



# Sport Horse Breeding News

Volume 5, Issue 3

“Your Foal Is Our Goal”

July 2009

## Selle Francais

The Selle Francais, or Cheval de Selle Francais, meaning “French Saddle Horse,” is a warmblood breed that has been infused with little foreign blood. Most modern Selle Francais trace back to the Anglo-Norman horse, a breed developed in the 19th century in Normandy by crossing Norfolk Trotter, Thoroughbred and Arabian stallions onto big, solid native mares. The Selle Francais excels at showjumping.

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## Endometrial Infections After Embryo Transfer

A study at the University of Veterinary Sciences in Austria found that sub-clinical infections of the uterine lining, or endometritis, can occur after transcervical embryo transfer (ET). The authors of the study theorized that a subclinical endometritis, that is, one that is not obvious, occurs in mares after ET. The endometritis causes the release of prostaglandins (mediators of inflammation) which can then cause the death and expulsion of the embryo.

To test the theory, viable embryos were transferred into two groups of nine recipient mares. Following transfer of an embryo mares were randomly assigned to receive either a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) such as meclufenamic acid

(Arquel) or a placebo. Four days after the embryo transfer, the embryos were retrieved. An endometrial biopsy and bacterial swab were obtained from each mare.



The mares that had been administered the NSAID had significantly fewer inflammatory cells in their uterus, and a higher number of cells expressing an enzyme which inhibits the production of prostaglandin.

The results suggest that the treatment of embryo recipient mares with non-

steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs inhibits the inflammatory response of the endometrium after embryo transfer.

It was suggested that the NSAID Arquel, might be superior to others, such as flunixin meglumine (Banamine), as it appears not to inhibit embryonic mobility during the period of maternal recognition of the pregnancy as Banamine has been accused of doing.



## Drug-Induced Nurse Mares

Unbred mares can now be brought into milk production to serve as nurse mares. Mares for this protocol should have been previously observed to be good mothers. Maiden mares do not respond to this protocol. This simple drug protocol involves the

once daily administration of an oral domperidone gel, a dopamine antagonist which increases milk production in mares (also used to fight fescue toxicity). Most mares are in decent milk production within 10 days, but do not produce colostrum. When

the foster foal is introduced the mares are given a shot of oxytocin and prostaglandin and a mild sedative. This is followed, very importantly, by a vaginal/cervical massage to stimulate a maternal response.

## Around the Stud Farms

### Gestuet Vorwerk

The esteemed stud farm Gestuet Vorwerk has been sold. The farm will continue operating under the new ownership of Sissy Max-Theurer of Austria.

### Van Uytert & Schockemoehle

2009 KWPN licensing champion Bordeaux (Lingh/Ferro), co-owned by Joop van Uytert and Paul Schockemoehle, will be available from SES in 2010 via frozen semen.

### Gestuet Vorwerk

The auction-topping, record-setting American-bred stallion, Statesman (Stedinger/Donnerschwee), will stand at Gestuet Vorwerk for 2010.

His frozen semen will be available from SES in 2010.

### Verden Auction

The four year old black gelding, Sirius in Black, by Stedinger/Rotspon was sold for the highest price of 62,000 euros at the May Hanoverian auction. He was sold to Great Britain.

### Gerd Sosath

The 11 year old home bred gelding, Laokoon, by Lordanos, ridden by Hendrik Sosath, was fourth in the grueling Hamburg Derby, 5/27.

### Paul Schockemoehle Stud

The champion three year old of the

2009 Free Jumping Day in Vechta, Germany was by Chacco-Blue/Quattro B. She was given an 8.7 for technique and a 9.2 for ability, giving her an incredible total of 17.6.



Statesman

## Endometritis

A major cause of infertility in mares is acute endometritis following breeding. Endometritis is an inflammation of the endometrium, or inner lining of the uterus, which makes the uterine environment unsuitable for the conceptus. In some cases, it can even cause regression of the corpus luteum. Most endometritis is the result of microbial infection, but it can also be due to non-infectious causes. The four classifications of endometritis are venereal infection, chronic infectious endometritis, chronic degenerative endometritis, and mating-induced endometritis, or delay in uterine clearance. Because of its concentration, frozen semen can cause a greater inflammatory re-



sponse than fresh or extended semen.

A normal uterus responds to bacteria introduced via breeding, foaling or veterinary procedures by the rapid influx of neutrophils which

kill the bacteria. The neutrophils normally kill the bacteria within 24 hours, the by-products are then eliminated and the

uterus returns to normal. In most mares, endometritis resolves within 24 to 72 hours post breeding, making the uterus hospitable for the embryo when it descends from the oviduct 5-1/2 days after fertilization.

When uterine fluid is detected by ultrasonography, the veterinarian will probably attempt to remove it by giving oxytocin, which causes uterine contractions that expel the fluid, or by uterine lavage. In lavage, the fluid that is put into the uterus is siphoned out again and examined for the presence of inflammatory cells and bacteria. When infectious endometritis is detected, the uterus is infused with various antibiotics suspended or dissolved in water or saline. The choice of antibiotic is based on an antibiotic sensitivity test. Antibiotics can be combined with oxytocin to good effect. Mares can be safely treated from four hours after mating until three days post ovulation.

## Stallion Spotlight ~ Belissimo M

Belissimo M is poised to become one of the great breeding stallions of our time. He created a sensation as the top seller of the 24th NRW Elite Riding Horse Auction after winning his 30-day test in Zweibruecken with a 9.63 first place in dressage and a very respectable 8.77 in jumping. The same year, he was the undisputed Riding Horse Champion in Verden, Germany and was the 2003 Bundeschampion of four year old riding stallions in Warendorf. He won his qualifier for the final round of the World Championship for young dressage horses in 2004, with



Belissimo M

a 9.38, just missing winning the final with a 9.2. In 2008 eleven of his sons were admitted to the approvals in Verden, Vechta and Muenster-Handorf. Of these, 10 were licensed and four received a premium, two for Westphalia and two for Hanover. Belissimo M's sire, Beltain, was successful in the dressage ring up to S-level. He comes from one of the most popular mare lines in Hanover. His dam, Gaenseliesel, by Romadour II, is a full sister to Celle State Stud sires Garibaldi I and I and is the granddam of Wolkenstein I and II, as well as the Grand Prix dressage horse, Little Big Man. The Celle stallions Brentano I and I and

Vice World Champion and 2004 Olympic bronze winner, Beauvalais are also closely related. Belissimo M foals are highly sought after and bring top auction prices. He sired the 195,000 euro top-priced horse at the 2008 Hanoverian Elite Fall Auction. At the 2008 Hanoverian stallion licensing, his son Bentley, out of a Weltmeyer mare, was knocked down to Paul Schockemoehle and Blue Hors for 310,000 euros. Belissimo M has over 25 approved sons, 11 from his first crop, and over 38 State Premium mares. The German Equestrian Federation (FN) rated Belissimo M fifth in the dressage ranking for 2008, with a rating of 169 points and an accuracy of 91%.

## SES Sires with Offspring in the News

Rifradin by **Gribaldi**, ridden by Helena Espinosa, won the Prix St. Georges and the Intermediare I at the Woodside Spring Dressage Show 5/15-17, qualifying her for the 2009 Collecting Gaits Farm/USEF Festival of Champions. Espinosa also rode Uivertje Ruta by **Jazz** to open reserve champion at the upper levels at the same event. Wonderboy by **Weltmeyer**, ridden by Anya Bershad, won a Prix St. Georges class at the Woodside venue.

Pierre St. Jacques and Lucky Tiger, by **Lucky Light**, had double Grand Prix wins at the Wayne, IL Canaan Ranch CDI, 5/15-17. The duo was the highest placed U.S. pair on the gold medal-winning team at the Pan American Games in 2003.

Stedinger's Lady, by **Stedinger**, was the 2008 USDF dressage sport horse breeding champion of three year old Oldenburg Verband (GOV) fillies. She was third among all three

year old fillies.

At the CDI Wiesbaden, Germany, 5/29-6/1/09, Isabell Werth's promising young Whisper, by **Wolkentanz I**, won the Prix St. Georges and Intermediare I. Her **Warum Nicht** by Weltmeyer won the Grand Prix Special with 76.708%. **Lancet**, under Emma Hindle won both the Grand Prix for Kur and Grand Prix Kur to Music at the same venue.

Moorlands Totilas, by **Gribaldi**, under the ridership of Edward Gal, won the Grand Prix in the first round of the 2009 Dutch Dressage Championships on 6/06 with a 77.063%. He went on to win the Championship on 6/29.

San Shivago, by **Sandro Hit**, under Louise Koch, won the 5 year old selection trials during Dressage At

Flintridge, 5/22-24, La Canada-Flintridge, CA with scores of 80 and 80.40%.

At the same venue, Merrie Velden, riding Sandomere by **Sandro Hit**, won her preliminary test with 76.60% and the finale with 77%.

Sagacious, by **Welt Hit II**, won the Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Freestyle at the Raleigh CDI-W/Y/J and Capital Dressage Classic, 5/29-31, in Raleigh, NC. He was ridden by Lauren Sammis.

Cesar Parra, riding Olympia, by **Jazz**, topped the CDI Prix St. Georges and the Intermediare I at the same event.

Helene, sired by **Hohenstein**, won the 5 year old division of the Markel/USEF Young Horse Dressage Eastern Selection Trials under Teresa Butta, also at Raleigh.



Gribaldi

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[www.SuperiorEquineSires.com](http://www.SuperiorEquineSires.com)

## SES SERVICES

### 2010 Sale Deadlines

*Orders taken any time.*

Early Bird Sale 2/01/10

Dutch Sale 2/01/10

Belgian Sale 3/01/10

Spring Breeders 4/10/10

Danish & French pending

**Front Page Foal Gallery**—Please send foal photos of foals sired by SES sires for possible inclusion on the SES home page. You will receive a link through to your farm or email. Don't miss out on this valuable source of free advertising for your breeding program.

**Link Your Farm**—SES clients receive a FREE link to their website

**Custom Shipments Anywhere in the World**

## Organization Notes & News

### AHS

The American Hanoverian Society is developing a Breed Orientation Seminar that will tentatively be held November 3-6, 2009 in the Sacramento, CA area. The seminar will cover the history of the Hanoverian horse, the breeding aim, selection and breeding rules, theory for evaluating horses, bloodlines and description of traits. It will also include judging of horses in-hand, under saddle, basic gaits and free jumping, plus the role of the Jumper Breeding Program.

Contact: [www.hanoverian.org](http://www.hanoverian.org)

### Continental Studbook

A new North American registry has been formed to register warmbloods and Thoroughbreds for Olympic and hunter sports. The Continental Studbook was designed to be "mare-centric and stallion friendly." The

Studbook will accept all stallions meeting certain criteria and permanently approved or licensed with WBFSH member registries. The Studbook offers cost effective services, minimal bureaucracy, dedicated North American promotion, open warmblood breeding policies, focused breeding direction and geographically unlimited travel-free systems. Contact:

[www.continentalstudbook.com](http://www.continentalstudbook.com)

### KWPN

The KWPN is offering a guided tour for foreign guests after their August KWPN Horse Days and Stallion Selection. The groups will visit sales barns, training facilities, stud farms, foal farms and attend a presentation at the KWPN office. Tours will be conducted twice yearly.

Contact: [salespromotion@kwpn.nl](mailto:salespromotion@kwpn.nl)

## Recommended Reads & Websites

### Warmbloods Today

Finally! A magazine devoted exclusively to warmblood sport horses. A very nice mix of articles on peoples' experiences with their horses, along with thought-provoking opinion pieces and articles by or about various professionals and amateurs. This high quality, glossy magazine covers all breeds of European descent bred for the sports of jumping, dressage, eventing and driving, including the Iberian breeds and American Warmbloods.

Contact:

[www.warmbloodstoday.com](http://www.warmbloodstoday.com), or call  
603-876-4980

