



The Warlander

The Logical Breed (Part Two)
By Kate Hodges

Continued from Issue 7 where we investigated the inception of the Warlander breed and their achievements in the sporting arena. In this issue we look at their use in movies, extreme sport, the world's first approved stallion and breeding ideals.

MOVIE HORSES

Horses that are used for movie and commercial work need to not only be beautiful and possess presence, but require a willing and calm nature in order to deal with the various exposures they will have on set - wind machines, the noise of guns and explosions, and crowds, as well as the inexperience of the actors who work with them.

The Warlander horse is showing they are up for this task on the large and small screen.

Vaquero Ranch's Warlander stallion Hummer is the new face for Guerlain's men's fragrance 'Habit Rouge' and has also appeared in the Lord of the Rings movies, a Chevy commercial, and various other film and print works in the US.

Shepherds Hill's Larry has also been making a name for himself in 2012, with his debut on the USA pilot movie 'Frontier,' which was filmed in Australia (with Australian Movie Livestock supplying the animal actors.)

"Everyone wants to work with him [Larry]. On the movie set they want to ride him and when I am out competing everyone wants to drive him - he just has such a lovely nature," says Jodie McKeone of Shepherds Hill Farm.

"We recently took him to a show in Victoria (Australia) that had a big line up of events. We had not ridden him for six months and on the day he performed successfully under saddle as well as driven, which really shows how calm, accepting and versatile this breed is. This makes them perfect for commercial work and we will be using more

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Photography by Gabriella



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Anubis von Greenhorn Warlander stallion (Germany) at 3 years of age. The first Warlander stallion to be approved in the world. Photo: H. Parow-Souchon

Warlander's for future work with Australian Movie Livestock," said Jodie.

EUROPEAN STANDARDS

Alexandra Green of Green-Horn Ranch (Warlander-Franken) in Bavaria, Germany, was unhappy with the uncomfortable trot of her beloved Friesian mares.

When choosing a complimentary breed as similar to the Friesian as possible, she chose the Iberian breed to maximise the 'ride ability' factor. When her Friesian mare was already six months pregnant, she learned that this cross was already an existing breed called the Warlander.

"I was instantly thrilled!" said Alexandra.

"I put my best effort into achieving the full paperwork according to European Standards for the breed - this was attained in 2010."

In Europe, Warlander horses are judged by the Bayerischer Zuchtverband fuer Kleinpferde- und Spezialpferderassen e.V.

The Studbook has kuerings for foals, mares and the stallions have to pass a mandatory test to gain breeding approval. In the near future, this Studbook will also issue paperwork for Warlander horses in surrounding countries such as Austria, France, Italy, Poland, Switzerland, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

In October 2012 Alexandra's first born Warlander – a rising four year named Anubis von Greenhorn became the world's first Warlander stallion to become officially

approved by the Bayerischer Zuchtverband fuer Kleinpferde- und Spezialpferderassen e.V.

His next step is performance testing, which in Germany is mandatory for approved stallions and has to be completed before their seventh birthday.

Alexandra Green has now bred six Warlander horses, and all of them have received a first premium at their keurings, with one colt receiving a gold premium title in 2011.

EXTREME SPORTS

Holly Zech from Abacus Farms in Sacramento, California, started breeding Warlander horses in 2000.

"I had bred Friesian crosses previously, and the Warlander just seemed logical," she says.

"With the Warlander, you get the best personalities of both breeds; the high intelligence and some of the sensitivity of the Iberian, tempered by the calm and friendly, somewhat easy-going nature of the Friesian."

Now, fourteen Warlander horses later, Holly has a lot of practical experience with the breed and its versatility. Different owners have been taking her horses in different directions, such as competitive dressage and theatrical jousting.

Husband and wife team Phillip and Lisa Leitch from Noble Shadow Stud in Tasmania, Australia; have always found the Warlander horse appealing.

Phillip now plans to take the Warlander one step further into the most dangerous collision sport in history, that has now had a 21st century makeover – competitive jousting.

Phillip was an assistant coach for the Black Team on A&E TV's Full Metal Jousting, and spent three months in America training people to joust (as well as participating in the sport himself.)



Anubis at keuring Photo: Ramona-Duenisc h,de



Abacus Impuesto ridden by Luzette Mostert South Africa



World Champion Warlander stallion Hummer bred and owned by Vaquero Ranch - photo by April Visel

"We are breeding Warlander's because I feel they will make an excellent competitive jousting horse," he says.

"Traditionally, the baroque breeds are the closest to what a true medieval warhorse would have looked like, but today many people have the idea that you need a lumbering draft horse to joust - however this is not the case."

"My ideal jousting mount is close to 16hh, with smooth movement and a nice relaxed canter. Of course, beauty and presence are also desirable traits in a horse that will be performing; we are aiming to produce jousting

horses from our Warlander breeding program in the future," says Phillip.

WARLANDER'S ON THE MOVE

Interest for the Warlander is now reaching to every corner of the globe. Recently a high-school trained stallion was exported from USA to France and Hanlie Mostert and family from Yeguada El Negro Español (Yene Stud) imported a young Warlander stallion Abacus Impuesto to establish the breed in South Africa.

The Mostert family breed KFPS Friesians and daughter Luzette is the winner of the FEI World Dressage Challenge Junior Preliminary as well as the current Free State and Northern Cape Elementary Champion. Abacus Impuesto is being campaigned in official dressage.

"I discovered the Warlander on the internet one evening and I was so surprised at the breed that I decided to take it upon myself and start this totally unknown breed in South Africa," says Hanlie Mostert.

"We now have five Warlander's, and their temperaments are outstanding. They are very



CS Invictus bred by Classical Sporthorse Stud



IF Michaelangelo Second Generation Warlander



Jodie McKeone and Shepherds Hill Larry in 2012. Photo: Ken Shultz



Anubis at keuring. Photo: Irene Hohe

much people orientated horses, and love to be with us and please us."

BREEDING WARLANDER'S

It is obvious that the Warlander will prosper; due to the high calibre of experienced breeders and trainers who have already embraced them.

In late 2012 the new 'Warlander Studbook Society' is being established in Australia to replace the existing US registration service and will continue to register Warlander horses globally. This step forward for the breed will see stricter rules for registration including parental verification (DNA) to ensure a high standard is met.

There are eight different combinations to breed the Warlander horse whilst keeping within the 75% - 25% ratio of purebred Friesian and Iberian blood.

The breeders have their work cut out for them though, as they are dealing with closed studbooks and minute gene pools of the base breeds.

The Friesian breed has three lines - Age 167, Ritske 202 and Tetman 205. Whilst it is not hard to find Friesians that carry all three bloodlines, it is becoming increasingly

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hard to find horses that carry no Tetman blood (said to account for 80/90% of Friesian population). Luckily the Iberian has a much broader base of bloodlines.

The Warlander is already moved into the third generation (2012) by in many cases breeders utilising Iberian lines then crossing back to the Friesian or Warlander.

Other Warlander breeders are able to utilise Tetman free bloodlines as the foundation of their breeding program (such as how the Arabo Friesian breed was developed) and by also using unrelated Iberian lines they have a lot more genetic diversity for future generations.

The Warlander is a well boned and deeply muscled horse, bred specifically for ride ability and versatility. They are not a hot horse and to meet the standard must possess the best characteristics of both base breeds including the typical front end and lofty movement of the Friesian and strong back and powerful hindquarter of the Iberian and that natural collectability. Attributes that are being specifically bred into the Warlander is the Iberians stamina plus an overall longevity and fertility. 🐾

[WARLANDER FACTS]

BASE BREEDS:

DNA Parental Verified and Registered purebred Friesian, PRE (Andalusian), PSL (Lusitano) or PRE x PSL (Pure Spanish Portuguese)

BREEDING PERCENTAGE:

No more than 75% or less than 25% of base breeds. Closed studbook – no other blood allowed

HEIGHT:

Horse size – 14.3hh upwards

COLOUR:

Black, grey, bay, brown, dun (chestnut is possible)

AVAILABILITY:

Australia, Europe, USA, South America, South Africa

MORE INFORMATION:

www.warlanderstudbooksociety.com.au



Anubis. Photo: H. Parow-Souchon