryère, Lord, and Landgraf I were all linebred to him,’ enough said;
- The Tetrarch: Darry Lou = 10 crosses, the twins = 6 crosses – an undefeated racehorse with freakish speed and power, he is ‘possibly the greatest runner ever’. Because he was too fast and too strong, The Tetrarch, a potent jump transmitter, is not found in many pedigrees. Consider



yourself lucky if you have him in your pedigree.

A happy future...

Ed concluded the story by saying; “Immediately after the Spruce Meadows Masters, Darry Lou was sold to Evergate Stables, owned by Jennifer Gates, in Wellington, Florida for an undisclosed amount, although it was likely a substantial sum. (Editor’s note: Darry Lou was only ridden for a few months by Jennifer Gates, and has since January 2021 been ridden by her fiancé, US-born, Egyptian international showjumper Nayel Nassar.)

DARRY LOU	TANGELO VAN DE ZUUTHOEVE BWP (1996)	NARCOS II SF (1979)	FAIR PLAY III (SF/1971)	QUASTOR (SF/1960) MA POMME (SF/1956)	IBRAHIM (SF) - LA CITADELLE (SF) FURIOSO XX - HARMONIE (SF)
			GEMINI (SF/1972)	TANAEL (SF/1963) IL PLEUT BERGERE (SF/1952)	IBRAHIM (SF) - KADINE (SF) FOUDROYANT II XX - VERGONNE (SF)
		OLYMPIA VAN DE KREKEBEKE BWP (1991)	LAUDANUM XX (1967)	BORAN XX (1960) MONTA BELLA XX (1961)	MOURNE XX - BETHORA XX MONTAAL XX - CECROPIA XX
			RACYONA Z (HANN/1983)	RAMIRO Z (HOLST/1965) ALCYONE Z (HANN/1979)	RAYMOND (HOLST) - VALINE (HOLST) ALME (SF) - GRATA Z (HANN)
	VENUS KWPN (2002)	NABAB DE REVE BWP (1990)	QUIDAM DE REVEL (SF/1982)	JALISCO B (SF/1975) DIRKA (SF/1969)	ALME (SF) - TANAGRA (SF) NANKIN (SF) - ONDINE DE BAUY (SF)
			MELODIE EN FA (SF/1978)	ARTICHAUT (SF/1966) CARAVELLE (SF/1968)	PIERREVILLE (SF) - JARIOSE (SF) BEL AVENIR (SF) - UNIVERS (SF)
		FRELADY KWPN (1987)	BURGGRAAF (HOLST/1983)	LANDGRAF I (HOLST/1966) LOANDA (HOLST/1974)	LADYKILLER XX - WARTHURG (HOLST) COR DE LA BRERE (SF) - URBINE (HOLST)
			BEAUTY (KWPN/1983)	LE MEXICO (SF/1970) USIE (KWPN/1978)	MEXICO (SF) - PECHE MELBA (SF) ERDBALL XX - IRMA (KWPN)



“Whether the twins turn out to be great showjumpers like Darry Lou, or will perhaps continue their genetic lines as conduits for the DNA of their ancestors, they will always get to live a wonderful life as horses on Jeff’s equine acreage on the Manitoba prairies. Regardless, they are part of his herd of mares who carry powerful jumping genetics for the future of the sport. We are thankful for the one-in-a-million chance that was given to us to have the twins. We are especially thankful to the mare, Zena QV ‘super mom’ for carrying the babies to full term, as we could see that she was experiencing discomfort in carrying such a precious load.

“Coincidentally, Jeff finally got his colt with the last 2021 foal.” ■

As a prequel to this story, Ed Balcewicz explained that he and Jeff met in June 2019 quite by chance. Both Zena QV and Grama Open Main ‘Chachi’ were ‘back burner’ horses for whom their owners had no time. “I found Grama Open Main in a barn – three years in a stall, then two years at pasture, doing nothing during his prime. Five years

out of showjumping, and he competed at the Spruce Meadows Masters with just 12 weeks of training.

“Jeff purchased Zena QV from a friend who had no time for training. He decided to use her as a broodmare with a few different stallions – Grama Open Main, Vision van Hazelarenhoekje (Clinton x Quite Easy), and Far West (Muguet du Manoir x Quite Easy) – establishing a remarkable herd of mares with great jumping genetics.”

Grama Open Main was imported from Argentina in 2010, when his then owner gave him to Jeff (from the age of seven to 11) to train, ride, and use for breeding. They were a winning combination in the ring, moving up from 1m30 to 1m50, and the stallion produced around 15 successfully competing progeny. Sadly, in 2014 Chachi’s owner removed him from Jeff’s care and he spent three years in a barn, which was when Ed found him, saying: “His friendly, funny character attracted me to visit him every time I went with my daughter to ride at the same barn. I spent more time with him than watching anyone ride as he has an infectious personality.

After purchasing him in 2017, we moved him to Eastern Manitoba where he got lots of exercise on an acreage, which he loved. After two years we realized he needed more than we could offer, so I contacted a number of showjumping trainers.”

Ed and his daughter, Ainsley, reconnected Jeff with Chachi in June 2019 when they resumed showjumping. Jeff said: “I got my best friend back,” as Chachi was literally jumping for joy when he heard Jeff’s voice again for the first time. Luckily, Chachi still had all his ‘buttons’, quickly recovered his fitness, and the pair progressed. “While Chachi hadn’t jumped in five years, it was clear that he was happy to have a purpose and a job again.” He and Jeff went to the Spruce Meadows Masters in 2019, completing two nice rounds. According to Ed; “While he didn’t place, he didn’t look out of place.”

It was at this time that Jeff and Ed were inspired to have more conversations about breeding and, since then, Ed has promised that Chachi would always remain at Jeff’s farm, as it’s where he’ll enjoy the best possible life, as well as a hopeful return to the showjumping circuit post Covid-19.

J.L.

Dutch Harness Horses are Boyd Exell's first choice

BY YVONNE BUIS-FRANKEN / KWPN

PHOTOGRAPHY: DIRK CAREMANS

Boyd Exell is the reigning four-in-hand driving world champion, and for many years has used Dutch Harness Horses in his team, that have brought him much success. "The uphill movement and the amount of spirit is just what I am looking for."

In fact, Boyd Excell has been honoured with the world champion's title no fewer than five times. In Tryon, NC, he prolonged the title that he'd also won in Breda 2016, Caen 2014, Riesenbeck 2012, and Lexington, KY 2010. All of these titles were won with Dutch Harness Horses in his team. Naturally, he's very fond of the breed. "It is very simple in this sport," the Australian driver explains. "You're only as good as your horses. You've got to have good horse power to be better than the rest. They are the icing on the cake."

Suitability

Exell: "The Dutch Harness Horses are very suitable for this sport. Over the years the sport has evolved a lot, and so did the Harness Horses. My first experience with Harness

Horse was about 30 years ago with stallions like Fabricius and Manno. Since then I've also had a lot of experience with other stallions like Ahoy, who's offspring could do with a little more spirit but had lovely movement, and Patijn, that had quite a lot of spirit. Currently I'm using Delviros and Vulcanos, but also Crescendo and Cizandro offspring. For me they are the best. There are several reasons why they are great for our sport. First, they have an affordable price and the availability is good. Besides that there is large variety in colours, which is important if you like a matching team."

Pulling power

In the four-in-hand sport you often see dressage horses being used, but for Exell the Harness Horse has lots of



advantages: “The big difference is that these horses are bred to pull carriages. Of course Holsteiners, Oldenburgers, and Hannovarians go well with a carriage as well, it is not that they can’t do it. But they are bred to carry the weight of a rider, not to pull a carriage. That makes a big difference. When you are in a marathon for an hour-and-a-half, two hours, and the horses are getting tired, they need to have that bit of extra fighting spirit. The Hackney and Harness Horses have that and are able to give you the edge.”

Breeding

Harness Horse breeders breed for the showing. Is that enough to provide you the future four-in-hand top horses? “Actually, the great Harness Horse show horses are exactly the same horses that we are looking for as our competition horses. And is often also the same horse that is good for my daughter or son to drive. A good horse is a good horse. I feel we are looking for the same product, but for our sport we do need a very good walk, a super character. The trainability is the same as what makes them so good for the Harness Horse show ring. They’ve got to have the spirit and love what they are doing. Over the past 15 years, I’ve seen a huge improvement in the horses. The old-fashioned Harness Horse and Gelder type, had super characters. But then they became very modern. The KWPN is keeping that in line. For instance, by letting them not become too small. For me the perfect size is 1.62 to 1.67. If they are too small or too big,

Boyd Exell appeared on the livestream of the Online Harness Horse Stallion Show of the KWPN to talk about the horses in his team. You can watch the entire interview on www.KWPN.tv

they will become a bit harder to manage. But they also need that extra bit of spirit.”

A good walk

The Dutch-based driver can sometimes be found as a spectator at the Harness Horse shows in the Netherlands. “What you see then is that it is almost as if the drivers are turning a key when they come out of the arena. Straight away the horses relax and show a good walk. A great horse doesn’t have any problem to change its job from show horse to team horse. You need the perfect balance of character and trainability in a top horse. A stallion like Delviro gives in my opinion exactly the right trainability for our sport, while he might do well with a little more ‘hackney-fight’ for the Harness Horse shows. Overall, I think the breeders are doing a great job and we just follow and pick the best horses for us, wherever we can.”

As in all equestrian sports, health and durability are very important factors when choosing horses. “I can say that the general maintenance and veterinary costs with these horses are quite low. There are other breeds that require a lot more attention, but many of my competitions horses are still doing well at 18, 19 or even 20 years old. At the highest level competitions. That’s a good testament to the breed, I would say. “

Climbing a mountain

Exell buys his horses young. “I try to acquire them at two-and-half, three years old. It takes two years to teach them exactly what we want from them, and then you need another two to three years to be able to train them to world championship level. At the Dutch Stallion Show I see the better horses, which make it an easy place to find myself the right horses for the future, that’s why I like to go there.

“I’ve got about 40 horses, of which 12 to 15 are for the outdoor competitions. About 80% are Harness Horses. That’s really the breed that I love. At a young age, I started with Hackney Horses. That style of horse and the uphill feeling in the movement, that is really what I love. A Harness Horse is climbing an invisible mountain, that feels great. And when you have four of those horses in front of you, that’s just brilliant.” ■



Five top (international) riders, five Uriko offspring

BY DESIRÉE DAHN / HOLSTEINER VERBAND

PHOTOGRAPHY: HOLSTEINER VERBAND

For some time now, Uriko (Untouchable - Wizzard x Lavito) had been considered an insider tip among breeders. But these times are long gone as, by now, a number of top (international) showjumping riders already have an offspring by Uriko in their stable.

The KWPN-registered Untouchable son – tracing back to Holsteiner mare family 4172 through Lavito, Corrado I, and Ronald – has developed into a sought-after jumping horse sire. Under the saddle of Thomas Konle, Maximilian Gräfe, and later Ebba Johansson, the just 14-year-old Holsteiner Verband stallion had been collecting his own jumping results up to 1m50 level for around 18 months, while attending to stud duties, and for good reason. Quite a few of his offspring are well on their way to arriving at the international show jumping scene.

Having attracted already a lot of attention, the stallion Uricas vd Kattevennen (damsire Cassini I) bred by Otto Boje Schoof (Hedwigenkoog), has been at the stable of Dutch championship rider Harrie Smolders since March this year. Under young Belgian Alexander Housen, this Uriko son had already made a name for himself for example at the World Breeding Championship for Young Horses in Lanaken.

In early May 2021, the now nine-year-old Zangersheide-licensed stallion, whose second dam is no other than Caretino daughter Chika's Way (Janne Friederike Meyer-Zimmermann), negotiated his first international course with Harrie Smolders as the combination competed in classes up to 1m40 level in Valkenswaard. According Harrie Smolders; "I'm very happy I've been given the ride of a horse like Uricas, and proud to see him through the next steps of his career. He is very special horse, very careful and light on his feet, with loads of ability and super motivated when performing around a course. I'm really looking forward to things to come."

Since August 2020, Uniquo (damsire Cancara) bred by Günther Schüder (Barenfleth), has been the stablemate of Jerome Guery's European champion Quel Homme de Hus. The eight-year-old stallion arrived at the Belgian championship rider's stable through Bertrand Masneri. This

spring the combination collected promising results up to 1m45 level during the Sunshine tour in Oliva, Spain, and recently in St. Tropez, France. "Besides his very good technique, Uniquo also has the right attitude for our sport, and his training is progressing steadily. I have high hopes for his future and look upon him as a potential championship contender," Jerome Guery said about his up-and-coming talent.

For some time now, Richard Vogel has taken over the training of Uriko daughter Charisma HS for her owner Hugo Simon: "Like so many other high-achieving sport horses, Charisma HS has a special personality – in a positive way." According to Vogel, the now seven-year-old chestnut mare bred by Christoph Schmidt (Ober-Mörten) is not only an absolute fighter, but he also attests to her cleverness and exceptional ability. "Charisma competed in her first overnight horse show ever, when she won the national championship at the age of five. In a way, she was still lacking in strength and experience for such a challenge – and actually, when saddling her for the final on Sunday, we noticed that she was a bit tired. But when the bell sounded



Uricas v/d Kattevennen (Cassini I) has been in the stable of Dutch championship rider Harrie Smolders since March 2021



The just 14-year-old Holsteiner Verband stallion Uriko (Untouchable) had been collecting jumping results himself and has produced many promising top jumpers

she summoned all her strength and outdid herself. This has not changed; she fights like a lioness when jumping a course,” her rider said.

Even though Hugo Simon and Richard Vogel have long-term plans for Charisma, they have her scheduled for national and international youngster classes this year. Like for example Mannheim, where the chestnut mare recently gave her all once again when the starting bell sounded.

According to Christian Hess, Untouched (damsire Cartani), a mare at his stable who was bred by Doris Schimmer in Heide, is definitely an exceptional talent. “As yet, she has always been the star pupil among my horses,” the trainer raves about the now nine-year-old mare. “She has been exceeding any expectations I’ve had for her at any age.” Hess describes her as maximum careful, very intelligent and with the most desirable attitude. This year has seen Untouched jump her first international ranking classes and place right away – most recently at the Herzlake CSI. Over the next months she will be given opportunity to gently step up to higher levels.

Unikum (damsire Contender) is seven

this year and the youngest of these up-and-coming Uriko offspring. Bred by Hanno Köhncke (Badendorf), the gelding left the Neumunster Holstenhall as the highest-priced lot in 2018. To begin with, his new owner, Napoleon Valdez Ferrand, had him produced at the Luther family facility in Wittmold for two years. Last autumn, Alonso Valdez Prado, who trains with Jeroen Dubbeldam, took over the scopey Uriko son and the combination successfully competed in their first horse shows in the United States. Having now returned to Europe, Unikum is being prepared for his next career step.

Uricas, Untouched and Uniquo are from Uriko’s first crops and have already arrived at international level in competition. But also with

younger offspring like Charisma HS and Unikum, Uriko has definitely proven his ability to sire exceptional sport horses. All the riders of these five Uriko offspring have confirmed one fact in particular: they are very clever jumping horses with the right attitude for the sport. These qualities are in high demand, today more than ever before – and they cannot be taught, but are inbred. ■



Owned by Hugo Simon, Charisma HS (Uriko-Cassito) advanced to the national 5yo championships in 2019. In the hands of Richard Vogel she is now very successfully competing in the international youngster tour

Fabulous dressage finale sees ‘Steiny’ heading to retirement

By SALLY REID

PHOTOGRAPHY: LIBBY LAW PHOTOGRAPHY

Takapoto Estate hosted its first dressage competition recently and, after their season of cancellations and disappointments, dressage riders welcomed the opportunity to compete at such a superb venue.

The show was organized by Dressage New Zealand in double-quick time and was enthusiastically supported by leading riders from around the country. It went a long way towards compensating for the loss of 2021 Horse of the Year; in fact, many consider it to be one of the best dressage fixtures ever staged here.

Final victory for Vom Feinsten

The GP freestyle attracted a much bigger audience than is usual, and taking place under lights at night witnessed a very popular win by Vom Feinsten (Fiedermark - Wellcome x Weltmeyer) and his owner/rider Julie Brougham. These two have had more than their fair share of health issues and injuries over their 12-year career, not least of which is Julie Brougham's ongoing battle with abdominal cancer. However, they've also enjoyed some wonderful success stories. They won the FEI World Dressage Challenge in 2011, setting a New Zealand record in the Prix St Georges. In 2015 they won NZ Dressage Horse of the Year with national record scores in the freestyle and special; they won the title again in 2016, setting a new Australasian record. The pair represented New Zealand at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games, and also at 2018 WEG in Tryon, NC.

Both have been unwell during New Zealand's summer, and this show was their first competition in six months.

Vom Feinsten, a Rheinland gelding, was bred in Germany by Rudi Henn; his dam, Wellcome, is a Staatsprämie mare from Hanoverian Stamm 4190401, Schridde 805. He has two Staatsprämie full sisters, Frederike RH and Federweisse RH, and was initially earmarked for stallion licensing, but proved too unruly. Federweisse RH has a Sir Donnerhall daughter, Serenissima RH who is competing in Europe at U25 GP with Lisa Prummenbaum, and a gelding son Simalabim 55, also by Sir Donnerhall, who is competing at PSG level in Poland.

Their superbly bred sire, Fiedermark I (Florestan x Werther x Einblick) was the 1996 Bundeschampion and it was his name that caught Brougham's attention when she was shopping for a dressage horse in Europe. He was purchased from Ton de Ridder's stables in Aachen in 2008.

Steiny is 18 now, and was officially retired at an unsaddling ceremony at Takapoto. His larger-than-life

presence in the dressage rings will be missed by every New Zealand dressage fan.

Runner up to Vom Feinsten in the freestyle was Windermere J'Obei W (Johnson NOP - Miss Pompeii xx x Pompeii xx), a New Zealand Warmblood gelding bred by David Woolley and ridden by Melissa Galloway. He is a superb performer with wins and record scores on both sides of the Tasman; his titles include 2020 Dressage Horse of the Year, and 2021 National Grand Prix Champion.

Third and four places went to Hanoverians by Anamour: the mare Aphrodite (Anamour - Lacota Sioux xx x Jacinto xx), bred by her owners Belinda and Emily Stuchbery and ridden by Cooper Oborn, third; Andreas (Anamour - Blue Willow x Dynamit) was fourth for owner/rider Vanessa Way. This gelding has made a quite amazing recovery from what was considered to be a career-ending injury last year.

FEI Young Horse classes

These were a final opportunity for the country's best young dressage horses to impress in their age-groups – and impress they did! The winners and top placegetters all showed super ability and are indicative of the growing strengths of breeding in both New Zealand and Australia.

The top four-year-old was New Zealand Warmblood Copper Mirage (Astek Quatermaster - Greengates Alliage x Belcam Atlantis), a gelding who claimed this win with a score of nearly 80%. He was bred by Ann Fletcher and is owned and ridden by Charlotte Grant. His dam, Greengate's Alliage is an Australian Warmblood; her sire Belcam Atlantis, another Australian Warmblood, is by Azarro, an Oldenburg son of Argentinus.

Runner-up was a super young Rheinlander stallion, the jet-black Fürst Hit EDH (Fürstenball - Neversfelde Jazz Hit x Sandro Hit) who was the top Rheinland foal of the 2017 inspection tour under the watchful eye of Dr. Ludwig Christmann. Fürst Hit EDH was bred by his owner, Victoria Wall of Elite Dressage Horses, who also rides him.

Olympic eventer Clarke Johnstone was the rider of the third-placed four-year-old, the beautiful Hanoverian mare Innuendo II (Royaldik - Inspiring x Sandreo) bred by Janene Maxwell and Jean Johnstone.



A fitting conclusion to a 12-year career as Vom Feinsten (Fiedermark – Wellcome x Weltmeyer) and his owner/rider Julie Brougham leave the dressage arena for the last time

Top 5yo title goes to stallion CDS Donstar

Another black stallion, CDS Donstar (Donnerubin - Gymnastic Grace x Gymnastik Star) took the five-year-old win with a score of 83.6%. This gorgeous boy was 2020's four-year-old Dressage Horse of the Year, has won his last five starts, and is a very exciting breeding and competition prospect. He is owned by his breeder Jacinda Younger of Chevaux Dansants Stables, and ridden by Cooper Oborn. Both his sire and dam are imported Australian Warmbloods and registered with the New Zealand Warmblood Association (NZWA). His dam, bred by Naomi O'Farrell, is in the NZWA Mare Studbook, while his sire, Donnerubin (Donautraum x De Niro x Rubinstein I), has three-star rating with the NZWA.

Donnerubin stands at Chevaux Dansants, and also sired the horse who finished second in this class, Dolcetto II (Donnerubin - Winter Damson x Distelfink). This NZWA gelding was bred by Marion Payton-Sentch, is owned by Wendy Belsham and Samantha Belsham, and ridden by the latter.

River Park Wyoming (Worldly I - Anabela x Anamour), a Hanoverian gelding bred by Renee Hart at River Park Farm near Auckland, and owned and ridden by Gregory Smith, was third. His sire, Worldly I, is a wonderful son of Weltmeyer out of a Brentano II mare, and has a number of Staatsprämie daughters and licensed sons in Europe.

AWHA wins 6yo class

This prize went to Byalee Warlock (Byalee Wow Wie RW

- Byalee Beautiful x Byalee Briar) an Australian Warmblood (AWHA) gelding bred by Ann-Maree Lourey at Byalee Stables in Australia. The lovely chestnut is owned and ridden by Sarah Holmes. His sire, Byalee Wow Wie, is by the Grand Prix Hanoverian Wie Weltmeyer (Weltmeyer, Stamm 4189101, Schridde 608), out of a Thoroughbred mare. Byalee Warlock did well in four- and five-year-old classes in Australia before coming to New Zealand. He has a younger gelding full brother in New Zealand, Byalee Wizard, who is just beginning his career.

Second place went to the NZWA gelding Jagermeister CD (Rodrigo III - Kookaburra Park Rio Diva x Rituel), who was bred by Bailey Williams. This horse's maternal grandsire, Rituel (BWP), also has Weltmeyer blood, through his own sire Weltmeyer II. Jagermeister's Australian-based sire, Rodrigo III, is a Hanoverian by Rotspon and was

bred in Germany by Helmut Hoppe.

GC Lucius (Limonit - River Park Arlington x Anamour), a Hanoverian gelding bred by Gregory Smith, was the third-placed six-year-old. He is owned by Elizabeth Farrell and ridden by Caitlin Benzie.

MH Fanfare claims 7yo honours

Two marvellous mares topped the scores in this class. The winner was Fanfare MH (Fürstenball - Danzare MH x Dancier), bred and owned by Judith Matthews of Matthews Hanoverians and ridden by Casey Burton. Fanfare has been a star since the earliest days of her career, and was the leading mare in the 2017 studbook inspections under Dr. Ludwig Christmann, as well as the overall top young dressage horse of 2018, with wins at HOY, the National Championships, and Future Stars. She has an embryo transfer son by Swarovski, Suede MH, who was born in 2019.

Second place went to Windermere Zephora W (Zonik NOP - Scarlett Johanson x Johnson NOP), who was bred by David Woolley. She is owned and ridden by Melissa Galloway of Windermere Equestrian, and had not competed for two years, as she needed sinus surgery. Her breeding is certainly eye-catching – as is Zephora herself.

Another by Donnerubin, Devonian STS (Donnerubin - Southwind Rendezvous x Ramirez) finished in third place. This Oldenburg gelding was bred by Toni and Colin Louisson, and is owned and ridden by Toni Louisson. ■

Estonian Sport Horse 2021 stallion licensing

By LIIS IRA / ESHBS

PHOTOGRAPHY: LIIS IRA

The Estonian Sport Horse (ESHBS) Breeding Day and stallion selection was held at the beginning of May at the Tähtvere Equestrian Centre. Tähtvere stable is an active equine breeding centre in Estonia, where advanced breeding techniques such as embryo transfers, alongside artificial insemination, are successfully practiced.

In their cosy surroundings of the Tähtvere Equestrian Centre, a total of nine stallions were presented to a committee of seven judges and two test riders. As an ex KWPN stallion test rider, and on this occasion an ESHBS judge, Hanno Ellermann explained; "Ivo Ots was a very talented jumping test rider as he presents horses just the way they are naturally without imposing himself. Dressage rider Dina Ellermann, unbeatable champion of Estonia in dressage, can in 10 minutes test if the stallions are in self-carriage and balanced, and if mostly jumping-oriented stallions can actually lengthen their stride."

The influence of Pikachu de Muze

For obvious reasons the testing was held without an audience, but breeders were able to follow via a live broadcast.

There has been some discussion over the years as to whether stallions are ready in the early spring of their third year to be tested under saddle. This year proved that they are.



'Best in show' – Peyton V, a three-year-old EHS stallion by Pikachu de Muze, bred by Peeter Viiard, with test rider Ivo Ots

Peyton V, a three-year-old EHS stallion by Pikachu de Muze performed and jumped to a well-deserved 'best in show' title. He was bred by Peeter Viiard who, many years ago, also picked up and imported this phenomenal Kannan son.

Pikachu de Muze (Kannan - Ta Belle van Sombekke x Chin Chin) came to Estonia as a foal from the De Muze stud and has largely influenced Estonian sport horse breeding. He has produced some of our first Grand Prix level horses, including Dorado (ridden by Ireland's Max O'Reilly Hyland) and Patrol V (for Great Britain's Louise Saywell), as well as several 1m40 to 1m45 level horses. Out of his 21 descendants, more than half have shown results to at least 1m40.

He has also produced several breeding stallions, including Ponsee V, the sire of Ping Pong V who jumped into sixth place at the 2017 World Breeding Championships for Young Horses in Lanaken under the saddle of Estonian international rider Paul Argus.

Of course, Pikachu became world champion of young horses at the age of six in 2006 in Lanaken with David McPherson (GBR) after being sold away from Estonia to Paul Schockemöhle. Unfortunately, another magnificent stallion, known as Pikap died in 2008 while jumping with Ireland's Billy Twomey, after breaking a leg on landing from a fence.

Pikachu de Muze himself had a jumping style that was a little special, but his power and willingness to jump was recognised by ESHBS and he was licenced as a breeding stallion from an early age. It is therefore a great pleasure for all sport horse breeders in Estonia that after many years (before Peyton V, a filly, was born by Pikachu de Muze at 2014) we again have Pikachu de Muze blood available for breeding.

Good breeding stallions

Two other stallions who received positive feedback from the jumping test rider were the four-year-old ESHBS sport horse Chiron K, a grandson of Balou du Reventon; and the five-year-old Oldenburger Carpo (Corall x Argentinus).

One of the best former breeders in Estonia, Peeter Raid† had a vision to use Balou du Reventon on the elite mare



Chiron K – a grandson of Balou du Reventon – in the hands of dressage test rider Dina Ellerman

Thisbe (Beg xx) in 2011. As a result, the ESHBS licensed stallion Cahir N was born in 2012. That stallion won the Estonian Breeding Jumping Championships at age of five, was sold, but has now returned to Estonia. Jumping at 1m40 level, he is producing many interesting ESH youngsters who have already been performing at the ESHBS final inspection, and now a first descendant has been approved for breeding. Cahin N is something of a 20-year milestone for ESH breeding, showing the quality of a studbook that can produce its own breeding stallions.

Public x-rays for ESHBS stallions

Approved stallions have, for many years already, had to present x-rays to the ESHBS breeding committee, or make an OCD test. At the beginning of 2021 the system of how to evaluate the x-rays and present the outcome to the breeders was finally completed, and ESHBS now has a system of 'stars'. Classification is topped by four stars – 'excellent'; continuing with three stars 'good'; two stars 'satisfactory'; and one star 'problematic'. While none of the stallions will be rejected for bad x-rays, the risk information will always be made public for the breeders, when a more detailed conversation can be held between mare and stallion owners. X-rays are evaluated by the University Clinic in Latvia, and ESHBS hopes to raise the quality and reliability of ESH sport horses by exploiting such measures. ■

New Zealand 3DE and young-horse championships

By SALLY REID

PHOTOGRAPHY: TAKE THE MOMENT PHOTOGRAPHY

For some time now, Uriko (Untouchable - Wizzard x Lavito) had been considered an insider tip among breeders. But these times are long gone as, by now, a number of top (international) showjumping riders already have an offspring by Uriko in their stable.

Victory in the 2021 CCI4*-L national four-star championship to claim the Wills Trophy was Trudeauu (Magistad - Clarity x Valiant SF), a 14-year-old gelding with Hanoverian, Selle Français, Arab, and Thoroughbred blood. He was bred by his owner, dressage judge Winky Foley, and is ridden by former Olympian Matthew Grayling. The Taupo cross-country track was designed by Chris Ross, and was a proper test of talent. After the event, Grayling said; "It's as tough as you get. People underestimate what we do in New Zealand."

Trudeauu had a CCI4*-S win at Taupo last year, won the three-star at Kihikihi in 2019, as well as the Taupo CIC3* in 2018. His sire, Magistad (Silver Reflection xo - Sorello x Allermund) is an Arabian-Warmblood cross, while his dam-sire Allermund (Absatz - StPrSt Alcantara x Aumund) was one of the first Hanoverians to arrive in New Zealand. Magistad himself has a licensed Warmblood sire son, Never Never (out of Song Line x Wohler II), and both stallions have produced winning offspring.

Trudeauu's dam, Clarity is a granddaughter of the great Galoubet A; her sire, Valiant (Galoubet A x Bravisimo xx x Bang Up xx) was imported from the USA and has four-star rating with the NZWA.

Second place went to Belmont Holy Smoke xx (Faltaat xx - Flaring Star xx x Dehere xx), a 12-year-old gelding bred by Grangewilliam Stud in Taranaki. He is owned by Clive Long and ridden by Abigail Long, and has a very good competition record, including a CCI4*-S at Matamata recently and the three-star title at the North Island Championships.

The graceful gelding Artist xx (Guillotine xx - Maxamore xx x Volksraad xx), who was bred by Windsor Park Stud and is owned by Monica Oakley and Mary Petersen took third place. He is ridden by Monica Oakley and at only nine years of age is still relatively young, but has had plenty of success, including the 4*-L win at Puhinui. His sire, Guillotine xx, has another good gelding son, DSE Cluny, who competes at the top level, and also sired the nine-year-old mare Cutting Edge xx, who finished second in this year's three-star championship at Taupo (see below).

Anonymous (Anamour - Morning Star xx x Classic Fame xx) was fourth with his owner/rider Abby Lawrence. He is a 13-year-old Hanoverian, bred by Linda Hunt and sired by one of the most successful stallions ever to stand in this

country. Anamour (Aalborg - Lucille x Lombard) was from Stamm 1189109 Schridde 439. He was bred at Zuchthof Bosch and stood for just 10 years here before his death in 2003. His list of winning progeny at the top levels of all three disciplines is simply huge.

Fifth to Thunder Cat (Littorio - Allie Cat x Otis), a 13-year-old Holsteiner-Thoroughbred cross, bred, owned and ridden by Christen Lane. His sire Littorio (Lord) is from Stamm 3558 and was the 1995 Verband grand champion. His dam, Allie Cat, is the daughter of a palomino stock horse and a Thoroughbred stallion who was also a very good eventer with wins at the former three-star level for Lane (née Hayde).

Rockin It xx (Traditionally xx - Tilga xx x Honour Grades xx), a 14-year-old gelding bred by D. and I. Mackay, finished sixth for Abbey Thompson.

Piccadilly Trophy CCI3-L*

This very tough competition, which more than half the field failed to finish, was absolutely dominated by Thoroughbreds, the winner being a 13-year-old gelding, Day Walker xx (Antonius Pius xx - County Down xx x County xx), bred in Australia by W., B., & N. Holland, and owned and ridden by Shannon Galloway.

The mare Cutting Edge (Guillotine xx - Qui Vivra Verra xx x Stravinsky xx) bred by M.R. Nicholson, was second for her owner/rider Vicky Browne-Cole. She also won the Charlton Prize for the best performance by a mare. Her sire, Guillotine xx, is definitely a Thoroughbred to look out for in current and future eventing pedigrees. The G1-winning racehorse was bred in New Zealand by Cambridge Hunt Ltd, and stands at Windsor Park Stud. His own sire, Montjeu xx, is an Irish Thoroughbred by the great Sadler's Wells xx.

Third went to Good Timing xx (Nom de Jeu xx x Baloushe xx x Black Minnaloushe xx) with Monica Oakley, a nine-year-old gelding formerly ridden by Amanda Pottinger. Coup Perfectly Done xx (Perfectly Ready xx - Sparkling Rose xx x Wolfhound xx) bred by Westbury Stud, was fourth. He is owned by Georgia Bennett and Lois Montgomery, and ridden by Abbey Lawrence.

Another nine-year-old gelding, Phoenician Zatak (Radway Talk of the Town - Sunny xx x Sunray xx), was fifth: he is a very good-looking cross between a Thoroughbred and a British



The Ayo LSH Chivenor Bloemenhof and Renee Faulkner in the showjumping phase

Riding Pony, bred by Phoenician Stud and owned and ridden by Kelli Frewin.

Sixth place for the beautiful Hanoverian mare Henton Audacious (Anamour - Distancia x Distelfink). She was bred by Henton Lodge Hanoverians and is owned and ridden by Abigail Long. Audacious was the winner of the CCI2*-L young-horse class at Puhinui in 2019 and was third in the CCI3*-L at Puhinui in December last year.

All six of these horses deserve special praise for their great performances in a class which saw so many eliminations and retirements!

NZ National Young Event Horse

This coveted title is judged on dressage, showjumping, conformation, cross-country jumping, and gallop. Unaccountably, numbers were low this year, only eight, but the quality was high and marks were very close in the top three places.

LSH Chivenor Bloemenhof (Contenda - Gina VT Bloemenhof BWP x Washington DC Heldenlaan), the only four-year-old in a class dominated by five-year-olds, won with a score of 80.12. The handsome black Warmblood gelding, 'Chicko' was bred by his owner, Alex Donald of Lochinvar Sport Horses, and ridden at Taupo by Renee Faulkner, who had every confidence in him before the event. "He likes a big fence and is super-brave. We always had this event in mind for him; he's a very good all-rounder and already has three really nice disciplines. He's really progressed in the last six months; he tried his heart out at Taupo and didn't put a foot wrong."

Chivenor's sire, Contenda (Contendro - Ballerina x Bolero) is a licensed Hanoverian from Stamm 1188809, Schridde 630, bred in Germany by Heinrich Tamm, and imported to Australia as a two-year-old. He is from Contendro's first foal crop (2001) and has had wins at dressage, eventing, and jumping; in fact, he was awarded the AWhA's Gold Medallion for performance after just 15 months of competing.

LSH Chivenor Bloemenhof's dam, Gina VT Bloemenhof (Washington DC - Samona van het Taterkuilenhof x Remondo), is also a European import, and the top mare at

Lochinvar Sport Horses. She is a BWP, bred by Vanemphem-Valée in Belgium, from Fokfamilie 1800, and competes at three-star eventing here, also ridden by Renee Faulkner.

'Chicko' was an embryo transfer foal, the first of four from Gina. "We have a rising three-year-old called Harry with the same breeding lines, and a rising two-year-old filly, Isla, by Chill Morning," says breeder Alex Donald of Lochinvar Sport Horses. "The youngest is a filly by Harley, Pippi, born in October 2020. Chicko had his first outing at the Northern Hawke's Bay Horse Trial in late April; he finished second overall on his dressage score, going double clear in the showjumping and cross-country."

While Chicko has now been gelded and is for sale, his frozen semen is stored at Equibreed. "We have also talked to Equibreed about storing eggs or implanted embryos from Gina VT Bloemenhof," says Alex Donald. "This would allow others to start their own breeding programme."

In second place at Taupo on a score of 79.07, and winner of the Best Thoroughbred prize, was Caio xx (Zacinto xx - Flowing xx x Straight Strike xx). This impressive five-year-old gelding was bred by J.R. Orr and is owned and ridden by Karen Patrick. His jumping was judged 'very good', while his gallop and conformation scores were the best in the class. His dressage performance let him down but is something that can no doubt be remedied. Caio's half-brother Tonga xx (Bertolini xx) won this event as a five-year-old in 2011 against a much bigger field – 26 competitors. He went on to have wins and placings in eventing, dressage, and jumping.

Third, and Best Mare with a score of 78.23 was Carousel (Grasshopper - Goewin xx x His Royal Highness xx), a five-year-old NZ Sport Horse bred and owned by Kate Wood, and ridden by Monica Oakley. Carousel has some interesting relatives in Europe, one of whom is Zirocco Blue. Her sire, Grasshopper, is by the Netherlands-bred NZWA Heritage stallion Oldenburg/Imperial (Inshallah xx - Gamene III x Weinstern) from Stamm 92, Fokfamilie 738, who left many a top performer across the disciplines here, and a lot of European progeny, including several licensed stallions and some very good KWPN mares. Among these was Acarla (prest ster), the dam of Mr Blue (Couperus) who received the keur predicate some years after his death. He in turn was the sire of Zirocco Blue, so young Carousel has quite an illustrious family on her sire's side. Just one more is Devon Ryan's super gelding Eddie Blue (Zirocco Blue).

Carousel's sire, Grasshopper, was bred by eventing bloodstock agent Jo Bridgman, a woman who certainly knows a good eventer when she sees one, and who cites his dam Inca xx (Dusky Hunter xx) as one of her favourite Thoroughbreds of all time: "She was the foundation mare of all the horses I've bred and was very special. I had so much fun competing her. She had a huge heart and was a very good jumper. Her own dam was a top steeplechaser."

Other Grasshopper progeny include three-star eventer Luminous, who sold to Thailand and competed in Europe, and a two-star eventing mare Topper II, who sold to Australia; she was out of a Brilliant Invader xx mare, Brilliance Galore. ■

Leading sires are...? Well, the leading sires!

BY CHRISTOPHER HECTOR

PHOTOGRAPHY: FEI

The dressage World Breeding Championship for Young Horses (WBCYH) would seem to contradict the facile assumption that young horse stars never go on to Grand Prix, they also confirm that the leading sires, are, well, the leading sires.

Admittedly, out of the five-year-old class at the first championships in 1999, there is only one notable Grand Prix Performer, Wahajama (Warkant x Acapulco), but out of the six-year-old class that year, there are several stars – most notably the ninth placegetter, Dutch entry, Lingham (Flemmingh x Columbus), and the fourth-placed Le Bo (Lauries Crusador xx x Eisenherz I) who joined the German team as reserve horse for the 2007 European championships. Ainsley's Quicksilver (Latano II x Touch of Fairway xx) who competes Grand Prix for Holland was 10th, and the reserve champion, Del Piero (Donnerhall x Matcho aa) enjoyed a moderately successful Grand Prix career before being sold to a Danish young rider.

The following year, the six-year-old championship was won by Laurentianer (Lauries Crusador xx x Grande) who later competed at an FEI level with Marlies van Baalen, although he never went as well for her as he did for his rider at the young-horse championships, Michael Farwick. The third placegetter, Ratino (Rubinstein x Schampus xx) competed Grand Prix successfully with Martina Hannover while the fifth placegetter, Donatha (Donnerhall x Pik Bube) had a wonderful Grand Prix career with Ellen Schulten-Baumer. Seventh placed Montecristo combined some of the most influential early Dutch dressage stallions – he was by Grand Prix competitor, El Corona (by Amor, out of a mare by Doruto, who at one stage had produced more FEI dressage horses than any other stallion in the world). El Corona was out of a mare by another Grand Prix stallion, Clavecimbel by Statuar (Tamersale xx) out of a mare by Apple King xx. Montecristo went on to compete Grand Prix with Kirsten Beckers.

Another in the top 10, Richard Kimble (Ribbeck x Rheingold) went Grand Prix with Isabell Werth. That's at least 50%; and while we're at it, the amount of close-up Thoroughbred blood is noteworthy.

The 2000 five-year-old championship also tells much the same story. The winner, Dimaggio competed Small Tour with his owner, and then became a very influential sire of dressage horses. Second, third and fourth to Roman Nature (Rohdiamant x Ehrentusch), Placido (Prestige Pilot x Watzmann), and Quantum Tyme (Quattro B x Argentinus) – all went on to compete in international classes.

Much the same story in 2001: The top two both

progressed to compete at an international level. The winner, Rubels (Rafürstinsels x Amethirst), despite an injury-interrupted career, went FEI with Hans Peter Minderhoud, while the second placed, Wanescos (Weltmeyer x Werther) rode Intermediaire II with Holga Finken before going to Ulla Saltzgeber. Seemingly it was not a happy marriage and the gelding disappeared...

The percentage to go on is even higher in the six-year-old age group. The winner, Cherie (Don Primero x Lanthan) had a spectacularly successful Prix St George career with Karen Rehbein and was starting Grand Prix when Mrs. Rehbein lost the ride.

The reserve champion, Münchhausen (Hohenstein x Königstein) became a member of the Danish dressage team with Fie Skarsoe, while third placegetter, Placido went on to be a successful young-rider horse for Laura Tomlinson. The fifth placegetter, Quando Quando (Quattro B x Akzent II) was a member of the Australian dressage team at WEG and the Olympic Games, while sixth placegetter, Negro (Ferro x Variant) was a Grand Prix winner with Ann van Olst before siring Valegro – one of the more famous dressage competitors of modern times.

Cut to 2002, when the five-year-old championship went to Don Davidoff (Don Gregory x Rubinstein) who after failing to make it as a breeding stallion – there was nothing wrong with his foals, just that they were very few and far between – enjoyed an FEI career with Laura Bechtolscheimer.

The reserve champion, Diamond Hit (Don Schufro x Ramino) was a wonderful Grand Prix competitor and went on to be an important sire, while sixth-placed Comic B (Come On x Platon) competed Grand Prix with Carola Koppelman before disappearing into the USA.

The six-year-old title was won by Rubels, with Wanescos in reserve. Fourth to Weltissimo (Welt Hit II x Barsoi xx) who became a Grand Prix star with Hubertus Schmidt. And right down in 16th place was Hexigons Ollright (Rubiqual x El Corona), who became a member of the Dutch team.

The five-year-old championship in 2003 saw a real second-generation dressage stallion claim victory – Fürst Heinrich (by Florestan out of a Donnerhall mare). Sadly he died soon after but not before he sired some excellent finalists in the young-horse championships, and some



Fourth in the 2005 5yo WBCYH – Totilas, ridden by Edward Gal

stallions that have really made their mark. There weren't many horses in this lineup that went on to the 'big sport': Fourth placegetter, Baroncelli (Bergamon x Matcho aa) competed Grand Prix in the USA, while 10th placegetter, Show Star 2 (Sandro Hit x Feinbrand) was a junior and young-rider star with Sophie Holkenbrink.

The six-year-old championship was also won by another horse that died way too soon, Poetin (Sandro Hit x Brentano II) in front of Painted Black (Gribaldi x Ferro) who celebrated a stellar Grand Prix career, and is now an influential sire.

More stallion 'stars' than 'competition' stars were in the ribbons in 2004. First and second in the five-year-old class were Florencio (Florestan x Weltmeyer) who never made it to the big sport, and Lord Loxley (Lord Sinclair x Weltmeyer) ditto. Bellissimo (Beltain x Romadour II) was a moderately successful Grand Prix competitor.

Still there were some handy future FEI horses in the top 10, like Daianira van de Helle (Dream of Glory x Rituel), a Grand Prix winner at Bremen; Schianto (Gribaldi x Schwadronneur), ninth in a World Cup final in Göteborg, and a GP winner in Oslo; Spargo (Krack C x Boreas) who was a very good Grand Prix competitor with Theo Hanzen; and Scandic (Solos Carex x Amiral) who won some very big Grand Prix classes with Patrik Kittel.

The 2004 six-year-old championship produced no competition superstars, but more than a few that made it to the big tour; such as French Kiss (Florestan x Donnerhall) who competed with success in young-rider classes with Laura Swain; Baroncelli (Bergamon x Matcho aa) a Grand Prix horse in the United States; Rhodium (Ferro x Ramiro), a successful young-rider horse with Diederik von Silfhout; King Arthur (Buddenbrock x Consul), Grand Prix with Petra Wilm; Royal-Rubin (Rubinstein x Brandenburger) a Grand Prix competitor with Heike Kemmer; and the Holsteiner,

Carabas (Carnaby x Roberto) who competed Grand Prix with a number of riders, including Andreas Helgstrand.

The 2005 dressage WBCYH saw the emergence of one of the superstars of modern times; Totilas (Gribaldi x Glendale) who finished fourth in the five-year-old class. The horse that won the class, Damon Hill (Donnerhall x Rubinstein) won the six-year-old championship the following year, before becoming a formidable Grand Prix competitor with Helen Langhanenberg.

Reserve champion, Donnerball (Donnerhall x Alabaster) had a somewhat limited international career, competing twice at Grand Prix level with Kristina Bröring-Sprehe in Doha in 2013. The sixth placegetter, Rusty (Rubinstein x Weltmeyer) placed in an Intermediaire II at Herford, but I can find no evidence he went on to Grand Prix.

Another placegetter in the five year olds that year was the Jazz son, Tango (Contango). who went on to be a serious, if somewhat erratic Grand Prix competitor with Hans Peter Minderhoud. Other placegetters include Westerland (Welser x Loredo), 13th, who is described as an international competitor with Sascha Schulz, but I can find no results on the FEI database. Liaison (Londonderry x Gralswächter) placed 15th, and under the suitably Gallic title, Liaison ENE *HN won the Saumur CDI Grand Prix in 2016.

The 2005 six-year-old class winner was Florencio (Florestan x Weltmeyer) following on from his five-year-old win the previous year. The stallion went on to compete Prix St Georges, but never made the leap to the big tour. Reserve went to Spirit Freedom (Figaro x Sion) who competed Small Tour in the UK. Third to Insterburg (Hohenstein x Girogio Armani), who became a serious Grand Prix competitor with Carola Koppelman. Fourth to Spargo (see above). Fifth was Baldessarini (Breitling W, out of the amazing Devisa by Diego xx – Baldessarini is one of six (?) Grand Prix competitors out of the mare). Baldessarini was a World Cup winner with Gina Capellmann-Lütkeemeier.

The seventh placegetter, Sister de Jeu (Gribaldi x Amor), another product of the breeding program of Dutch master Huub van Helvoirt – and the mare recorded Grand Prix wins with Edward Gal. Ninth was Media Luna (Münchhausen x Karon) who competed Small Tour. Schianto (Gribaldi x Schwadronneur) a GP winner in Oslo, finished 10th. Thirteenth to Daianira van de Helle and Vicky Smits, Grand Prix stars...

So there we are, the first decade done and dusted, and proof that a great many young horse stars became extremely good Grand Prix competitors. I am also getting the impression that Gribaldi is the most influential young horse sire of them all, so let's see what the next decade reveals.

The second WBCYH decade

In 2006, the five-year-old championship victory went to the Dutch pair Uzzo (Lancet x C-Indoctro) and Patrik van der Meer after the favorite, Sir Donnerhall (Sandro Hit x

Donnerhall) gave Ulf Möller a very uncomfortable time. Third place to another Sandro Hit, San Remo (Donnerhall) with Susan Pape.

Uzzo's sire, Lancet was a Grand Prix winner with Emma Hindle, and Uzzo was a member of the gold medal winning Dutch team at the European Championships of 2015 – becoming a consistent GP placegetter with van der Meer.

Sir Donnerhall, like his sire, quit competition after young-horse classes, while his full brother, Sir Donnerhall II has been a fine big tour competitor for Morgan Barbeçon Mestre.

The sixth placed Smeyers Molberg (Michelino x Rambo) went on to compete Grand Prix with Denmark's Marcela Krinke-Susmei, while eighth-placed Hermes (Rambo x Urbino) proved an excellent Grand Prix competitor for Anne Svanberg. Santana (Sandro Hit x Rubinstein) in 10th progressed to five-star star level with Minna Telde.

The six-year-old championship of 2006 went to Ingrid Klimke and Damon Hill, whom we saw winning the previous year before going on to celebrate big tour glory.

Biagiotti WW (a full sister to Baldessarini, Breitling x Diego xx) placed third and became a fine Grand Prix horse for Brigitte Wittig. Holga Finken rode Dablino FRH (De Niro x Wanderbursch II) into fifth spot, before the gelding joined the German dressage team with Annabel Balkenhol.

Equitop Torricelli LS (Florestan x Pion) placed eighth, and enjoyed junior and young-rider success with Aimee Meddens. Ninth-placed De Le Vega (Davignon x Wolkenstein II) competed Grand Prix with Denmark's Alexandra Lampe, and then with Japan's Toshihiko Kiso.

Rounding out the top 10 we have Twinkel R (Freestyle x Hamlet) ridden at the worlds by Willem Jan Schotte, and later competing Grand Prix with Willem Jan and Hubertus Schmidt.

In 2007 the five-year-old winner was Susan Pape's Cayenne W (Carabas x Bismark), but this was the mare's 15 minutes of fame. The third placegetter, Noble Dream

(Caprimond x Donnerhall) did go on to win at Grand Prix level with Marc Boblet. Likewise, fourth-placed Danish entry, Marburg's Polka Hit (Sandro Hit x Temple Wind xx – it's been a while since we saw the xx's) competed Grand Prix with Andreas Helgstrand and Anja Plönzke.

Hans Peter Minderhoud rode Rosevelt (Rotspon x Lauries Crusador xx, oops spoke too soon) into fifth, and the horse enjoyed a distinguished career with American Allison Brock, competing at the Rio 2016 Games, and winning and placing in top competitions.

It was the sixth-placed stallion who was to bring real lustre to Hans Peter's crown: Johnson (Jazz x Flemmingh) super-star competitor, super-star sire.

The other in sixth, Vivaldo (Polansky x Montecristo) had a moderate GP career with Mirelle van Kemenade-Witlox.

In ninth, ridden by Brigitte Wittig, was another from that magic cross, Breitling - Devisa x Bertoli W. The stallion competed very successfully at Grand Prix with Brigitte's husband, Wolfram, and then with the Japanese rider, Kuranajo Saito.

Imke Schellekens-Bartels rode Voice (De Niro x Rohdiamant) into 10th, but it was with Edward Gal in the saddle that the stallion found fame and fortune, winning a string of top Grand Prix classes.

Brigitte Wittig also rode Blind Date (Breitling x Donnerhall) into 15th – since then the Hanoverian mare has had a stellar career with Victoria Max-Theurer.

Don Auriello (one of those rare creatures, a foal by Don Davidoff, out of a White Star mare) finished 17th, but again went on to star, winning multiple Grand Prix with Tinne Vilhelmson Silfvén.

In 2008 the five-year-old winner was the mega-talented, Desperado (Dressage Royal x Rouletto x Barsoi xx) ridden by Nadine Plaster. The horse was purchased for Carola Koppelman to ride, with instant success winning the Nürnberger Burg-Pokal of 2011. In 2013, the pair competed twice at Munich, third in the Grand Prix and second in the Special. At the beginning of 2017, it was announced that the gelding had died... no explanation was forthcoming.

Anna-Sophie Fiebelkorn rode the Trakehner stallion, Imperio (Connery x Balfour) into reserve champion. The ride was taken over by Hubertus Schmidt with great success at Grand Prix level, and at one stage the stallion was reserve for the German team.

Third to the beautiful black mare, Silberaster (Sandro Hit x Canaster) and Helen Langhanenberg. The pair were the shooting stars of the scene, winning at the Bundeschampionate two years running, then third at the worlds, before a final, disastrous tilt at another Bundeschampionate title. Silberaster just could not handle the atmosphere and placed 46th in the five-year-old class. She recovered to compete well in the consolation but was withdrawn from the final and never competed again...

The fourth-placed Wynton (Jazz out of a mare by Kyra Kyrklund's star, Matador) was another who never really lived



Damon Hill – 6yo champion in 2006 with Ingrid Klimke – Grand Prix glory under the saddle of Helene Langehanenberg

up to his early promise. At one stage he was billed as the heir to his great sire, Jazz, and at Frankfurt in his first GP season with Madeleine Wiite-Vrees he won the Special and was fifth in the Grand Prix – that was his first and last Grand Prix victory. His last appearance was in February 2018, for a fifth and sixth at Neumünster.

Kathrin Meyer zu Strohan rode Wells Fargo (Welser 2 x Fabriano) into fifth, before the gelding had an honest, and successful, career as a junior and young-rider mount for Paulina Holzkecht.

Oliver Oelrich rode Rock Forever (Rockwell x Landstreicher) into sixth, and the stallion also found honest employ with a younger rider, placing three times in under-25 classes with Sophie Holkenbrink. Wolly Ann (Stravinsky xx x Ulster) placed seventh at the worlds, and recorded a 17th in an Inter I at Deauville.

Rounding out the 10: Scharmour (Schwadronneur x Napoleon) and Malin Rinné, who evolved into a solid Grand Prix competitor

And that's it... Except for one of the world's real superstars lurking in 14th, the cutest chestnut gelding by the name of Atterupgaard's Cassidy, ridden at the worlds by Sabine Petersen, but made famous with that wonderful rider, Cathrine Dufour.

The six-year-old championship in 2008 was won by Jana Freund riding Dramatic (Don Frederico x Weltmeyer) but they seem to have

disappeared after their young-horse triumph. We met the reserve, Marburg's Polka Hit the previous year when they were fourth in the five year olds. The third placed Diamantenbörse (Diamond Hit x Rubinstein) advanced to a junior horse career with Austria's Nicole Louise Ahorner.

Astrid Gemal rode Wizard Banamex (by the Weltmeyer son, Kermo's White Talisman, out of a Regazzo mare) into fourth, and the gelding went on to win three-star Grand Prix with Steffen Peters in the United States. We met Vivaldo in the five-year-old class of 2007.

Sixth to Vicky Smits-Vanderhasset and Chinatown's Dream (jumping-bred, Pavarotti vd Helle x Furioso Z) who retired to the broodmare paddock where she produced four BWP stallions in succession...

Seventh to Brigitte and Bertoli W, then in equal eighth Waioni (Waikiki x Fabriano) and Impuls (Master x Chapman).

Rounding out the top 10: Diamantina (Diamond Hit x Campari M) who represented Australia at the Caen 2014 WEG with Maree Tomkinson.

Lurking in 19th we find Damsey FRH (Dressage Royal x Ritual) who progressed to a distinguished Grand Prix career with Helen Langehanenberg.

The 2010 five-year-old championship saw victory go to the stallion, Astrix (Obelisk x Olivi) and Emmelie Scholtens, and the horse's career seems to end there...

Second to Lissaro (Lissabon x Matcho xx) the 'accidental dressage horse'. Lissaro was purchased as a two-and-a-half-year-old colt at the Verden Stallion licensing to stand at the well-known Belgian stud, Stoeterij van de Helle. Edith de Reys is one of the stud's principals along with her partner, Paul Mais, and she told me that right from the start, the horse was bought to jump, which is not surprising if you look at his pedigree. In the



Accidental dressage horse, Lissaro/Lissaro van de Helle, second in 5yo WBCYH age group, Bundeschampionate winner, topped German FN dressage breeding rankings in 2015



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fourth line we find a wealth of jumping greats: Lord, Ahorn Z, Contender, Nithard, Grande, and Diskant.

However, when the Rüscher sisters started showing the bay in riding classes and winning, his career took a new turn. He won his three- and four-year-old riding-horse classes at the Bundeschampionate, before winning the five-year-old dressage championship, and then reserve champion at the worlds. The German FN astounded the world in 2015 when Lissaro topped their dressage sires breeding values! Seemingly the mare owners remained unconvinced because Lissaro's next career was with Junior rider, Valentina Pistner.

Ute Graf's fourth-placed Damon Jerome (Damon Hill x Guy Laroche) seems to have stalled in small tour – their most recent result, fifth in an Intermediaire I one-star CDI in September 2017.

The fifth place Grevens Sa' Va' (Blue Hors Soprano x Romancier) became a fine junior horse for Alexander Yde Helgstrand, whose father, Andreas rode the sixth-placegetter Tørveslettens Stamina (Stedinger x Carano). The partnership continued as the grey mare went on to compete Grand Prix with Andreas.

Sixth to Tøveslettens Stamina (Stedinger x Carano) ridden by Andreas Herlgstrand, who had a number of Grand Prix stars with this horse in 2015.... Seventh to Licoto (Licotus x Rosenkavalier), who later competed in Juniors with Claire Louise-Averkorn.

Isac (by the Im60 jumper Hip Hop, out of a Master mare) would become a five-star Grand Prix winner with Minna Telde, while the Trakehner stallion, Aston Martin (Monteverdi x Sixtus) finished 10th in the 2010 five-year-old championship before going on to Grand Prix success with Helene Melsen.

There's a future superstar lurking in 11th, Weihegold (Don Schufro x Sandro Hit), ridden at Verden by Kira Wulferding.

The six-year-old championship in 2010 was won by Andreas Helgstrand and the black mare, Donna Unique (Don Schufro x Falkland). The spectacularly beautiful mare was to become central player in a similarly spectacular horse deal. The year after her win at the worlds, Donna Unique was purchased for €2.7 million by Patrik Kittel's sponsors, Gestüt Peterhof, as his future Grand Prix ride. Patrik showed the mare twice in 2012 for wins at Prix St Georges and Inter I, then in February 2013, the Dutch magazine, *Paardenkrant* broke the 'missing million' story, reporting that Helgstrand had sold the horse for €900,000 MORE than the price he quoted to the horse's owner, and breeder, Joan Andreasen. When she found out, Helgstrand paid her half the missing €900,000 – whereupon she received a bill from Kittel for a €250,000 commission fee – with Helgstrand paying Kittel the other half of the €500,000 commission he was claiming. Eventually the trio settled the affair between themselves...

And the poor horse? Donna Unique has never appeared in competition after those two appearances in 2012. She was injured in 2013 and has since had two foals. It is 'hoped' that she will return to competition.

The reserve champion was Soliere (Sandro Hit x Donnerhall) ridden by Eva Möller. Soliere who migrated to the United States and a highly successful young-rider career.

The third-placed gelding, Blickpunkt (Bellissimo x Weltmeyer) also ridden by Eva Möller, also went to a young rider and enjoyed a successful career with Russian Anna Aristova.

Fourth to Skovens Raphael (Romanov x Don Schufro) who has gone on to Grand Prix success with Danish rider, Lottel Skjaerbaek. He has been a popular breeding stallion, and in 2019 was crowned Danish Warmblood 'stallion of the year.'

Fifth-placed Dresden Mann (Dresemann x Florestan) competed Grand Prix with Ingrid Klimke, but has not reappeared since placing at Hagen and Wiesbaden in 2015.

The Dutch stallion, Zamora (Krack C x Farrington) was seventh – he too went on, ridden successfully in under-25 classes by the Russian, Katsiaryne Bialevich. Another Dutch stallion, Zhivago (Krack C x Jazz) appeared in two small tour classes in 2016.

Yet another of the top 10, Belamour (Bellissimo x Lord Sinclair I) went off to a junior rider, Norwegian Alexandra Gamlemshaug, but in 2017 the pair made successful appearances in 'open' small tour classes.

Deja (Silvano x Don Schufro) finished 10th, and became a member of the Swedish team at the Rio 2016 Games after a series of five-star successes with Patrik Kittel, and before she was retired in May 2020.

While Du Soleil (De Niro x Caprimond) had a successful Grand Prix career with Patrik's sister-in-law, Kristy Oatley, and started 2021 with four Grand Prix wins. They too competed at Rio.

In equal 12th we find Hønnerups Driver (Romanov x Don Schufro), a successful young-rider and under-25 mount for Denmark's Josefine Hoffmann. Also 12th, Redford (Rosentau x Escudo I) advanced to see a Grand Prix victory in Japan for Hiroshi Watanabe.

What would those young riders do without young-horse classes to find horses for themselves?

The five-year-old champion in 2011, Woodlander Farouche (Fürst Heinrich x Dimaggio) with Michael Eilberg came back the next year to win the six-year-old championship, and looked like being the next superstar. They won both the small tour classes at Aachen in 2016 before she was injured and started a new life as a broodmare.

Third-placed Bretton Woods (Johnson x De Niro) went on to compete small tour with Mathias Alexander Rath, but was another who failed to make the leap to Grand Prix.

Fourth to another by Johnson, Boston STH, out of a Quattro B mare – who enjoyed a successful Grand Prix career with Denise Nekeman, their last start being seventh in the Special at Exloo in May 2021.

The horse in sixth, Showtime FRH (Sandro Hit x Rotspion) is an absolute big tour superstar with Dorothée Schneider while, seventh, Swing de Hus (San Remo x Wonderland) competes small tour with French rider,

Claudia Chauchard.

Borenico (Florencio x Lord Sinclair I) who was eighth with Emmelie Scholtens in 2011, came back to stand as reserve champions in 2012, and yet another to go to a young rider – Denmark's Alexandra Gamlemschaug Andresen.

Ninth, Florentinus (Florestan x Londonderry) competed Grand Prix with American, Jennifer Hoffmann, but last appeared in 2017.

Down the list in 13th is Fürstenball, another who peaked at young-horse level, but has now become one of Germany's most sought-after sires – and has already produced his first five-star Grand Prix competitor, Heiline's Danciera (out of a De Niro mare).

Eva Möller rode Sa Coeur (Sir Donnerhall I x Don Davidoff) the five year old champion in 2012, and brought the gelding back the following year, to win the six-year-old title. The horse was shown small tour by Michael Eilberg, and more recently at Grand Prix by PSI stable jockey, Frederic Wandres.

Ann-Christin Wienkamp rode Revolverheld (Rockwell x Landstreicher) into second, and since then he has been competed small tour with Anja Plönzke.

Dinja van Liere rode Capri Sohn Jr. (Rhodium x San Remo) into third, and the stallion has since competed Grand Prix with Laura Tomlinson.

Fourth place to Heiner Schiergen riding Discovery OLD (Dimaggio x Classiker), who returned the following year to place third in the six-year-old championship, and now rides the gelding in Grand Prix.

Charmeur (Florencio x Jazz) was a striking stallion, the winner of the Dutch performance test in 2010, but his behaviour in the ring was unpredictable. Fifth in the five-year-old class in 2012, the following year, he was unable to make it through the preliminary round. Charmeur did compete big tour with Madeleine Witte-Vrees, but in his final year of competition, 2018, the scores ranged from fourth to



Desperado NOP – 7th in 2013 WBCYH – genuine GP star with Emmelie Scholtens, and a popular sire

21st. In 2020 he was sold as a breeding stallion to Canada.

Floresco Sil (Florestan x Baroncelli) took sixth and went on to compete Grand Prix in Finland with Nina Dunder. Carinsio (Painted Black x Beaujolais), seventh, has been a Grand Prix winner in the UK with Becky Moody who rode him at the worlds. Cachet L (Jazz x Ferro), eighth at the worlds, then off to Belgian junior Micky Schelstraete, while Austrian junior, Marie-Paule Frauenschuh claimed the ninth-placed Di Magic (Dimaggio x Rhodiamant). Maybe they should be called the world young-rider talent-spotting championships because the next horse in the top ten, Dongo (sire, Ravallo, no damsire listed) also joined a junior rider, Hungarian Dominik Borza.

Lurking in 18th was another of the soon-to-be-important dressage stallion, Vitalis (Vivaldi x D-Day). He had two small tour starts, Inter I and Prix St Georges, for two wins with Isabell Freese, but more importantly has become a shining light in the breeding barn.

And even further down the list in 28th with Severo Jurado Lopez, Chippendale (Lord Leatherdale x Negro) who is now competing Grand Prix with Lottie Fry.

As mentioned earlier, Woodlander Farouche came back in 2012 to win the six-year-old title, while Borencio came up from eighth in the previous year to take reserve.

Third to Sir Donnerhall II (Sandro Hit x Donnerhall) ridden then by Maik Kanitzky, but a Grand Prix star now with Morgan Barbençon Mestre. Another stallion, Bordeaux took fourth with Eva Möller, then advanced to Grand Prix with Isabel Freese. Fifth another stallion, Tabasco (Topaasch x Björssells Sack), another young-rider star, this time with Sweden's Linnéa Williamson.

Sixth to Novia (Stedinger x Alabaster) ridden by Victoria Michalke, who took the mare to a string of Grand Prix placings in 2019. Equal seventh, Boston STH (Johnson x Quattro B) whom we met last year – and another to go big tour. The other in seventh spot, Santa Domingo (Samba Hit II x Flemmingh) has gone on to place in under-25 Grand Prix classes with Emma Jönsson.

Just to prove there is life after young-horse classes, Sabine Schut-Fry rode Sanceo (San Remo x Ramiro's Son) into 26th in the 2012 six-year-old championship, and this year, the pair are the shooting stars on the American Grand Prix scene with four wins in 2021.

A relief year

Given the high percentage of finalists that have gone on to big tour success, it's almost a relief to get to the five-year-old championship of 2013, where we have to go down to the sixth placed horse before we find one of interest – but not on the basis of his own performances, but those of his progeny. Don Juan de Hus (Jazz x Krack C) died when he was only nine years old, but unsoundness had already cut short his competition career. Nonetheless he shaped up as an important sire.

The seventh placegetter, Desperado NOP (Vivaldi x



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Havidoff) is a genuine five-star, recording a series of top class wins with Emmellie Scholtens, and is also a popular sire...

It had to happen some time: Ninth for Dancer (Vivaldi x Tango), off to the young-rider ranks with Nadine Krause. Tenth place to Bilan (Bocelli x Donnerschlag), small tour with Róbert Ács.

Down in 14th is Dream Boy (Vivaldi x Ferro), a Grand Prix star with Hans Peter Minderhoud and, like Desperado, a serious contender for the Dutch team.

We met Sa Cour last year when he won the five-year-old title, and now finishing ahead of Damon's Delorange (Damon Hill x Rubin Royal) ridden at the worlds by Helen Langhanenberg, but later a fine under-25 Grand Prix competitor with Jil-Marielle Becks.

We have already noted that the third placegetter, Discovery (Dimaggio x Classiker) went on to the big tour with Heiner Shiergen, while Duke of Britain (Dimaggio x Rubinstein) has been starring in Grand Prix classes with Frederic Wandres and is in line for German team selection.

One who failed to make the second round, but who went on to prove that Lusitanos can do Grand Prix is Maria Caetano's Coroado (Rubi / Xaquiro)...

If 2012 was somewhat light on for big-tour talent in the five year olds, 2013 makes up for it. Under the saddle of Dorothee Schneider, the winner was Sesuan (Zack x Don Schufro), for whom it was to be the first of three young dressage horse titles in a row, five-year-old, six-year-old, and the inaugural seven-year-old class. Since then the horse competed once at Intermediaire with Schneider, and it has been repeatedly claimed that he is about to compete with Patrik Kittel, but perhaps it's wise not to hold your breath in anticipation.

Eye Catcher (Vivaldi x Partout) was third with Kirsten Brouwer at the worlds, but went on to be one of the select group of Grand Prix winners in a 2021 bereft of Grand Prix competition. The chestnut took out a national Grand Prix class at Aachen with Emma Kanerva.

The beautiful grey stallion, Belantis (Benneton Dream x Exposé) has had a stop-start career, but he did appear – gelded – at a national show in October 2020 at Reutlingen, to win the Grand Prix with a 75+ score, ridden by Isabell Werth.

Kira Wulferding rode Soiree d'Amour (San Amour x Latimer) to fifth at the worlds, and in 2021 the pair placed sixth and ninth in the Grand Prix and Special at Verden.

Ninth to Ferdinand BB (Florencio x Lanciano) who has picked up four Grand Prix wins in 2021 – at Stadl Paura and München-Rien, with Jessica von Bredow-Werndl.

Sister-power in 2014

Kirsten Brouwer rode Dancer (Vivaldi x Tango) into the six-year-old championship before the chestnut heads off to young-rider ranks, while Stephanie Dearing rode Auheim's Del Magico FRH (Dimaggio x Feinbrand) into

reserve and took the grey to an Inter II win at Achleiten, before the ride went to young rider Chiarra Pengg.

Hans Peter Minderhoud and Dream Boy, third. Fourth to Beatrice Buchwald and Den Haag (Diamond Hit x Florestan). Isabell Werth rode the horse for a win in the Special, second in the Grand Prix a Reutlingen in 2020.

Desperado NOP and Emmellie Scholtens take eighth but Grand Prix glory awaits...

The winner at Verden in 2014 was Fiontini (Fassbinder x Romanov) ridden by Severo Jurado Lopez, with whom she advanced to Grand Prix, and has more recently been ridden by Andreas Helgstrand. Meanwhile, the reserve title went to Fiontini's full-sister, Fiontina with Helgstrand, but this one disappears from the competition arena. None of the others made it to Grand Prix and perhaps we should stop looking now since our candidates are too young to realistically expect much Grand Prix action... but I would hope that we have established for once and for all, that many young horse stars go on to be stars in the 'big sport'. ■



Fiontini (Fassbinder x Romanov), 2014 5yo WBCYH champion ridden by Severo Jurado Lopez (ESP)

Irish Sport Horses dominate at home and abroad

By JENNY KERR AND LEANNE O SULLIVAN / HSI

PHOTOGRAPHY: REDBAYSTOCK.COM AND IRISH EVENTING TIMES

Despite the ongoing disruption to the national and international eventing calendars, Irish horses have shown their class at every opportunity, most recently at Land Rover Kentucky's three-day event and at Ireland's first home international of the year, Ballindenisk.

The 2021 Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event was held from April 22-25, when just under 20% of the starters were Irish-bred sport horses. All eyes were on Oliver Townend's (GBR) dream team: Cooley Master Class (ISH) bred by John Hagan in Co. Wicklow; and Ballaghmor Class (ISH) bred by Noel Hickey in Co. Limerick.

Cooley Master Class (ISH) came as a two-time defending champion, having won the feature event in 2018 and 2019. In 2019, the 12-year-old gelding, by Ramiro B (BWP) out of The Swallow (ISH) by Master Imp xx, made history in winning the first ever CCI5*-L title at the event. His stablemate, Ballaghmor Class (ISH), a 2007 gelding by Courage II (Holst) out of Kilderry Place (ISH), finished joint top of the British Eventing horse rankings at the end of the 2019 season, having been inducted into the Eventing Riders Association (ERA) International Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials Hall of Fame.

Ahead of the final showjumping phase, both horses sat inside the top 10 on the leader board, Ballaghmor Class (ISH) in first and Cooley Master Class (ISH) in eighth.



Sarah Ennis and Horseware Stellor Rebound – Ballindenisk CCI4-S*



Michael McNally and Eclipto – Ballindenisk International April 2021 – Nutri-science CCI4-L*

Three other Irish Sport Horses were also in contention, lying inside the top 20 after cross country (see info below).

Sadly, the ever-consistent Cooley Master Class (ISH) picked up a minor injury during the cross-country which prevented him from completing the final phase, but the deserved winner was Ballaghmor Class (ISH) who produced a perfect clear showjumping round to complete on a score of 27.3. Grovine De Reve (ISH) gained three places after a fantastic showjumping round to gain another podium placing for an Irish Sport Horse when finishing third.

- 6th: Ridden by Jonelle Price (NZL), Grovine De Reve (ISH), a 2008 gelding by Hermes De Reve (SF) out of Erkina Jane (ISH)[TIH] by Rimilis xx, bred by Paddy and Maria Raggett from Co. Kilkenny;
- 9th: Bango/aka Bango Royale (ISH), a 2006 gelding by Garrison Royal (ISH) out of No Sale (ISH)[TIH] by Don Tristan xx, bred by James



Ballaghmor Class and Oliver Townend at the prize-giving at LRK3DE

Foley from Co. Wexford and ridden by Tim Price (NZL);

- 19th: Off The Record (ISH), a 2009 gelding by VDL Arkansas (KWPN) out of Drumagoland Bay (ISH) by Ard Ohio (KWPN), bred by Peter Brady from Co. Cavan and ridden by Will Coleman (USA).

Ballindenisk International

On home soil, Irish Sport Horses won five of the six classes at the first home international of the year – Ballindenisk International.

Ireland's Michael McNally won the feature class, the NutriScience CCI4*-L, with his own Eclipto – a 2011 Irish Sport Horse by Cavalier Carnival (ISH) out of Tawna Jane (ISH), bred by Jackson Goulding from Co. Meath. Fred Scala (IRL) and Everon Vivendi (ISH), bred by B & G Campbell, finished as runners-up and Steven Smith (IRL) and Galwaybay Echo (ISH), bred by Justin Burke, finished third.

The CCI4*-S competition saw three of Ireland's silver medal-winning team from the 2018 World Equestrian Games finish in the top three places, while Irish Sport Horses filled the top two spots. Sarah Ennis and her World Equestrian Games partner Horeware Stellor Rebound (ISH) showed they are a force to be reckoned with, leading from the outset to take the win. The 17-year-old gelding by VDL Ricochet (KWPN) finished on a winning score of 24.2, while Sam Watson and Tullabeg Flamenco (ISH), bred by Nicholas Cousins, finished as runners-up on a score of 27.0 after a faultless final round. Tipperary's Pdraig McCarthy took third place with Leonidas II on a score of 29.6.

Clare Abbott (IRL) and Mr Mighty (ISH) bred by Cormac McKay won the CCI2*-L, Elizabeth Power (IRL) and Greenfort Gorgeous George (ISH)[TIH] bred by George

Masterson in Co. Wexford won the Pegus Horse Feeds CCI3*-S, and New Zealand's Amanda Goldsbury riding Cavalletti Clover (ISH) bred by Gavin McGuigan won the CCI2*-S.

Breeding details

- Ballaghmor Class (ISH) – 2007 gelding Courage II (HOLST) out of Kilderry Place (ISH). Breeder: Noel Hickey, Co. Limerick. Owner: Karyn Shuter, Angela Hislop and Val Ryan. Rider: Oliver Townend (GBR).
- Cooley Master Class (ISH) – 2005 gelding by Ramiro B (BWP) out of The Swallow [ISH] by Master Imp (TB). Breeder: John Hagan, Co. Wicklow. Owner: Angela Hislop. Rider: Oliver Townend (GBR).
- Off The Record (ISH) – 2009 gelding by VDL Arkansas (KWPN) out of Drumagoland Bay (ISH) by Ard Ohio (KWPN). Breeder: Peter G. Brady, Co. Cavan. Owner: Off The Record Syndicate. Rider: Will Coleman (USA).
- Eclipto (ISH) – 2011 gelding by Cavalier Carnival (ISH) out of Tawna Jane (ISH)[TIH] by Puissance (ISH)[TIH]. Breeder: Jackson Goulding (Tipperary). Rider: Michael McNally (IRL).
- Everon Vivendi (AKA Corriebeg Vivendi) (ISH) – 2009 gelding by ARS Vivendi (HOLST) out of Ordell (ISH) by Touchdown (ISH). Bred by: B & G Campbell (Armagh). Rider: Fred Scala (IRL).
- Galwaybay Echo (ISH) – 2008 bay gelding by Clover Echo (ISH) out of Misty's Cavalier (ISH) by Cavalier Royale (HOLST). Breeder: Justin Burke (Galway). Rider: Steven Smith (IRL).
- Horeware Stellor Rebound (ISH) – 2004 gelding by VDL Ricochet (KWPN). Rider: Sarah Ennis (IRL). Tullabeg Flamenco (ISH) – 2009 gelding by Tullabeg Fusion (ISH) out of Tullabeg Heidi (unk) by Ardenteggle Sir (IPSA). Breeder: Nicholas Cousins (Wexford). Rider: Sam Watson (IRL).
- Mr Mighty (Unknown) – 2014 gelding by Gatcombe (ISH). Breeder: Cormac McKay. Rider: Clare Abbott (IRL).
- Greenfort Gorgeous George (ISH)[TIH] – 2013 gelding by Kings Master (ISH)(TIH) out of Kokopilli Star (TB) by Hernando (TB). Breeder: George Masterson (Wexford). Rider: Elizabeth Power (IRL).
- Cavalletti Clover (ISH) – 2014 gelding by Mermus R (KWPN) out of Cavalletti (ISH) by Euro Clover (ISH). Breeder: Gavin McGuigan (Tyrone). Rider: Amanda Goldsbury (NZL). ■

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Coming of age for online auctions in Canada

BY CHRIS GOULD / CWHBA

The move to online auctions, accelerated by the Covid-19 pandemic, has significantly changed the horse market worldwide, perhaps especially for those countries outside Europe to which travel is more costly and time consuming.

The Alberta Chapter of the CWHBA has successfully hosted live auctions for over 25 years, marketing horses throughout Canada, the United States, and even into Europe. In October last year, however, it moved the traditional annual Fall Classic Breeder's Sale online and, to everyone's delight, this broadened the audience and doubled the number of registered bidders.

Prices were strong, an early indication of the upward trending horse market, but also confirmation of the acceptance of online sales. At \$37,000, the high selling horse went to a buyer from California, and this success gave impetus to the long-contemplated idea of a spring sale. The challenge for the new sale administration team was to maintain the quality and consistency of presentation, and this was solved by gathering the horses at one central location, Old Gate Farm near Olds, Alberta, for videos and photos.

The second challenge for the team was to secure enough quality horses during the current industry-wide boom, and spring in Canada is not the time to be selling young horses and foals. So the sale categories were modified to include older schoolmaster horses with show records, as well as active, high-level competition horses. It was a winning strategy as 15 quality Warmbloods were accepted, including two FEI level competitors.

In the end the CWHBA Spring Riding Horse Sale (April 23-26) was a resounding success with 12 of the 15 horses selling for excellent prices. Topping the sale was Lot #3 Letty Boo who has a long and extensive record in both the under-25 and the FEI classes with a young rider. With the final bid of CAD\$94,000 this beautiful Lesotho x Kolibri DSP mare went to Illinois, USA.

Lot #10 the stunning Elle Carrara (Tempranillo x Indorado), was the second highest seller with a final bid of \$92,000. Young prospects also sold well, with the young gelding Comic (Casparo x Quidam Blue) topping this category at \$31,000, sold to an Ontario buyer. While in the schoolmaster division the phenomenal Im60 Granit S, who has been ridden by John Anderson and Canadian team member Yann Candeale, is ready to step down and take care of a very lucky rider. He sold for a final price of \$41,000 to Battle Ground, WA, USA.

Online marketing presents unique opportunities as well

as challenges. Extensive radio graphs, health records, and high quality video are essential, but via social media the whole world can be reached, and with each sale the audience expands. Over 500,000 people knew about the Spring Riding Horse Sale and bids came in from all over Canada, the USA, as well as Mexico and Ireland. Overall, the average sales price topped \$36,000, with 40% selling outside Alberta.

It seems that both buyers and sellers are thrilled with the process and are excited for the next online edition, the annual Fall Classic Breeder's Sale scheduled for October 1-4, 2021. Another great group of horses will be available in this sale and will include weanlings, yearlings, broodmares, two-year-old prospects and prospects under saddle (three to six years of age), as well as riding horses.

Online auctions are clearly establishing a new and successful Canadian tradition.

Results for horses sold (CAD\$)

- 1 Janieka BF (2014/m: Bosch Blue x Damiro B) \$23,000
- 2 Aura MS (2017/m: Aquilan Calypso [Holst] x Landor S [Oldbg]) \$25,500
- 3 Letty Boo (2008/m: Lesotho [Holst] x Kolibri [Meckl]) \$94,000
- 4 Northern Girl (2018/m: Hiroko x MTF Starpower [Hann]) \$20,500
- 5 Sapphire (2014/m: Emerald [BWP] x Calido I [Holst]) \$24,500
- 6 Emmery (2018/m: Hitchcock van Overis [BWP] x Kodachrome [Oldbg]) \$10,500
- 8 Lulu LM (2017/m: Leeto Z [Zang] x Landover) \$13,000
- 9 Chuxerio Z (2014/st: Chopin [Holst] x Luxury Z [Zang]) \$43,500
- 10 Elle Carrera (2009/m: Tempranillo [KWPN] x Indorado [Holst]) \$92,000
- 13 Comic (2016/g: Casparo [Hann] x Quidam Blue [Hann]) \$31,000
- 14 O. Valenzano (2018/g: Valentino [KWPN] x VDL Ulando H) \$22,000
- 15 Granit S (2005/g: Faust Z [Hann] x Graf Grannus [Hann]) \$41,000

Dietary supplements: Part 2

The role vitamins play

BY DR. MARIETTE VAN DEN BERG, B. APPSC. (HONS), MSc., PhD (EQUINE NUTRITION)

Similar to the trends observed in human health, the dietary supplements market for horses has grown significantly over the last 25 years. This has resulted in an overwhelming array of supplements available to horse owners/caregivers. Just visit your local horse store, flick through any horse magazine, or scrolling through your social media and you will find any number of advertisements for equine supplements.

The name vitamins is obtained from 'vital amines' as it was originally thought that these substances were all amines. This is now known not to be the case as vitamins have a range of structures. Vitamins are classified as either water-soluble or fat soluble organic compounds that can be naturally found in small amounts in plant and animal-derived foodstuffs. Organisms require small amounts of vitamins for proper function of the body and any deficiency can lead to metabolic and physical disorders.

In an optimal environment horses can obtain most of their vitamins from fresh grass and other plants and in the case of vitamin K and B complex vitamins, additional amounts can be supplied by microbial synthesis in the intestinal tract. But when horses are stabled, have limited access to pasture or are kept on poor quality pastures they generally need some extra vitamins (and minerals). The requirements can also increase when horses are breeding, pregnant, lactating, growing, ageing, exercising or in poor health. When vitamins cannot be synthesized by the body or they cannot be made in adequate amounts, they need to be supplied by the diet and/or supplementary sources.

Supplements (as well as the premix in complete hard feeds) can include synthetic and/or natural sources of vitamins. When we talk about natural vitamins we refer to vitamins that are taken from the original source and retain in their organic complex which may include number of other structures/complexes such as phytochemicals. Synthetic vitamins are initially made in the laboratory where they isolated the active compound from foodstuffs, which also makes them cheaper than natural ones. In the vitamin supplement industry for humans as well as pets and horses there is an ongoing "synthetic versus natural" debate about which source is healthier. For both sides there are studies and arguments that can confirm one or the other. It depends largely on the (biological) activity and absorption of the vitamins. Also the difference in price will determine which ones are used in the supplements and premixes. Ideally, more research is needed to have a closer look at some of these vitamins and the differences between the sources in the uptake action and responses in the body of the horse. In

this article the focus lies on the biological role of vitamins in the body and quantities recommended for horses.

So which vitamins are important and how much does a horse require? The National Research Council published a report (Nutrient Requirements of Horses 2007) that estimated the vitamin requirements of horses by using several response variables (e.g. prevention of specific deficiency symptoms, maximising tissue stores, and optimisation of various biological functions). The report only estimated requirements for vitamins A, D, E, thiamine (vitamin B1) and riboflavin (vitamin B2). Why only four vitamins are estimated will be explained in the table that follows on the next page.

Minimum vitamin requirements are only estimated for vitamin A, D, E, thiamine, and riboflavin by the NRC. There are some studies that published dose administration data of some of the other vitamins without reporting adverse effects (deficiency or toxicity), but they are generally inconclusive and are not able to suggest optimal levels. Ideally, more research into vitamin requirements is required to gain more knowledge about deficiency, optimal levels and toxicity. In addition, due to the increased interest in using vitamins (and minerals) as health foods to improve quality of life, which has been adapted from human research, it is probably also necessary to have a closer look at these compounds and the potential health benefits in horses. ■

Dr Mariette van den Berg has a passion for equine nutrition and equine permaculture. Founder of MB Equine Services, Mariette offers specialised consulting services in integrated equine nutrition, horse property design and pasture management. An accomplished researcher, Mariette completed her Bachelor Applied Animal Science in The Netherlands before continuing her postgraduate studies in New Zealand and Australia, most recently completing her PhD in equine nutrition and foraging behaviour



VITAMINS

Vitamin A

Vitamin A is a fat-soluble vitamin that plays an important role in vision, bone growth, reproduction, cell divisions and cell differentiation (in which the cell becomes part of the brain, muscle, lungs, blood or other specialised tissue). It also helps regulating the innate and adaptive immune response to infection. There are two principle forms of vitamin A that can be found in foods. Vitamin A in animal-derived foods is called preformed vitamin A and is absorbed in the form of retinol. Retinol is one of the most usable (active) forms of vitamin A and can be converted in the body into other vitamin A forms such as retinal and retinoic acid. Vitamin A that is found in plants (as well as colourful fruits and vegetables) is called provitamin A carotenoid. They can be converted in the body into retinol. Common provitamin A carotenoids in plants are beta-carotene, alpha-carotene and beta-cryptoxanthin. Horses obtain most vitamin A as beta-carotene which is more efficiently converted into retinol by the body than the other provitamin forms. Fresh green grass and plants contains the highest concentration of beta-carotene. Conserved forages such as mature hay generally contains less beta-carotene, but concentrations depend on degree of maturity, conditions at harvest and length of storage. The most common forms of vitamin A used in supplements are retinyl-palmitate and -acetate. The international unit (IU) is used to express vitamin activity of different sources on a comparable basis. Depending on the age, sex, workload, stage of gestation, pregnancy, lactation and growth, the minimum daily vitamin A requirement for horses is estimated to be between 30 -60 IU/kg body weight (BW)

Deficiency in vitamin A can lead to night-blindness and can affect immunity and reproduction. Too much vitamin A has been reported to result in bone fragility, excessive growth of bone, developmental orthopaedic diseases in growing horses and birth defects. Beta-carotene toxicity has not been reported in horses.

Vitamin D

Vitamin D is a fat-soluble vitamin that is needed for the health and to maintain strong bones. It helps the body with the absorption of calcium from the intestine and reabsorption of calcium from the kidney and influences mobilisation and accumulation of calcium and phosphorus from the bone. Vitamin D plays also a role in muscle contraction, cell growth and differentiation, the central nerve system and immune system. There are several forms of vitamin D, but the two major vitamins are D2 (ergocalciferol) and vitamin D3 (cholecalciferol). Vitamin D2 is produced by invertebrates, fungus and plants in response to UV irradiation. Vitamin D3 can be found in animal cells. Vitamin D3 is made in the skin when 7-dehydrocholesterol reacts with UVB ultraviolet light. Horses that are maintained in a practical setting with some exposure to UV light appear to produce adequate amounts of vitamin D. Horses that have limited exposure to sunlight (kept indoors etc) must receive some in the diet.

However, general horse feeds are relatively low in vitamin D. The most common supplement form for horses is Vitamin D3, cholecalciferol. The NRC recommends minimum intake of 6.6 IU/kg BW for maintenance, breeding and exercising. Growing horse require between 22-14 IU/kg BW, which depends on the stage of growth. Deficiency in vitamin D can cause rickets, a disease characterized by bone deformities. Excess level of vitamin D is associated with calcification of soft tissue.

Vitamin E

Vitamin E is the collective name for a group of fat-soluble compounds with distinctive antioxidant activities. Vitamin E and selenium partner and play an important role as anti-oxidants, protecting body tissues from damaging effects of oxidation. It also plays an essential role in maintaining proper function of the muscular, nervous, circulation, reproduction and immune systems. There are eight natural occurring chemical forms (alpha, beta, gamma and delta-tocopherol and alpha, beta, gamma and delta-tocotrienol). They all vary in biological activity and of these, alpha-tocopherol has the highest bioavailability. Fresh green grass and plants contain adequate levels of vitamin E, but concentrations dramatically drop when plants are processed (e.g. cutting, baling, and storage). Horses that have limited access to fresh pasture benefit from vitamin E supplementation. Common forms of vitamin E supplements used by horse feed and supplement manufacturers are esters of the alpha-tocopherol such as alpha-tocopherol acetate. There is an increased interest in the use of natural vitamin E. Natural vitamin E appears to have 36 % greater bioavailability than the synthetic form. The difference between the two sources is the (isomer) structure and uptake action. The natural source appears to be better transported to and retained in cells and tissues than the synthetic source. ;(cont'd)

Vitamin E (cont'd)

Food stuffs with the highest concentration of vitamin E are vegetable oils (e.g. soya bean oil), followed by nuts and seeds including whole grains. Depending on the age, sex, work load, stage of gestation, pregnancy, lactation and growth, the minimum daily vitamin E requirement for horses is estimated to be between 1-2 IU/kg BW

Deficiency in vitamin E can cause impaired immunity, muscle degeneration, spinal cord

Thiamine

Thiamine is also known as vitamin B₁ and is one of the B vitamins, a group of water-soluble vitamins that participate in many of the chemical reactions in the body. Thiamine (vitamin B₁) helps the body cells covert carbohydrates into energy. It also essential for proper functioning of the heart, muscles and nervous system. Thiamine can be found in cereals, whole grains (especially wheat germ), protein supplements such as soya bean meal and cotton seed meal and brewer's yeast. In supplements thiamine is generally supplied as thiamine hydrochloride or mononitrate. Recommended levels of thiamine are 0.11-0.125mg/kg BW for moderate to heavy working horses and 0.06mg/kg BW for all others. Deficiency can cause anorexia, ataxia, slow heart rate and muscle twitching.

Riboflavin

Riboflavin or Vitamin B₂ is also member of the water-soluble B vitamins. It is important for body growth and red blood cell production and helps in releasing energy from carbohydrates. Riboflavin can be found in higher levels in green legumes such as lucerne and clover. Horses are able to synthesise riboflavin in the intestine (microbes). Depending on the age, sex, work load, stage of gestation, pregnancy, lactation and growth, the minimum daily vitamin riboflavin requirement for horses is estimated to be between 0.04-0.05 mg/kg BW.

Although not reported in horses, deficiency in other species resulted in poor hair coat, dermatitis, anaemia, reduced fertility and poor growth.

Niacin

Niacin is also known as vitamin B₃, nicotinic acid, and vitamin PP. Niacin assists with proper function of the digestive system, skin and nerve system. It also plays a role in the conversion of food to energy. Niacin is present in most common horse feeds but concentrations and digestibility may vary depending on the food source. Niacin is also produced by microbial fermentation in the caecum of the horse. In supplements niacin is generally supplied in a nicotinic acid form. Niacin requirements for horses have not yet been determined. In addition, deficiency and toxicity in horses have also not been described. Deficiency in other species caused severe metabolic disorders and lesions of the skin.

Pantothenic Acid

Pantothenic acid or vitamin B₅ is involved in numerous metabolic pathways including carbohydrates, fats, proteins and steroid hormones. Like niacin it is widely distributed in common horse feeds. Common supplemental form of the vitamin is calcium pantothenate. Pantothenic acid requirements are not estimated for horses and deficiency and toxicity in horses have also not been reported.

Vitamin B₆

Vitamin B₆ is a water-soluble vitamin and is part of the vitamin B complex. There are several forms of the vitamins. Pyridoxine is the form that is commonly given as vitamin B₆ supplement. Vitamin B₆ plays important role in many reactions of amino acid metabolism, glycogen utilization and the synthesis of epinephrine (adrenaline) and norepinephrine and metabolism of fats. Horses can synthesise vitamin B₆ in the intestinal tract. Vitamin B₆ requirements for horses are not determined and deficiency and toxicity in horses have not been described.

Biotin

Biotin is also known as vitamin B₇ or vitamin H (the H comes from Haar und Haut; German words for hair and skin) and is also member of the B complex vitamins. Biotin is necessary for cell growth, the production of fatty acids and the metabolism of fats and amino acids. It also plays an important role in the citric acid cycle which is a process by which biochemical energy is generated during aerobic respiration. Biotin can be found in plant material and is manufactured in small amounts by the gut microflora. Many horse owners will be familiar with biotin as a supplement for hooves. Although results vary, supplementation of biotin over period of time has shown to improve hoof quality and growth. Optimal biotin levels are determined yet and no deficiency or toxicity of biotin has been reported in horses.

Vitamin B₁₂

Vitamin B₁₂ is a water-soluble vitamin and exists in several forms and contains the mineral cobalt. Therefore compounds with vitamin B₁₂ are collectively called 'Cobalamins'. Vitamin B₁₂ is required for proper red blood cell formation, neurological function, and DNA synthesis. It is also needed for the production of propionate, which is a major energy source derived from the fermentation of carbohydrates. Vitamin B₁₂ appears to be synthesised in adequate by microbes in the intestine of the horse. No

Folate

Folate is a general term for folic acid (synthetic) and naturally occurring folate. Folate gets its name from the Latin word 'folium' which means leaf. It can be found in green forage and legume seeds. Folate helps produce and maintain new cells, it is especially important during period of rapid cell division and growth such as during pregnancy. It is needed to make red blood cells and prevent anaemia. Folate is also essential for the metabolism of amino acids. Microbes in the digestive tract of the horse are able to synthesise folic acid. Folate deficiency in horses has not been recorded. In other species it has been reported to cause anaemia and lower birth weight.

Vitamin K

Vitamin K is a fat-soluble vitamin that plays an important role in blood clotting. It also participates in the activation of other proteins and is involved in metabolism pathways in bone and other tissue. There are a number of vitamin K forms found in green plant material (vitamin K1; phyloquinone). Others are manufactured by the microflora of the horse (vitamin K2; menaquinone). There are also synthetic forms (e.g. vitamin K3; menadione) that are used in supplements and premixes. Menadione is metabolized to an active form in the body. There are no set requirements for vitamin K for horses. Intake of fresh grass and vitamin K2 produced by intestinal bacteria will probably meet the requirements. Some vitamin K antagonist such as dicumarol (chemical substance of plant and fungal origin) and other drugs can reduce vitamin K metabolism causing a deficiency. Excess vitamin K appears to have no adverse effects.

Although not reported in horses, deficiency in other species resulted in poor hair coat, dermatitis, anaemia, reduced fertility and poor growth.

Vitamin C

Most people are familiar with vitamin C, but not many know the function and requirements for horses. Vitamin C is also known as L-ascorbic acid and plays important role as a biological antioxidant within the redox (oxidation reduction) system. It is also needed for synthesis of collagen, carnitine and norepinephrine. Most animal (including horses), unlike humans, are able to synthesize vitamin C from glucose. Vitamin C supplementation may be beneficial for horses in poor-health. Common supplement form for horses are ascorbic acid, ascorbyl palmitate and calcium ascorbyl-2-monophosphate.

Deficiency and toxicity have not been described.

Choline

Choline is a water-soluble 'essential nutrient' and is usually grouped with the B complex vitamins. It is an important component of many other biologically molecules, such as acetylcholine (neurotransmitter), lecithin and other phospholipids. Choline can be synthesised in the liver from amino acid methionine. It can also be found in free or bound form in foodstuffs. The form most commonly used by supplement and feed manufactures is choline hydrochloride. There are no requirements determined for choline. Deficiency in horses has not been recorded. It appears to only rarely occur when growing young animals are fed a diet deficient in methionine and/or choline. It can cause fatty liver which may lead to cirrhosis.

There are no reports on the toxicity levels of choline for horses.

GRANDE SEMAINE DE FONTAINEBLEAU 2021

PLANNING

JUMPING (NON-PRO)

JUMPING (PRO)

HUNTER

FOALS

SELLE FRANÇAIS
FILLIES

Warning - This is a provisionnal schedule. Indicated times and locations can be changed at any time. Weather or variation in the number of participants can have an impact on this forecast. Please check the time schedule the day before each test on <https://grandesemainecsohunter.shf.eu/>

FRIDAY 27TH AUG.

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up Spring Garden

Petit Parquet
Warm-up Puits du Cormier

Grand Parquet ●
Warm-up O'Delant

CL1
4 Y.O.
Qualifier 1

CL2
5 Y.O.
Qualifier 1

CL1
5 Y.O.
Qualifier 1

CL2
6 Y.O.
Qualifier 1

CL3
6 Y.O.
Qualifier 1

SATURDAY 28TH AUG.

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up Spring Garden

Petit Parquet
Warm-up Puits du Cormier

Grand Parquet ●
Warm-up O'Delant

CL2
5 Y.O.
Qualifier 2

CL1
4 Y.O.
Consolation
Final

CL3
6 Y.O.
Qualifier 2

CL2
6 Y.O.
Qualifier 2

CL1
5 Y.O.
Consolation
Final

CL1 - 4 Y.O.
Final

CL1 - 5 Y.O.
Final

SUNDAY 29TH AUG.

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up Spring Garden

Petit Parquet
Warm-up Puits du Cormier

Grand Parquet ●
Warm-up O'Delant

CL2
5 Y.O.
Consolation
Final

CL2
5 Y.O.
Final

CL3
6 Y.O.
Consolation
Final

CL2
6 Y.O.
Consolation
Final

CL2
6 Y.O.
Final

CL3
6 Y.O.
Final

TUESDAY 31ST AUG.

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up Spring Garden

Petit Parquet

4 Y.O.
Mares
Qualifier

4 Y.O.
Geldings
Qualifier

4 Y.O.
Stallions
Qualifier

2 Y.O.
& 3 Y.O.
Selle Français
Fillies

WEDNESDAY 1ST SEPT.

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up Spring Garden

Petit Parquet

Grand Parquet ●
Warm-up O'Delant

4 Y.O.
M / G / S
Consolation
Final

4 Y.O.
Mares
Final

4 Y.O.
Geldings
Final

4 Y.O.
Stallions
Final

2 Y.O.
& 3 Y.O.
Selle Français
Fillies

6 Y.O.
Geldings
Qualifier 1

6 Y.O.
Stallions
Qualifier 1

6 Y.O.
Mares
Qualifier 1

THURSDAY 2ND SEPT.

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up Spring Garden

Petit Parquet
Warm-up Puits du Cormier

Grand Parquet ●
Warm-up O'Delant

7 Y.O.
Mares
Qualifier 1

5 Y.O.
Mares
Qualifier 1

5 Y.O.
Stallions
Qualifier 1

5 Y.O.
Geldings
Qualifier 1

FRIDAY 3RD SEPT.

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up Spring Garden

Petit Parquet
Warm-up Puits du Cormier

Grand Parquet ●
Warm-up O'Delant

6 Y.O.
Mares
Qualifier 2

6 Y.O.
Geldings
Qualifier 2

6 Y.O.
Stallions
Qualifier 2

5 Y.O.
Stallions
Qualifier 2

5 Y.O.
Geldings
Qualifier 2

5 Y.O.
Mares
Qualifier 2

SATURDAY 4TH SEPT.

Model Presentation

Morning

Afternoon

6 Y.O. Model

Hunter Model

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up Spring Garden

Petit Parquet
Warm-up Puits du Cormier

Grand Parquet ●
Warm-up O'Delant

5 Y.O.
Consolation
Final

6 Y.O.
Final

6 Y.O.
Consolation
Final

4 Y.O.
5 Y.O.
6 Y.O.
Hunter Horses

4 Y.O.
5 Y.O.
6 Y.O.
Hunter Ponies

7 Y.O.
Qualifier 2

Carrière des Princes
Warm-up O'Delant

Petit Parquet
Warm-up Puits du Cormier

Grand Parquet ●

5 Y.O.
Final

7 Y.O.
Final

4 Y.O.
5 Y.O.
6 Y.O.
Hunter Horses

4 Y.O.
5 Y.O.
6 Y.O.
Hunter Ponies

FOALS
ADECSIF

SUNDAY 5TH SEPT.

■ IMPORTANT DATES 2021

■ WBFSH WORLD RANKINGS

WORLD BREEDING FEDERATION FOR SPORT HORSES

VILHELMSBORG ALLÉ 1
8320 MAARSLET
DENMARK

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

WWW.WBFSH.ORG



IMPORTANT DATES 2021

- August 25-29** FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Dressage Horses in Verden, Germany
- September 15-19** FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Show Jumping Horses in Lanaken, Belgium
- October 10-13** WBFSH General Assembly and Seminars, Dresden, Germany
- October 21-24** FEI/WBFSH World Breeding Championships for Young Eventing Horses in Le Lion d'Angers, France

WBFSH WORLD RANKING LIST

(Validated FEI results from 01/10/2020 to 30/04/2021)

BREEDERS OF SHOWJUMPING HORSES

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1 | Jonas Bellemans
Scuderia 1918 Tobago Z /Tobago Z (2008/Z/st Tangelo vd Zuuthoeve x Mr Blue) | 977 |
| 2 | Patrick and Laurence Blanckaert
Oak Grove's Enkidu /ex Bohysra d'Auzay LA (2011/SF/st Ensor VDH Pleville x Quidam De Revel) | 655 |
| 3 | Paul Schockemöhle/Gestüt Lewitz
Chacendra (2008/Meckl/m Chacco-Blue x Cento) | 645 |
| 4 | Laurent Baillet
Unick du Francport (2008/SF/g Zandor x Helios De La Cour II) | |
| 5 | Karl Heinz Gierkes
Dicas (2009/Rhein/g Diarado x Cassini I) | 602 |
| 6 | Francois Niger and Patrick Rabot
Tolede de Mescam Harcour (2007/SF/m Mylord Carthago*HN x Kouglouf II) | 590 |
| 7 | Wolfgang Kipp
Checker 47 (2010/Westf/g Comme Il Faut 5 x Come On) | 585 |
| 8 | Lothar Wanner
Balou Rubin R (2007/OS/g Balou du Rouet x Couleur-Rubin) | 75 |
| 9 | Jürgen Geffken
Coby 8 (2010/Hann/g Contagio x Escudo 19) | 560 |
| 10 | Ricardo Romero
Union de La Nutria (2008/SF/g Diamant De Semilly x Kannan) | 558 |

BREEDERS OF DRESSAGE HORSES

1	F. van de Poel Suppenkasper /Danny Boy (2008/KWPN/g Spielberg x IPS Krack C)	2,189
2	Jan and Dorte Rassing Rassing's Lenoir (2004/DWB/g De Noir 3 x Loran)	2,15-
3	P.A.M. van Kessel Aquamarijn (2005/KWPN/m United x IPS Gribaldi)	1,956
4	Leslie Malone/Harmony Sport Horses Harmony's Duval (1008/KWPN-NA/g Rousseau x Riverman)	1,943
5	C. Rommens Kastel's Nintendo /ex Nintendo (2003/KWPN/st Negro x Monaco)	1,893
6	De Kampert Illuster van de Kampert (2008/BWP/g Speilberg x Contango)	1,868
7	H. Verstraten All In /ex Alex (2005/KWPN/g Tango x Damiro)	1,858
8	Inge Wencek Sebastian (2006/Rhein/g Sandro Hit x Fidermark)	1,841
9	J.T. Hoeks-Erdkamp Eclips (2009/KWPN/g Apache x Olympic Ferro)	1,834
10	G. Deen Holding BV and Adr. van Hoeflaken Eaton Unitechno /ex Eaton H (2009/KWPN/g Wynton x San Remo)	1,822

BREEDERS OF EVENTING HORSES

1	Debi Crowley Vandiver (2004/Trak/g Windfall 2 x Mystic Replica xx)	188
2	A.M.C.M. van Bezouw Z /ex Albano Z (2008/Z/g Asca x Babouche vh Gehucht Z)	187
3	Paddy and Maria Raggett Grovine de Reve (2008/ISH/g Hermea de Reve x Rimilis)	168
4	J. Zilverberg Deniro Z (2008/KWPN/g Zapatero x French Buffet xx)	156
5	Ocke Riewerts London 52 (2009/Holst/g Landos x Quinar)	152
6	Edouard Neuhaus Toubleu de Rueire (2007/SF/g Mr. Blue x Bayard d'Elle)	151
7	Alyse Clancey On Cue (2006/AES/m Cabri d'Elle x Primitive Rising)	148
8	Eckhard Reihs Celebration (2011/Holst/g Chin Champ x Camillo 60)	146
9	Unknown Brookfield Inocent (2009/ISH/st Inocent x Kings Servant)	144
10	H.J. Leyser Zagreb (2004/KWPN/st Perion x Nagano)	139

ALTHOUGH WE ARE TRYING TO MAINTAIN AN UP-TO-DATE CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR 2021, THE SCHEDULE MAY CHANGE DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS, SO PLEASE ALWAYS CHECK INFORMATION WITH THE STUDBOOK OR ORGANIZERS CONCERNED

2021

JUNE

3 Verden (GER)

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

10-13 Elmshorn (GER)

Holsteiner Horse Days with foal auction on June 12
Tel: +49 (0)4121 49790
info@holsteiner-verband.de
www.holsteiner-verband.de

12 Vechta (GER)

5th Oldenburger Special Edition Auction
Tel: +49 (0)441 93550
info@oldenburger-pferde.com
www.oldenburger-pferde.com

14 Münster (GER)

Westfalian Online Foal Auction
Tel: +49 (0)251 32 8090
Fax: +49 (0)251 32 80924
info@westfalenpferde.de
www.westfalenpferde.de

17 Verden (GER)

Hanoverian Online Foal Auction
Contact: Per previous Verden entry

28 Münster (GER)

Westfalian Online Foal Auction
Tel: +49 (0)251 32 8090
Fax: +49 (0)251 32 80924
info@westfalenpferde.de
www.westfalenpferde.de

JULY

1 Verden (GER)

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

2-5 Ermelo (NED)

KWPN Online Foal Auction
Tel: +31 (0)341 255 511
salespromotion@kwpn.nl
https://kwpn.auction/en/home

3 Pinneberg-Waldenau (GER)

Holsteiner Foal Auction at CSI3* Hof Waterkant
Tel: +49 (0)4121 49790
info@holsteiner-verband.de
www.holsteiner-verband.de

5 Münster (GER)

Westfalian Online Foal Auction
Tel: +49 (0)251 32 8090
Fax: +49 (0)251 32 80924
info@westfalenpferde.de
www.westfalenpferde.de

10 Hörup (GER)

Holsteiner Foal Auction during Springflut Festival
Tel: +49 (0)4121 49790
info@holsteiner-verband.de
www.holsteiner-verband.de

12 Münster (GER)

Westfalian Online Foal Auction
Contact: per previous Münster entry

16-19 Ermelo (NED)

KWPN Online Foal Auction
Contact: Per previous Ermelo entry

17 Verden (GER)

Hanoverian Online Riding Horse Auction
Contact: Per previous Verden entry

19 Münster (GER)

Westfalian Online Foal Auction
Contact: per previous Münster entry

23/24 Berlin (GER)

Holsteiner Foal Auction during GCT
Tel: +49 (0)4121 49790
info@holsteiner-verband.de
www.holsteiner-verband.de

23-August 8 Tokyo (JPN)

Olympic Games – postponed from 2020

24 Münster (GER)

Westfalian Competition Foal Auction
Contact: per previous Münster entry

26 Münster (GER)

Westfalian Online Embryo Auction
Contact: per previous Münster entry

30-Aug 2 Ermelo (NED)

KWPN Online Foal Auction
Contact: Per previous Ermelo entry

31 Vechta (GER)

Oldenburger 20th Elite Foal Auction
Tel: +49 (0)441 93550
info@oldenburger-pferde.com
www.oldenburger-pferde.com

31 Münster (GER)

Westfalian 'Live' Foal Auction
Contact: per previous Münster entry

AUGUST

Jul 30-2/8 Ermelo (NED)

KWPN Online Foal Auction
Tel: +31 (0)341 255 511
salespromotion@kwpn.nl
https://kwpn.auction/en/home

1 Vechta (GER)

29th Vechta Foal Market
Tel: +49 (0)441 93550
info@oldenburger-pferde.com
www.oldenburger-pferde.com

6/7 Verden (GER)

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

11-15 Warendorf (GER)

Bundeschampionat – German National Young Horse Championships
https://www.pferd-aktuell.de

13-16 Ermelo (NED)

KWPN Online Foal Auction
Contact: Per previous Ermelo entry