



English Thoroughbred

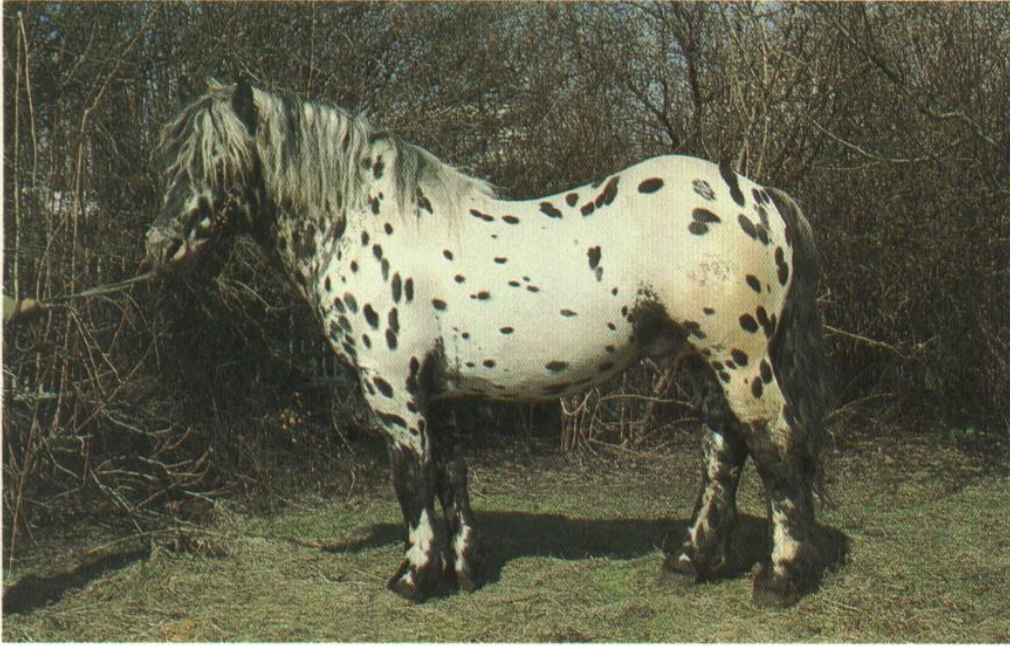
Characteristics: With this breed, it is not the appearance of a horse which decides its use in breeding, but its performance. Square conformation. Most animals are brown or dark brown, but other colours occur. Clean, fine head with large, clear eyes. Long, muscular neck. Sloping shoulders. Prominent, high withers. Back of medium length. Powerful, long and muscular croup. Powerful constitution with short cannons and firm, hard hooves. Silky coat. Long hair is very fine. The average height is 160–170 cm, and the weight is 400–500 kg.

Distribution: Distributed world-wide. Outside the UK, it has been most significant in the USA, France, Italy and the former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Extremely fast, especially in middle distances, both on the flat and in steeplechases. When their career on the track is over, they are often used for equestrian sports and dressage.

They are particularly useful for improving many other breeds.

Breed history: All English Thoroughbreds can be traced back essentially to three oriental stallions (Byerley Turk, Darley Arabian and Godolphin Barb) and nearly 50 mares. The publication of the 'General Stud Book' in England in 1793 had a decisive influence on the consolidation of this breed. Horses to be entered into it must have, in addition to suitable ancestry among close relatives, proof of acceptable performance on the race track, which affirms confidence that they are pure bred. The English Thoroughbred has been involved in the formation of most warm-blood breeds. It is also still crossed with them repeatedly to maintain their nobility, toughness and nerve. International abbreviation: xx.



Knapstruper

Characteristics: Heavy warmblood. Exclusively white with black spots. The long hair and the lower parts of the legs can be white or dark. Convex head. Broad neck. Deep chest. Well-muscled. Powerful constitution. Height 160 cm.

Distribution: Denmark. Isolated animals in other European countries.

Uses: Predominantly used as circus and trick-riding horses.

Breed history: This breed is traced back to a refined mare of unknown origin which a Spanish officer sold in Denmark at the beginning of the nineteenth century. Contrary to the original intention, the mare was not slaughtered but came into the ownership of a breeder of Frederiksborg horses and thus to the Knapstrup estate. This mare was a spiky-haired sable chestnut whose long hair was white and which had numerous white spots on the loins. Her offspring included a large number of

piebald horses, which were formed into a breed. Since the middle of the nineteenth century, other breeds have continually been crossed with it, mainly the Frederiksborg, with which it finally largely merged. In addition to the characteristic coloration, it still differs from the latter by being somewhat lighter. It is kept primarily on the island of Seeland.



Friesian

Characteristics: Heavy warmblood. Always black. Relatively small head with small ears. The prominent neck is carried high. It is slightly curved (swan-neck) and has a long mane. The back is fairly short, the withers are not overdeveloped. It has a powerful constitution. There is prominent feather on the pasterns. On average it is 155–160 cm high.

Distribution: Netherlands, mainly the province of Friesland. Large population in South Africa. The main population in the former West Germany is in North-Rhine/Westphalia.

Uses: Energetic, high trotting action. Smooth gait. In the past it was used mainly in agriculture, today it is primarily used as a carriage horse. Contented and docile.

Breed history: Old Dutch breed, which was cross-bred with Spanish horses in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. In accordance with the taste of the age,

it was bred as a 'baroque' horse. Friesians already had a good reputation as strong but elegant riding horses, which were suitable for classical dressage. About 100 years later, when trotting races were popular in the Netherlands, they proved to be fast sprinters over short distances (300–600 m). When, in the nineteenth century, they could no longer compete with the German breeds of the same line of development which were then better, their breeding plan was changed completely – essentially by introducing English blood.



Einsiedler

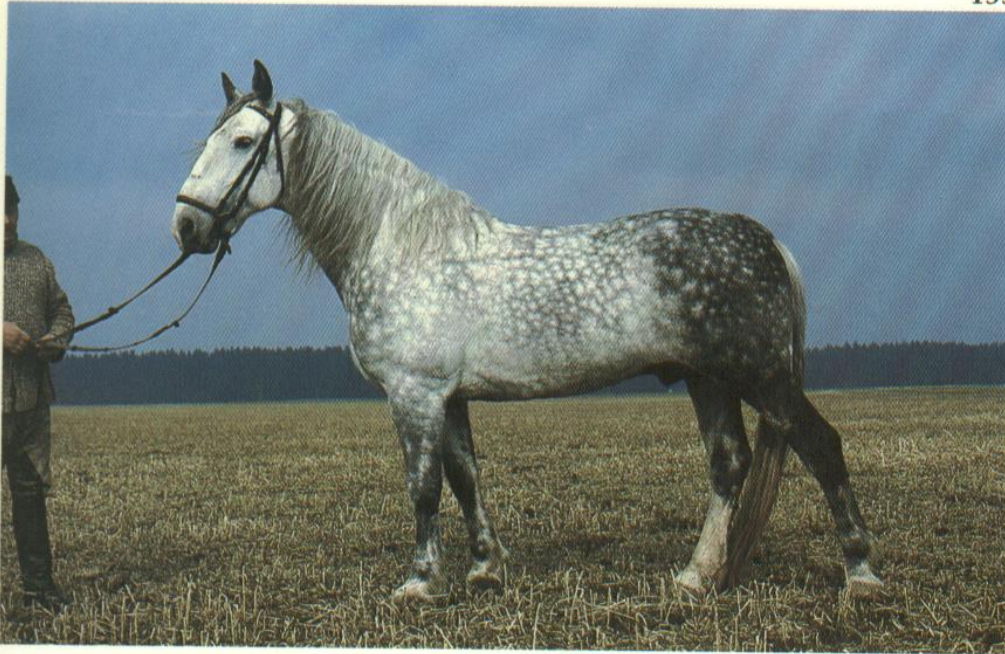
Characteristics: Powerfully built, light warmblood. Well proportioned with expressive face. Strong shoulders. Deep chest. Powerful hindquarters. Height 156–165 cm. All basic colours occur; bays are the most common, chestnuts are less frequent. Blacks and greys are rare.

Distribution: The main population is at the Einsiedeln monastery in the canton of Schwyz. There are isolated animals throughout Switzerland.

Uses: Versatile, all-round horse. Excellent for the saddle and for harness. Light, elegant movements. Sometimes good jumpers. Obedient and of impeccable character.

Breed history: The breed got its name from the Benedictine Abbey of Einsiedeln. The first reference to it dates from 1064. This breed had its golden age in the sixteenth century. Around 1800 the number of horses at the monastery fell owing to the effects

of war. It was therefore necessary to purchase animals from the surrounding area to preserve the stock. As the breed nevertheless reached a low point about the middle of the nineteenth century, foreign stallions were used in the second half of the century: initially a Yorkshire stallion, later Anglo-Normans, which had a formative influence on the type of the breed. Einsiedlers were used at first for travel and transport. Later they were also very popular in the Swiss cavalry. They were particularly prized in Upper Italy. About 20 years ago it was decided to develop the breed into a modern riding horse. This was achieved mainly with French stallions. In Einsiedeln itself there are now about 20 brood mares. The Einsiedlers have their own brand: a raven in flight with the letter E in a circle.



Kladruber

Characteristics: Baroque strain of draught horse; somewhat heavier than the Lipizzaner. Grey or black. Distinctly convex head. Large, round eyes. Arched, short neck. Wide chest. Long, soft back. Relatively short, broad croup. Muscular legs. Flexible fetlocks. Height 160–170 cm.

Distribution: Czechoslovakia, Austria. Some animals in the former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Good-natured and willing. Powerful cart horse with high, short strides. Good show horse. Successful in dressage. In Czechoslovakia it is used to improve land races. Matures late.

Breed history: Its ancestors came from Spain in the sixteenth century. The Court Stud at Kladruby, founded in 1562, bred this heavy warmblood as a coach horse, intended for the Royal Stables of the Austrian Emperor. Occasionally, Hungarian and Italian (Neapolitan) stallions were used to

refresh the stock. The latter included the founder of the grey line. After 1800, little outside stock was used for cross-breeding. Before World War I they were more than 180 cm high, but later they were bred for a more manageable size. Since the decline of the original use, the breed base has become very narrow. It includes little more than 100 brood mares and ten stud stallions. The different colours are bred separately: the greys in Kladrub, the blacks in Slatinany. To prevent in-breeding resulting from the small numbers of this breed, Lipizzaners and recently also a Friesian stallion are used occasionally. Kladruber stallions were two of the founders of the Lipizzaner line.



Lipizzaner

Characteristics: The body shape corresponds to that of the grand baroque horse. Most Lipizzaners are white. Occasionally there are brown, black and chestnut animals; they are not used for breeding, however. The foals are born black, grey or brown. Pleasant, expressive, often convex head. Intelligent eyes. The neck is powerful, set high and nobly carried. Powerful, muscular back. Strong croup. The well set-on tail is thick and composed of fine hair. The distinctly short limbs are clean and shapely; they have clean hocks and well-formed hooves. Height 155–167 cm, weight 450–550 kg.

Distribution: Austria, Hungary, Yugoslavia. Smaller numbers in many other European countries.

Uses: Distinguished by hardiness, stamina and contentedness. Frugal. Quick to learn, intelligent and docile. Natural high knee action. Particularly suitable as a riding and training horse

as well as a carriage horse. Matures very late, long-lived. Lipizzaners are the horses used in the Spanish Riding School in Vienna.

Breed history: Spanish horses came from the Iberian peninsula to Lipica (now in Yugoslavia) in 1580. They were bought repeatedly in the eighteenth century and, since about 1700, Italian, German and Danish horses have been introduced to improve them. In the middle of the nineteenth century they were crossed with Arabs. After a temporary stay in Kladruba in Czechoslovakia, the horses were taken to the Federal Stud in Piber in Styria in 1920, where they have remained since. Occasionally Arabs are crossed with them.



Old Württemberg

Characteristics: Medium-sized, compact horse of the cob type, but quite elegant. Good breadth and depth to body. Relatively short legs. Clean constitution with well-formed joints. Strong bones. Hard hooves. Height 160–165 cm.

Distribution: Originally distributed over the whole of Württemberg, with Oberland and Schwäbische Alb the breeding centres. Only a few animals are left.

Uses: Frugal. Hard and robust. Willing. Strong nerves, obliging. Excellent draught animal. Good stamina. Versatile. Suitable for agriculture and as a carriage horse for medium-sized loads. Long, lively gait.

Breed history: Although the main city of Württemberg (Stuttgart = stud garden) must always have had a close relationship with the horse, and has a horse on its coat of arms, Württemberg has never produced a native breed of

its own. The characteristics of the Württemberg warmblood in the last century were produced mainly by the Anglo-Norman, especially by the stallion 'Faust' which was bought as a three-year-old in Normandy for 5800 Marks. Mares also came from Holstein, Hungary, Carinthia and other regions. In 1908 the first stud book was opened, and 406 mares were entered in it initially. From the 1930s, of all the stallions used only Arabs and to a limited extent, Trakehners, proved suitable. After World War I the breed was established in form and characteristics. Later, a great effort to improve the breed involved displacement cross-breeding with East Prussians. Now there are only a few animals which have not been transformed into elegant riding horses and which still embody the heavier Old Württemberg in the type of the Anglo-Norman.



Rottal

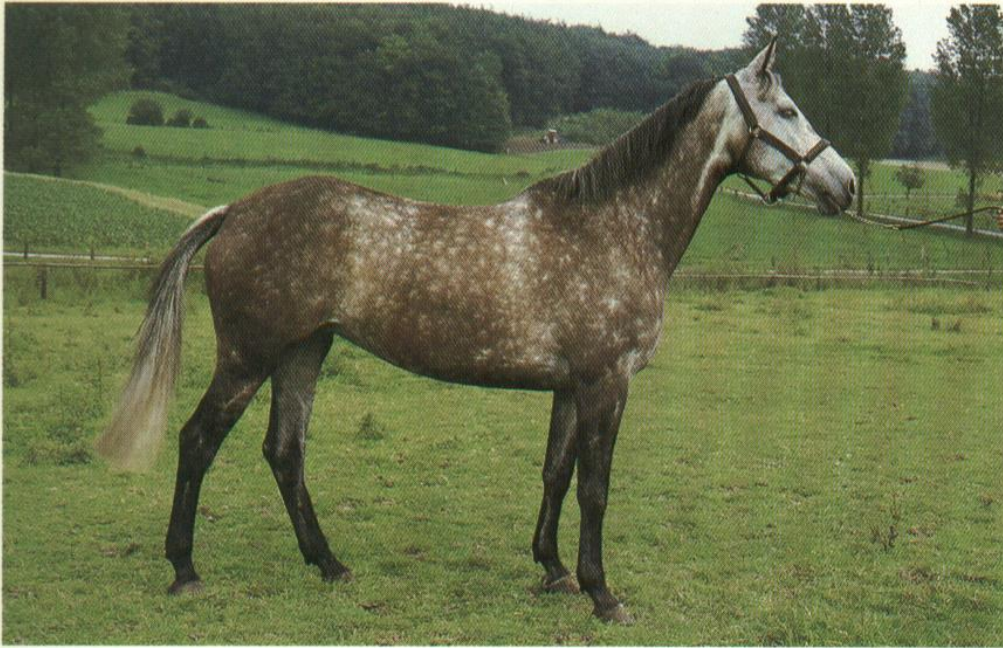
Characteristics: Medium-sized, powerful, low-slung carriage and cart horse. Predominantly brown with few markings; less frequently black. Powerful neck. Well-developed facial area. Large, intelligent eyes. Well set-on, medium-length neck. Reasonably long withers. Deep and broad chest; well-sprung ribs. Round, longish, slightly sloping croup. Nicely carried tail, set fairly high. Clean, powerful joints. Well-formed hooves. Height 160–165 cm.

Distribution: Rottal and surrounding areas. Occasionally in the rest of Bavaria.

Uses: Versatile commercial horse. Eminently suitable for the needs of agriculture in the past, but also ideal for all types of equestrian sports. It was called the 'Rottal carriage horse' in the past, which indicates its main application. Good temperament. Long, lively, energetic gait. Good stamina and

flexibility. Reasonably prolific and long-lived.

Breed history: The Rottal horse breed is the earliest mentioned historically in Germany, apart from the East Friesian. In Rottal in Lower Bavaria it was bred on the basis of Hungarian Raid horses with Arabian stock from the tenth century. In the eighteenth century, Holstein and Anglo-Norman stallions were used to introduce size and strength into the breed. At the end of the nineteenth century, more refined Oldenburg stallions played a decisive part in the development of the breed. In recent decades, Hanoverians, Trakehners, thoroughbreds and Arabs have been used to transform the type into a versatile high-performance horse. Currently there are only about 30 mares with at least 50% Rottal blood.



Senne

Characteristics: Light, elegant, medium-sized warmblood of Anglo-Arab type. Currently mainly brown and grey. Height 155–165 cm.

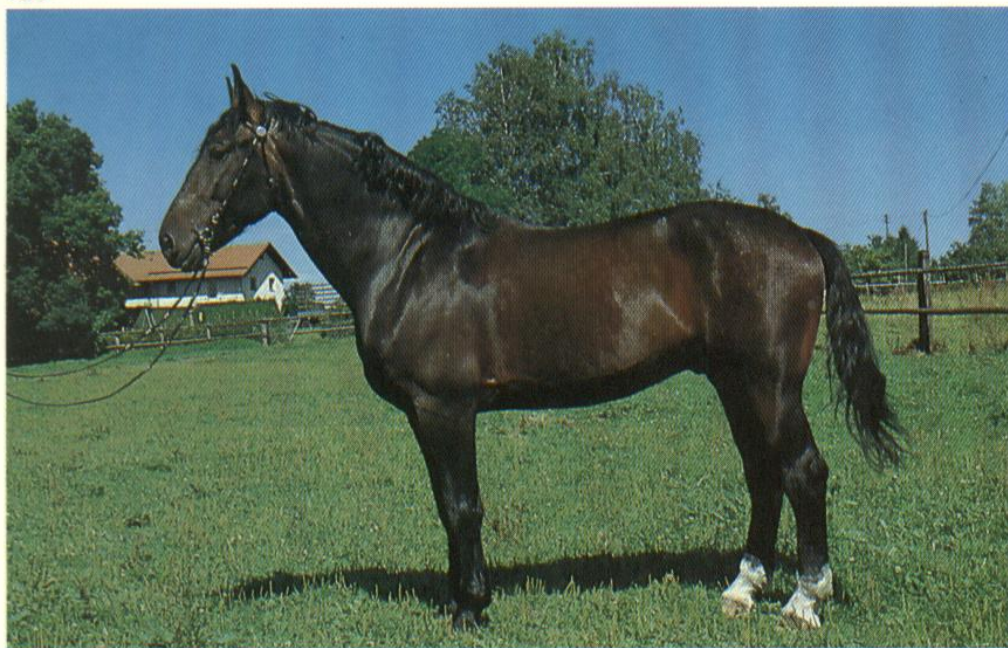
Distribution: Native to the 'Senne', an extensive heath area on the southern slope of the Teutoburg Forest between Bielefeld and Paderborn.

Uses: Used mainly as a riding horse, but also suitable as a carriage horse. Hardy, contented and frugal. Pleasant temperament. Matures late.

Breed history: One of the oldest German horse breeds; first mentioned in 1160. Until 1680 the stud was near Detmold; then it was moved to Lopshorn. The true habitat of the Senne was forest and heath; it lived outdoors all year round. Mares and foals were only rounded up to select the necessary animals for work and riding. From the middle of the eighteenth century, stallions of foreign descent, mainly refined horses of Spanish or oriental

origin, were crossed with them. From 1870 the horses were no longer driven to forest pasture; they thus lost the basis for their physical and temperamental specialisation.

After World War I the remaining horses passed from the ownership of the Princes of Lippe to that of the Association of Lippe Horse Breeders. In 1935 the stud was disbanded. A Dutch woman, Mrs J. M. Immink, obtained some of the animals and continued breeding them on Lopshorn. In 1946 the stud was finally disbanded. The horses were sold to private individuals and institutions in the former West Germany and the Netherlands. Here some have continued to be bred in accordance with the original breeding plan.



Oldenburg

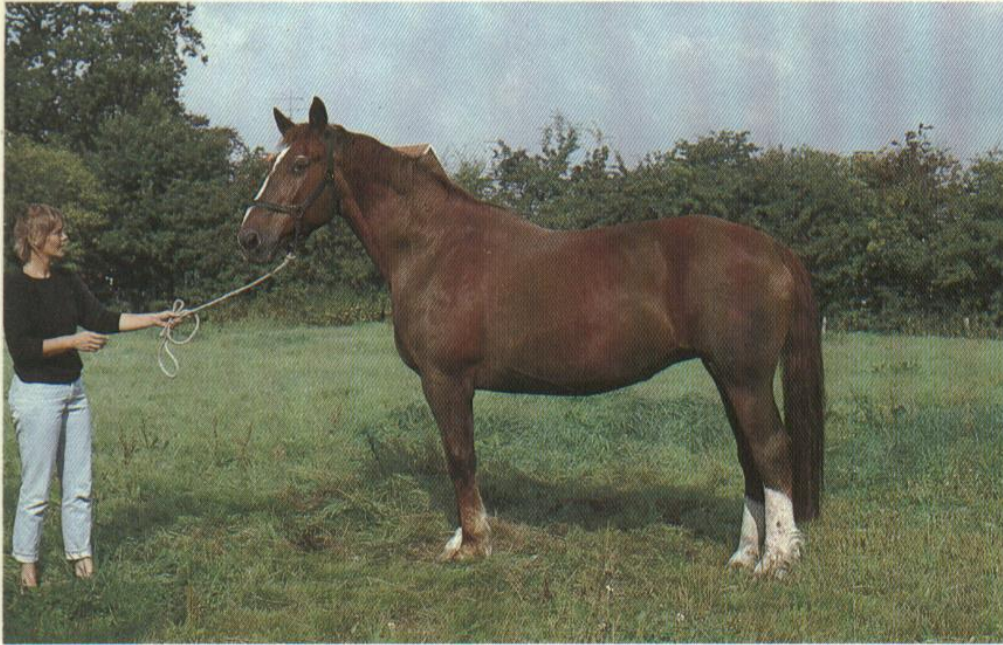
Characteristics: Well-balanced heavy warmblood. Brown, dark brown or black with few markings. Harmonious and muscular build. Good neck conformation. Head generally compressed. Strong constitution. Height 157–165 cm, weight 550–650 kg.

Distribution: Only a few remaining examples in the old Oldenburg core breeding area. Somewhat more widely distributed in the subsequent traditional breeding areas such as Poland and the former German Democratic Republic (Moritzburg).

Uses: Flexible, willing. Elegant, heavy carriage horse with typical reliable draught and working qualities. Calm temperament. Energetic, effective trotting gait. Tough, robust and resistant to harsh weather.

Breed history: It was developed by mating Friesian mares with Andalusian and oriental stallions. The 'elegant Oldenburg carriage horse' was one of

the oldest and most highly bred warm-blood breeds in Germany. In the seventeenth century, the historian V. Halem wrote: 'the Oldenburg horses are bought for their size, beauty and strength and are prized by Counts and potentates'. From the middle of the 1930s, English thoroughbreds and Anglo-Normans were crossed with them. The breeding plan protected the Oldenburg breed type for a long time, but during its conversion to a riding horse in the 1960s and 1970s by means of extensive use of thoroughbred and Hanoverian stallions, the original type had to be displaced. Breeding of warmbloods in the Netherlands and Denmark can be traced back essentially to Oldenburg stock. The same applies to the breeding of heavy warmbloods in Austria. About 100 years ago, Oldenburg stallions were introduced into the old breeding area of the Rottal, so the last remaining Rottals resemble the Oldenburg.



East Friesian

Characteristics: Heaviest German warmblood breed. Mainly black or brown with few markings. Head not too large. Neck quite long and set high. Long, sloping, well-muscled shoulders. Medium-length, flexible back. Saddle position well marked. Croup long, slightly sloping and well-muscled. Deep body. Well-knit flanks. Strong constitution with powerful but clean joints. Height 160–165 cm.

Distribution: The old East Friesian breed range. In the past also found in Hesse, Saxony and Silesia.

Uses: Calm temperament. Because of its size it is suitable as a draught horse on the heavy land of East Friesland. Impressive show horse. Frugal, matures early. Lively movement with a long stride.

Breed history: It was developed from land strains by crossing with oriental, English and Normandy stock. Later it was strongly influenced by the heavy

Hanoverian and, owing to cooperation with the Oldenburg breed area, the Oldenburg. During the period when it was changing from a draught horse to a riding horse after World War II, Arab thoroughbreds were used extensively to give the East Friesian nobility and toughness. The East Friesian stud book later became linked to the society of Hanoverian warmblood breeders. Today, East Friesian riding horses are bred on pure Hanoverian stock. There are few remaining examples of the original East Friesian. Attempts are now being made to preserve the remaining breeding stock as a 'heavy warmblood' by using Oldenburgs and an English Cleveland Bay stallion.



Trakehner

Characteristics: Very refined riding and sporting horse. Fine, expressive head. Long, curving neck. Long withers. Long, sloping shoulders. Long, deep, but rather narrow chest. Flat croup with high-set tail. Clean, sinewy limbs. Colours include black, brown, chestnut and grey. Stallions on average 165 cm, mares 162 cm high.

Distribution: Germany, Poland, former USSR, Netherlands and other European countries, North America and Africa.

Uses: Highly bred. Good stamina, fast. Long, lively gait. Limbs suitable for jumping and cross-country as well as dressage. Good temperament and excellent character. Matures late.

Breed history: In 1732 scattered stud farms were combined to form the Royal Trakehnen Stud Office, which later became the Central Trakehnen Stud. When the East Prussian Regional Studs were founded in 1787, Trakehnen was given the task of providing stud

stallions for the Regional Horse Breeding Organisation. Prime stud animals now included only their own stallions, Arabs and thoroughbreds. The Arabs gave the Trakehners their beauty, the thoroughbreds gave them their large build, and both contributed to their good nerves and nobility. After World War I, they changed from cavalry horses to agricultural horses: fairly strong, good deep ribs and excellent temperament. At the end of World War II they moved to West Germany in a week-long trek which was full of privation. Thoroughbred stallions are used extensively. Other countries continue to breed mainly from the lines of Dampfross, Parcifal and Tempelhüter, etc. The Trakehner has made a considerable contribution to the refinement of other warmblood breeds. In Germany and elsewhere there are about 4,000 registered mares and about 300 registered stallions.



German Riding Horse

Characteristics: Generous lines. Epitome of warmblood horse. Expressive head. Powerful, well set-on neck. Prominent withers. Well-positioned shoulders. Deep chest. Compact body. Well muscled, sloping croup. Well set-on, nicely carried tail. Correct stance, strong leg bones. Hard hooves. All basic colours occur, with and without markings. Height 160–170 cm.

Distribution: The former West Germany. Occurs as a sporting and breeding horse in many other European countries as well as North and South America.

Uses: Good-natured, well-balanced. Strong nerves, good stamina. Its character and riding performance make it suitable for all types of riding. Outstanding multi-purpose horse, very willing. Leading breed all over the world for competition and dressage. Ideally suited as carriage and leisure horse.

Breed history: Warmbloods have been kept in Germany for many centuries. They resulted partly from crossing indigenous heavy horses with Andalusians, Neapolitans, oriental horses and thoroughbreds. The desire for a more elegant sporting horse in recent decades has meant that more thoroughbreds, Arabs and Trakehners have been used for cross-breeding. After World War II there was an increased exchange of blood between the individual associations, so the German warmblood breeds, which had originally differed in type, became increasingly homogeneous. In 1975 the horse breed societies decided to formulate a common breeding programme. The individual breed societies still have their own brand marks, however.

After World War II, the horse population in the Federal Republic of Germany was more than 1.5 million. After that, there was a sharp decline in horse keeping, and the population reached a low point of 252,000 animals in 1970. The subsequent increase ended again in 1981. In 1983, 354,000 horses were kept in the Federal Republic. In 1986 there were a total of 4964 selectively bred stud stallions (Table 12). Warmbloods (cross-breeds) and Arabs accounted for almost half of all stallions. The population of breeding mares was 87,349. While the main area for breeding warmbloods is around Hanover, in the case of ponies, most breeding mares are in Westphalia and Bavaria. In 1984 there were 17 auctions of riding horses in West Germany, at which 870 riding horses were sold at prices between 4,000 and 180,000 DM. The total turnover was DM 15.76 million and the average price of all riding horses sold was DM 18,120. There were 16,500 horses exported. Most of them went for slaughter (11,844), almost exclusively to France and Belgium. Breeding horses were bought mainly from the USA (367), and other types of working horse were bought primarily from Italy (2192) (source: FN annual report 1984). These examples show that the horse can have considerable commercial significance.

Unlike other species of livestock, there is no great difference between the sexes in horses. Stallions of individual breeds are only a few centimetres taller and only slightly heavier than the mares. Nevertheless, they can generally be recognised easily from the overall more compact build, the more powerful upper neck (stallion comb) and their temperament.



124 Cowherds sorting the animals in Argentina.

Table 12. Numbers of breeding horses in the Federal Republic of Germany in 1986.

<i>Breed</i>	<i>Studs</i>	<i>Registered Mares</i>	<i>Total</i>
Warmblood	1,348	52,321	53,669
Trakehner	243	3,221	3,464
Coldblood	151	2,084	2,235
English Thoroughbred	113	2,135	2,254
Trotter	383	3,728	4,111
Arab	618	3,728	4,346
Haflinger	348	6,682	7,030
German Riding Pony	281	4,261	4,542
Welsh Pony	264	1,793	2,057
Shetland Pony	257	1,352	1,609
Icelandic Pony	194	2,242	2,436
Fjordpferd	88	1,016	1,104
New Forest Pony	56	487	543
Connemara Pony	41	373	414
Dartmoor Pony	11	64	75
Other	160	626	786
Total	4,964	82,385	87,349

Source: 1986 annual report of the Deutsche Reiterliche Vereinigung e.V. (German Equestrian Association), and 1984 commercial report of the Association of Breeders and Friends of Warmbloods of Trakhener Stock e.V.

breeds, for example the Fjord, the mane is often trimmed fashionably, but such an upright mane is then an artificial creation. Even in the case of the new Tarpan, a supposedly wild horse, the standing mane has not recurred, despite occasional cross-breeding with Przewalski horses.

The view that the original form of the domestic horse is to be found not in the Przewalski but in another species of wild horse is supported in particular by the different number of chromosomes: while the Przewalski has 66 chromosomes, domestic horses have only 64. All other differences – coloration, size, body proportions, etc. – can be regarded as resulting from domestication. The fact that the Tarpan was still regarded as a wild horse in the eighteenth century does not mean much. At that time, biological knowledge and understanding of the processes of domestication were not adequate for differentiating between truly wild animals and feral animals. Therefore the Tarpan may well have been a feral horse. It should be borne in mind that the Dülmen is still occasionally called a wild horse.

Man has always had a different relationship with horses from that with other agricultural livestock. This is probably not really due to the intelligence of these animals, on which opinions differ, in any case. However, it cannot be denied that they have a distinct sensibility and the ability to adjust to people and to react to the slightest utterance. The reason for the special relationship between man and horse is probably that the usefulness of the horse lies not in products but in its capabilities in conjunction with man. The ability to keep and own a horse was a distinction in the past. The expressions 'cavalier' and 'chivalrous' still bear witness to the high social prestige once enjoyed by the horse-rider.

Riding sports such as polo and arena riding are considered to be high points of court and village life all over the world. In the past, they were an essential part of the culture of a nation. Riding sports were not regarded merely as sport and pleasure. Aspects of character were practised and confirmed in them. In China, good polo players were given preference for ministerial posts in the past, as it was assumed that the skills learned in the game would be of value in performing their tasks (Isenbart and Bühler, 1969). The horses which achieved most success in competition were preferred for breeding. The result is not just the English thoroughbred and trotter but also numerous other breeds, such as the Quarter Horse and the Appaloosa. It is not at all rare for good sports horses to be descended from horses which have had a hard struggle for existence. In extensive cattle farming, some horses reveal a distinct 'cow sense'. This means they have the ability to comprehend their task in separating individual animals and to recognise their attempts to escape. Such horses can work quite independently without much assistance from the rider (124). It is difficult not to regard this ability as intelligence.

Horses

In central Europe, the horse can no longer be considered as agricultural livestock. It is used only for sport and leisure. This fact makes it easy to forget the important part played by the horse in the development of human civilisation and culture. Its strength and willingness to work made it invaluable in agriculture. It helped to work the land and reap the harvest, it took the agricultural products to town and facilitated more extensive trade between countries. Where commerce and transport were possible without horses, for instance where rivers allowed travel by ship, horses still had to be used to move the ships back up-river. For our eastern neighbours, the horse has not lost much of its original importance.

World-wide, it is not so numerous as cattle, sheep and pigs, but it occurs everywhere. It is kept in the tropics, occurs in its most improved form in deserts and survives north of the Arctic Circle, even when kept outdoors all year round. Horses thrive even if the grazing is so sparse that they must spend up to 14 hours a day looking for fodder, and drinking water is several days walk away. In unfavourable circumstances they will eat salty seaweed on the coast, and even fish that have been washed up.

Most horses are kept in countries where there is great reliance on agriculture, and where mechanisation is not universal or the use of horses is considered more economical. Other centres of horse-keeping are found in countries which, because of the standard of living, can afford to keep numerous horses as a pastime, or where large areas are suitable only for pasture (e.g. the USA). Horses can be used in many ways. Special uses require special breeding. This is the reason for the multiplicity of horse breeds.

Discussion on the evolution of the horse is still continuing. Experts who have studied this question extensively are, however, in no doubt that all domestic horses – from the tiny Falabella to the giant Shire – can be traced back to one ancient form (Herre and Röhrs, 1973; Hemmer, 1983). Views are not so unanimous on the question of which wild form is the ancestor of the domestic horse. Sometimes it is assumed that when the horse was domesticated there was only one single wild horse species, even if it had several different sub-species: the Przewalski horse (*Equus przewalskii*). There are about 200 examples of this horse species in captivity, and there may also be remnants in the area to which it has retreated – Mongolia, near the Chinese border. The upright mane of these horses is characteristic (187). They resemble all other wild horses in this feature. In contrast, no form of domestic horse has an upright mane, even if this is occasionally claimed to be the case. In the case of some

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Przewalski's Horse

Characteristics: Stocky, compact wild horse with the conformation of a pony. The colour varies from dun with a hint of grey through reddish yellow to a strong red tone. The mane, tail and legs are black, and the area around the muzzle is almost white (mealy muzzle). It has a dark back line, a clear shoulder line, and sometimes zebra striping on the legs. Heavy head. Short ears (mouse ears). The upright mane is a notable feature. Height 130–155 cm. It has 66 chromosomes, unlike the domestic horse which has 64.

Distribution: There are almost 700 examples in zoos and reserves. It appears to be extinct in the region of origin of the type in Mongolia, near the Chinese border (in the Gobi desert between the Altai and Tianshan mountains).

Uses: Wild form. In captivity it has only exhibition value.

Breed history: According to cave

paintings, it also lived in western Europe in the Palaeolithic age. It was presumably driven out into inhospitable regions by intense human persecution (competition with domestic animals for fodder, unwanted mating with domestic mares). In 1870 it was discovered in Mongolia by the Russian asiatic researcher Przewalski. In 1899 and 1902 a total of 58 horses were captured, only 11 of which are represented in recent blood lines. In 1947 another mare was captured, and there was also a Mongolian domestic horse mare. Today's Przewalski Horse population therefore is descended from 13 ancestors. Only 31 Przewalski Horses survived World War II. To preserve the type, an international stud book is kept in Prague, in which every individual is registered. In 1987, five animals from the Hellabrunn animal reserve in Munich were taken to a new breeding station in north-west China. The offspring will be released into the wild.



Mustang

Characteristics: Small, compact horse. All colours occur. Part-coloured animals are common. They have a large head, long ears, and a straight nose line. Clean limbs. Hard, flat hooves. Height 130–145 cm. Mustangs weigh about 450 kg (stallions), or 350 kg (mares).

Distribution: The west of the USA (mainly Nevada, Wyoming and Oregon), and of Canada. There are feral horses on some of the islands off the Atlantic coast of these countries. These have a different origin, however, and are designated differently.

Uses: Contented. Tough. Easily tamed.

Breed history: The word *mustang* is derived from the Spanish word *mestano*. It means that the animal does not belong to an individual person, but is common property. Mustangs are feral; i.e. they have no owner. Originally, the expression was used only for feral horses of Spanish descent; that is, for the animals and their offspring that

escaped from the Spanish in the first phase of the settlement of North America, and became feral. At the end of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth centuries it is estimated that there were 2–5 million feral horses in the area of today's USA. These were 120–130 cm high at the withers. At the beginning of the twentieth century, their size and weight increased, especially in their northern range, as they interbred with escaped or released warm-and-coldbloods of disparate ancestry. Mustangs formed the basis of a number of North American horse breeds. Before the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act came into force in 1971, large numbers were culled and processed into animal feed. Excess animals are now captured and sold to enthusiasts for a few hundred dollars.



Falabella, Argentinian Dwarf Pony

Characteristics: Smallest horse breed in the world. They may be black, brown or grey. The average height is 65 cm, but some fully grown animals reach only 40 cm and weigh only 12 kg. Foals weigh 1–4 kg at birth.

Distribution: Argentina, North America, central Europe.

Uses: Garden or house horse. Occasionally they are used as a special attraction in the circus or zoo. Not suitable for the saddle or harness. The smaller they are, the more they cost.

Breed history: The breeding base consisted mainly of small Shetland Ponies, but also some larger horses. This breed is thought to have originated in a herd which was isolated in a ravine in the Andes of Argentina by a landslide. The animals remained cut off for generations and had very sparse fodder. This caused selection for small individuals. Julio Falabella

discovered them there and rescued them from the ravine. Planned breeding began in 1868. The main stud is near Buenos Aires. The population now numbers about 1000 horses. Apparently, stallions are only rarely allowed to leave Argentina.



American Shetty

Characteristics: Small pony with proportions similar to those of a full-size horse. May be all one colour or part-coloured; all colours occur. Refined head, often pointed. Small ears. Slim midquarters. Slim legs, in proportion with respect to the body. Height up to 110 cm.

Distribution: North America. Central Europe.

Uses: Children's pony. Good-natured. Strong enough to pull twice its own weight and to carry up to 60 kg. Friendly nature. Adaptable. Easily trained.

Breed history: Was developed from the compact island conformation of the Shetland Pony. It is considerably more dainty and relatively longer-legged than the initial form. Shetland Ponies of this type are sometimes used on race tracks with tiny Sulkiés in the USA. Mini-Shetties are not a separate breed. They are the smallest individuals of the

American Shetland Pony, and are entered in a different register from the latter if they are below a height of 34 inches (86.4 cm). Enormous sums are paid for some animals: the smaller the horse, the higher the price. A price of \$10,000 is quite possible for a fully grown animal which is less than 75 cm at the withers. References to miniature horses date back 300 years. Systematic breeding started around 1860. The small body size is often a result of depressive inbreeding. Apparently, Falabellas were introduced from time to time.



Shetland Pony

Characteristics: A dwarf horse which is obliging, refined, placid and intelligent. The basic colour is black; they may also be bay, chestnut, grey, part-coloured or (rarely) spotted. Clean, well-proportioned head with small, well set-on ears. Large, friendly eyes. Broad forehead, straight nose line, large nostrils. The neck is strong, muscular and short. Broad back. Well-muscled, fairly long croup. Tail set-on low. Sloping shoulders. Powerful legs. Hard, well-formed hooves. The coat varies depending on season: in summer it is short, smooth and shiny; in winter it is long, dense and firm. Thick mane, large forelock, long, thick tail. Height 98-106 cm (maximum), weight 150-200 kg.

Distribution: Mainly the region of origin, the Shetland Islands. Distributed almost world-wide. In the former Federal Republic of Germany, in Schleswig-Holstein and Lower Saxony.

Uses: From time immemorial, these tough, robust horses have been kept as pack and draught animals in their native habitat. They were used as pit ponies in coal mines in the UK. Their small size and good nature make them good riding horses for children. Their fast, clipped gait makes smooth riding difficult, however, especially at a trot. Can gallop and jump well. Good carriage horse for small carts. Good-natured, friendly and not easily startled. Easy to feed and care for.

Breed history: They have been kept for about 2000 years on the Shetland Islands. After the turn of the century they were brought to continental Europe by the Hagenbeck zoo in Hamburg. They achieved more widespread distribution there in later years. In North America they have undergone further development (cf. American Shetty).



Welsh Pony

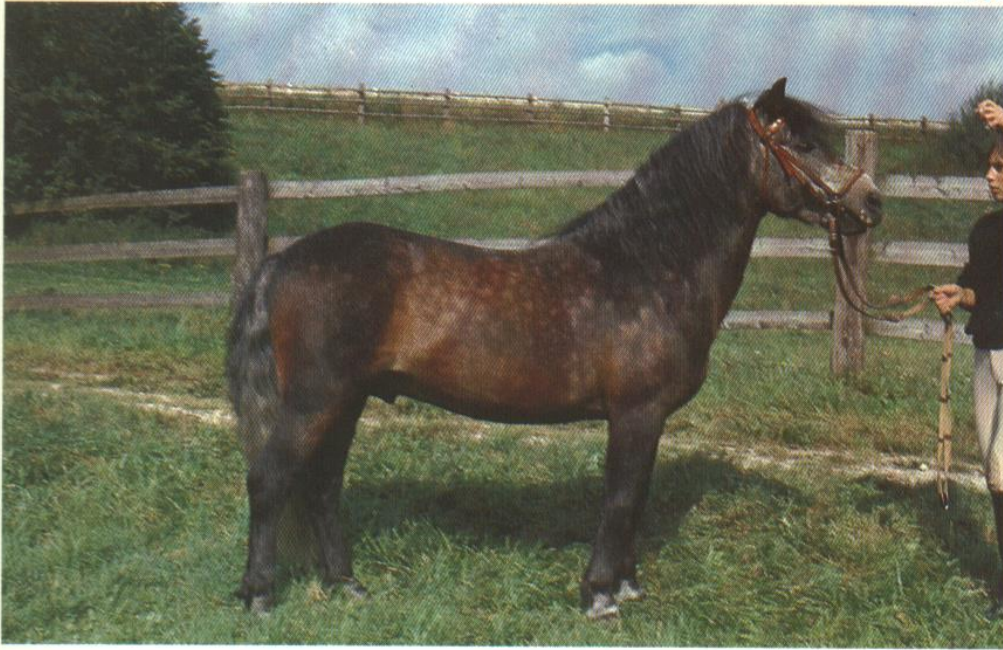
Characteristics: The Welsh Pony is bred in five strains, Sections A (182) to D differing essentially in size (Section A: maximum height 122 cm; Section D: a distinct element of full-size horse). The fifth strain, the Welsh Part-Bred, is the result of crossing Welsh Ponies of all Sections with other breeds. Originally the basic colours were bay and black. The Arab influence now means that grey is quite common. All colours are permitted, except piebald, skewbald and spotted. The following description applies to all except the Welsh Part-Bred: clean, fine head; large, clear, lively eyes. Small ears. Long, well set-on neck. Gently curved topline with naturally arching neck. Fairly high withers. Round croup, not too short, with high set-on tail. Long, sloping shoulders. Fairly heavy, clean constitution. Small firm hooves.

Distribution: UK. Central Europe. In the former West Germany, in Lower

Saxony and Westphalia.

Uses: Depending on suitability and size, used for riding and light draught in the army and in agriculture, as well as a pack and pit horse. Good jumper or light draught horse, depending on Section. Its strength, endurance and walking ability make it a suitable progression for older children for leisure riding and arena events. Fluid, energetic movements; well-rounded action with a powerful thrust from the hind-quarters.

Breed history: Animals in Section A are regarded as the original type. For more than 1000 years they have lived in the sparsely populated mountains of Wales. For more than 200 years, Thoroughbreds, Hackneys and Norfolk Trotters have been introduced into Section D from time to time (cf. Welsh Cob).



Dartmoor Pony

Characteristics: Refined and elegant. Predominantly bay or black, but all colours are allowed, except piebald and skewbald. Small, fine head. Small ears. Long, nicely arched, fairly light neck. The back, renal area and hips are powerful and muscular. Good saddle position. Croup short and sloping, with high set-on tail. Fairly strong legs. Very hard and well-formed hooves. A height of 120–127 cm is desirable.

Distribution: Mainly the county of Devon in the south-west of England. In the former Federal Republic of Germany there are breeding pockets in Schleswig–Holstein and Bavaria.

Uses: Very popular riding horse for children, with a good stride, can trot and gallop well, excellent jumper. Placid and reliable.

Breed history: It has lived for centuries on the heaths and moors of Dartmoor in the south-west of England. At the end of the nineteenth century the

Dartmoor type was established and a stud book was opened.



Exmoor Pony

Characteristics: Stocky, well-balanced build. They may be bay, dark bay or dark dun. Black nostrils. Mealy muzzle. Lighter on the belly, the inside of the front and rear thighs, and around the eyes. Broad forehead. Slightly protruding eyes. Short, thick, pointed ears. Wide nostrils. Deep, broad chest. Medium-length back with strong loins. The tail falls close to the rear legs. The shoulders are well set back and make it sure-footed. Clean legs with very hard hooves. Height 114–130 cm.

Distribution: UK. Various countries of continental Europe and North America. Only a few examples in the former West Germany.

Uses: Extremely tough and hardy. Good stamina, agile and very responsive.

Breed history: Represents a very ancient type of horse. It has lived on Exmoor, a wild area in the south-west of England, for centuries. It is popular

for crossing with other breeds. The introduction of other breeds has not proved to be worthwhile.



New Forest Pony

Characteristics: Refined, tough pony, which is not uniform in type. All colours apart from part-coloured are allowed. The basic colours are all shades of brown and chestnut. The original conformation has a medium-sized, clean head and a short neck. Fairly long back. Steeply sloping shoulders. High withers. Deep chest. Powerful renal region. Croup often sloping. High-set tail. Good constitution. The refined animals are 138–148 cm high; the semi-wild ones are about 10 cm lower.

Distribution: The New Forest area in the south of England, and the Netherlands. In the former Federal Republic of Germany they are concentrated in Schleswig–Holstein, Lower Saxony and Bavaria.

Uses: Placid temperament. Suitable as a riding horse for both children and adults. Can gallop and jump well.

Breed history: In the tenth century

reference was made to small horses existing in the current area of distribution of this breed in the south of England. Up to 1938, many breeds were crossed with the ancient type. No outside stock has been used for about the last 30 years. About 3,000 animals are allowed to range freely, and receive no feed or shelter even in winter. There are also numerous studs which breed an improved, larger form by using Thoroughbreds. Many New Forest ponies were exported to the former Federal Republic of Germany in the 1970s.



Connemara Pony

Characteristics: Well-balanced, compact, refined riding pony. All colours occur. Until a few decades ago, the dun colour was most common, as a result of the Andalusian/Spanish blood. As Arab stallions have been introduced from time to time, grey is now the dominant colour. Refined, fairly large head with relatively large ears. Long, well set-on, not over-developed neck. Long, sloping shoulders. Well-defined withers. Straight, strong back. Long, slightly sloping croup; well-muscled, becoming feathered lower down. Deep girth. Powerful, clean limbs. Well-formed, hard hooves. Height 142–148 cm. In size they are ponies, but in conformation they are small horses.

Distribution: Originally Ireland, now almost world-wide. They are concentrated in the UK and France, and are becoming more popular in Bavaria.

Uses: Good, long stride and galloping ability and an excellent jumper. Com-

bines the riding characteristics of a full-sized horse with the hardiness and frugality of a pony. Agile and sure-footed. Placid nature. Well-balanced temperament.

Breed history: Connemara in the province of Connaught in the west of Ireland has been the home of this pony for centuries. Descended from horses of the Exmoor type. In the nineteenth century and early twentieth century, coldbloods, Arabs, and English Thoroughbreds were introduced to give more calibre and commercial suitability to these horses which had been used primarily as riding ponies until then. There has been a breeding programme since 1923 when the Irish Pony Breed Society was founded. After that, Thoroughbred stallions were used. Since 1951 no stallions of other breeds have been used. Connemaras first came to the Continent at the start of the 1960s. The stud book in Ireland contains about 3000 mares and 200 stallions.



New Tarpan

Characteristics: Stock, muscular pony. Mousy grey to blue-grey. Light, short head. Broad forehead. Large eyes. Fine constitution. The mane has a slight tendency to be upright. There is often a suggestion of zebra striping on the legs. Stallions are 120–130cm high and weigh 300–350kg. Mares are on average 5 cm lower and 50kg lighter.

Distribution: In the former West Germany it is kept in East Friesland and in some animal parks. Most animals are kept in Poland and the former Soviet Union.

Uses: Very prolific. Good mothers. Well-developed herd instinct. Good-natured.

Breed history: Wild or feral horses that were quite common in the Ukraine in the seventeenth century were called Tarpans. Wild horses lived in north-east Poland and in Lithuania into the eighteenth century. The latter were caught and kept in captivity. At the

start of the nineteenth century the herds were disbanded and the horses were distributed among local farmers. They were absorbed into the Koniks, the local landrace. After World War I, 17 animals that were suitable in appearance and size were collected together in Poland, and a breed was developed from them. Now, several herds are kept there in conditions resembling the wild. In Germany, attempts were made to breed them in the 1930s in Hellabrunn in Munich. The horses used were Icelandic and Gotland mares mated with a Przewalski stallion. Since the start of the 1970s there has been a herd at Wittmund in East Friesland, which is descended from the Polish stock. Appropriate selection for breeding means that the new form closely resembles the earlier wild form.



Icelandic Pony

Characteristics: Stocky, compact riding pony. Chestnut, black or bay, less commonly grey or part-coloured. Short, broad, fairly light head with small ears and a bushy forelock. Short neck with powerful mane. The shoulders are long, sloping and well-muscled. Powerful, tough build. Divided, slightly raised, sloping croup. Short, strong legs. Often splay-footed. Short, powerful pasterns. Hard, durable hooves. Coarse coat which repels rain well. The desired height is 130–138 cm with a weight of 350–400 kg.

Distribution: Iceland. Many countries in continental Europe. In the former Federal Republic of Germany it is concentrated in Rhineland and Palatinate.

Uses: Originally used as a draught horse in agriculture and for travel. Bred as a saddle animal for use in the rough country in its native land. Very sure-footed. In addition to the three common gaits it uses the tilt and pace.

Robust riding pony. Suitable for adults. Placid temperament. Tough and frugal. May be reared extensively with shelter. **Breed history:** In the ninth and tenth centuries, the Vikings brought Scandinavian and Celtic ponies to Iceland. Since then the Icelandic Pony has had no introduction of outside stock in its own country. At about the turn of the century planned breeding was started. First exported to Germany in fairly small numbers in the 1930s. Greater numbers exported from the 1960s.



Fjord

Characteristics: Robust small horse. Mostly dun with a black back line, which continues as a black line in the mane to the ears and as a black band in the tail. There is often a hint of zebra striping on the legs. Small white markings on the head are allowed, but not on the legs. Large, nicely shaped head with broad forehead, large eyes and a straight or slightly concave nose line. Short ears. Short, powerful neck which merges into the normally long back with almost no withers. Sloping, well-muscled shoulders. Deep girth. Long forearm and short mid-foot. Pasterns fairly long. Croup short, pointed and sloping. Height 135–145 cm, weight 350–500 kg.

Distribution: Norway. All other parts of northern and central Europe. In the former West Germany they are concentrated in Hesse.

Uses: Suited to forestry work, part-time businesses and special businesses

such as fruit-growing and viticulture. Suitable as a leisure horse, even for heavy adults. Lively, long, nimble gait with power and thrust from the hind-quarters. Good-natured. Willing and obliging. Robust and frugal.

Breed history: Old Norwegian breed. It was developed in extensive husbandry in the harsh climate of the north, without the introduction of outside stock. In Norway it is used in agriculture. Introduced into Germany in the 1950s for the same purpose. As increasing mechanisation reduced agriculture's need for them, and the demand for riding ponies increased, the breeding plan changed from the broad, deep commercial conformation to the more refined, cleaner type with good withers and good walking ability.



Haflinger

Characteristics: Small, stocky, well-balanced horse with fine long lines and good muscling. Chestnut, ranging from pale, golden light chestnut to dark liver chestnut. Clean, hard bones. Small head with lively, clear eyes and small ears, indicating Arab influence. Good hooves. Thick mane, preferably flaxen colour. Powerful, slightly wavy tail. Markings are common. Height 135–145 cm, weight 350–400 kg.

Distribution: Austria, Italy, the former Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland and about 20 other countries. In Germany they are concentrated in Bavaria and Westphalia.

Uses: Excellent multi-purpose horse for agriculture and work with mountain troops. Sure-footed, good stamina. Outstanding climber. Good leisure horse for children and adults. Very good-natured and willing.

Breed history: In Roman times there were small pack horses in South Tyrol,

and these are regarded as the ancestors of the Haflinger. Later there was considerable cross-breeding with Norikers and Arabs. Since the turn of the century they have been called after the village of Hafling above Meran. The progenitor is considered to be the light bay crossbred stallion 'Folie', sired by an Arab stallion and born in 1874.

Initially kept only in South Tyrol for agriculture and as a pack horse for mountain troops. After World War I, holdings were built up in Austria, and in the 1930s in Bavaria.

Modification of the uses to which the breed was put has altered the type in recent decades. Instead of the short-legged, small, coldblood, the demand is now rather for a small riding horse with a long neck, prominent withers and a correct, fluid gait. This is achieved by strict selection and by cross-breeding with Arabs.



Nordkirchner

Characteristics :Light pony. They may be black, bay, chestnut and occasionally grey. Height 132–140 cm.

Distribution: Westphalia. Occasionally occurs in other states of the former Federal Republic of Germany, and in neighbouring countries.

Uses: Robust and hardy. Temperamental and willing to work. Also suitable as a saddle and carriage horse.

Breed history: Developed after World War I by crossing Panje horses with Dülmeners. Later Arabs and finally Welsh (Section B) were crossed with them. This made them larger, lighter and more like a riding pony than the Dülmener. At the Nordkirchner Rehbusch Forest Lodge there are now only remnants. Offspring produced by crossing with Arabs are much in demand in Germany and abroad. The Nordkirchner has largely been absorbed into the breeding of riding ponies in Westphalia.



Dülmener

Characteristics: Primitive horses of all colours and shades, three colour strains being predominant: dark bay with a pale muzzle (similar to Exmoor Ponies); golden bay and dun (probably of Przewalski stock); mousy grey with a back line and a suggestion of stripes on the forelegs. They may also be chestnut, bay and grey. Long, dense mane and long tail. Small, very hard hooves. Height 125–135 cm.

Distribution: The main population of about 200 animals is kept in an area of about 200 hectares in the Merfeld fault near Dülmen in Westphalia. The animals live outdoors all year round and are only given roughage in the winter. On the last Saturday in May, the yearling males are separated from the herd and auctioned. Isolated animals are kept in Westphalia in agricultural enterprises, on small-holdings or as a hobby.

Uses: Tough. Robust. Resistant to

harsh weather. The herd living in the wild is not used in any specific way. After appropriate training they can be harnessed to carriages and make an appealing picture.

Breed history: Reference was made to it in the fourteenth century. The Dülmener, contrary to what one may read occasionally, is not a wild horse but is thoroughly domesticated. Apparently it was originally the result of cross-breeding between escaped domestic horses and wild horses. Later, stallions of several very disparate European breeds of primitive horses were used for breeding, in particular from Poland and the UK. Currently, its own stallions are used for breeding.



German Riding Pony

Characteristics: The name denotes a line of breeding, not a breed. It covers animals produced by crossing various pony breeds and also by crossing ponies with full-size horses. The following definition can be regarded as the breeding plan: a willing pony suitable for the saddle and harness for children and adults, with the proportions and movement of a saddle horse while maintaining the distinct type of the pony, such as a short, broad head with large eyes, good muscling with rounded contours, and a solid constitution; minimum height 138 cm (maximum 148 cm). Ideas on the standard to be aimed for have not yet been unified everywhere.

Distribution: The former Federal Republic of Germany, especially Westphalia.

Uses: Rides well and is willing. Obliging, has good stamina and is undemanding. It has no faults of

temperament or character. Can be used for riding and in harness. Frugal.

Breed history: It has been developed from Dülmeners, Nordkirchners, as well as British and other pony breeds, and in recent decades from Arabs and other full-size horse breeds.



Percheron

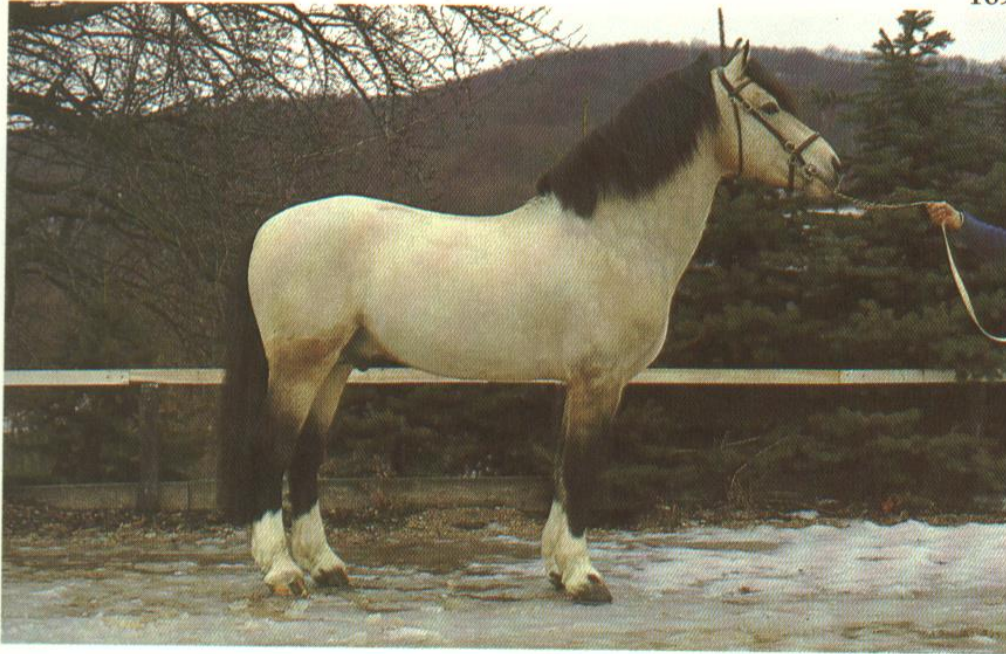
Characteristics: Heavy coldblood. The colours are grey and black. Fine head with lively eyes and long, fine ears. Straight nose line. Large nostrils. Long, powerful neck. Distinctly sloping shoulders. Broad, deep chest; well-sprung ribs. Short, straight back. Deep girth. Long, slightly sloping, divided croup. Powerful, but clean limbs. A lot of feather on the pasterns. Well-muscled overall. Height 155–172 cm, weight on average 900 kg.

Distribution: Mainly north-west France, but also other areas of the country. Also found in the UK, the USA, Japan, and many other countries. Smaller numbers in the former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Outstanding draught horse. Possesses great energy, endurance and willingness to work. Light, flexible stride; elegant trotter. Its temperament requires a firm hand. In the former Federal Republic of Germany it is used

mainly by breweries and forestry operations. In France it is reared extensively for meat.

Breed history: The Percheron is native to the former province of Perche, now the départements of Orne and Eure et Loire. It is an ancient breed, with which Arabs were crossed in the eighth century. Later, Spanish, Norman and, repeatedly, Arab stallions contributed to the development of the breed. There were several strains for a long time. Only the heaviest survived, meeting the demands of agriculture and the needs of the main country of export, the USA.



Welsh Cob

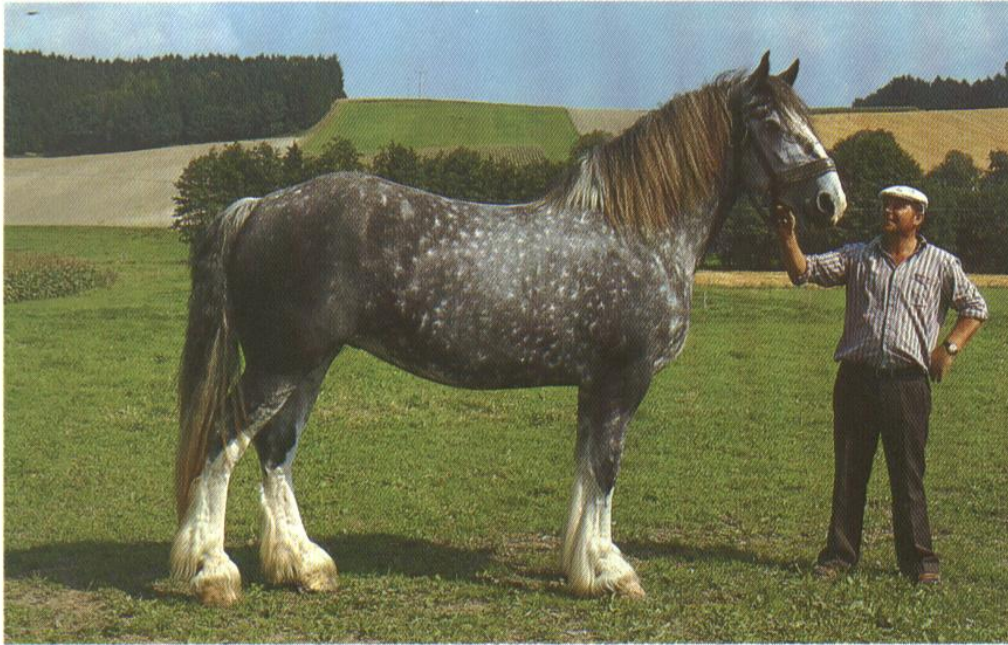
Characteristics: Medium-sized, compact, powerful horse, its conformation being between those of the warmblood and the coldblood. Refined, expressive, pony-like head. Broad forehead, lively eyes, small ears. Well set-on, powerful neck with a curving top line in the case of stallions. Powerfully muscled, sloping shoulders. Short back, well-sprung ribs, large girth. Well-muscled croup and hindquarters. Short legs. Strong cannons, clean pasterns. Hard hooves. Silky feather on pasterns. All colours occur. White markings are acceptable, but patches of colour are not. Height from 137 cm, but mostly between 148 and 155 cm. Animals reared on the continent of Europe are generally larger than those reared in Wales.

Distribution: UK. Central Europe. North America.

Uses: Hardy. Undemanding. Good endurance. Lively. Good-natured and placid. Outstanding walking ability.

Smooth, energetic action from the shoulder. Powerful thrust from the hindquarters. Considerable jumping ability. Excellent coach horse. Extremely agile. Crossing cobs and other breeds often produces distinctly well-balanced and able horses.

Breed history: The Welsh Cob is native to Wales. It can be traced back partly to Spanish horses, but at the time of the Roman invasion there were already small, powerful but nimble horses in Wales. In the last century, Arabs and English Thoroughbreds were crossed with it. This did not alter the type. In its mountain habitat the Cob has been used in agriculture for centuries, and has also been used as a carriage horse and for war duties. The first stud book was opened in 1902. Horses which do not achieve a height of 137 cm are entered as Welsh Ponies, Section C.



Shire

Characteristics: Largest breed of horse in the world. The colours are brown, black, chestnut and grey. Large white spots on the body are undesirable. Distinctive extensive white markings on the legs. Large, heavy head. Short, powerful, well set-on neck. Short, strong back. Long, broad, well-muscled croup. A characteristic feature is the extensive feather on the legs, which starts at the foreleg knee and hock and surrounds the pastern and hoof in long thick hair. Mares reach a height of 165–178 cm. A mature stallion is 170–180 cm high, and weighs 1000–1200 kg

Distribution: The UK, North and South America, South Africa and Australia.

Uses: Extraordinary strength. Healthy constitution. Hardy. Friendly, obliging. Fairly phlegmatic temperament. It is used as a draught animal for heavy loads: brewers' drays, timber wagons. In the UK it is also used for pro-

motional purposes.

Breed history: The Shire is a descendant of the warhorse of the Age of Chivalry. It comes from the shires of Leicestershire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire in the UK. Originally bred for military purposes, it was later used in agriculture as cultivation of the land intensified. The breed had to be developed to be suitably heavy, especially for working heavy marshlands. In 1878 the Shire Horse Society was founded in the UK, and now has more than 2,500 members. In the past, Shires were predominantly black, and were thus also called Old Black English Cart Horses.



Belgian Coldblood

Characteristics: Heavy, powerful coldblood horse. Bay, chestnut, or various shades of grey (mainly brown roan). Small, expressive head on a short, heavy neck. The build is round; stocky and low slung. The body is well-proportioned. Well-knit mid-quarters. Broad chest and powerfully muscled croup. The legs are short and strong with a lot of feather. Stallions are on average 172 cm high and reach a weight of more than 1100 kg. Mares are somewhat lighter and smaller.

Distribution: It has become the most internationally widespread of all coldblood breeds. It is bred in many European countries as well as in North and South America. There are still a few examples in the former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Outstanding workhorse. Enormous strength as a draught animal. Good-natured temperament. Easily controlled. Good trotter for its weight.

Frugal. Matures early.

Breed history: Coldbloods have been bred in Belgium since time immemorial. Caesar praised a tough, tireless farm horse that lived to the west of the Rhine. The powerful and temperamental Belgian horse also enjoyed a good reputation in the Middle Ages. Heavy horses were also very popular in the Age of Chivalry. Later, agriculture required heavy, powerful horses. At the end of the nineteenth century, the various strains which had been separate until then were unified. Nevertheless, a distinction is still made between the larger and heavier Brabant and the smaller and lighter Ardennes.



Abtenau

Characteristics: Smallest coldblood of the German-speaking countries. Classed as a special small form of the Noriker. Balanced build with refined head and powerful constitution. They are mainly black, but there are also various shades of chestnut. Animals with black heads are particularly distinctive: blue roans with black heads, which should have no forehead markings if possible. Unlike the Pinzgau, there are no spotted animals. The weight is variable, about 600 kg, height 148–154 cm. In recent years there has been a trend towards heavier animals of larger build.

Distribution: The Abtenau (centred on the village of the same name), a high valley south-east of Salzburg.

Uses: Undemanding, contented, robust horse. Agile and well suited to working on mountain slopes and hauling timber on small and medium-sized local farms. Energetic and willing. In the Austrian

Federal Army, an infantryman who can march particularly well is said to 'walk like an Abtenau'. Distinctly well-balanced. Pacid temperament. Now often used as a carriage horse.

Breed history: It has been a separate form among the Noriker strains from time immemorial. Particularly small Noriker stallions are currently used as studs. There are about 70 brood mares.



Noriker

Characteristics: Coldblood of medium build. They may be bay, chestnut, blue roan, spotted and, very rarely, they may have a black head. Large, heavy head. Short, powerful neck. Broad chest. Rather sloping shoulders. Long, broad back. Legs of medium length with well-formed hocks and little feather on the pasterns. Height about 160 cm.

Distribution: Austria, primarily the mountainous regions. The main breed range is around the Grossglockner. Exported to neighbouring countries and also to Pakistan and China.

Uses: Versatile commercial horse of outstanding ability. Good character with adequate temperament and refinement. Sure-footed.

Breed history: The Noriker is said to be descended from horses of the Roman Legion. It has been rigorously subjected to pure breeding and strict selection for over 400 years. In 1574 the first land studs were sent to Pinzgau

by Archbishop Kuen. In 1688 Archbishop Count Thun stipulated the following rules, which had a decisive influence on Noriker breeding.

1. Native brood mares may only be served by native stallions.
2. Only Court stallions may be used for covering.
3. The state may only buy foals sired by Court stallions.

During the Renaissance, Andalusian and Neapolitan stock was crossed with the native horse population. There are currently about 9,000 Norikers, of which 2,700 are registered as main stud book mares with the individual breed associations. Norikers are the only coldblood breed still kept in a closed breed range entirely on farms. Numbers have consolidated in recent years. In 1984 the first Federal Noriker Show for 18 years took place in Wels (Upper Austria).



Freiberger

Characteristics: Powerful, but not heavy coldblood. Brown is the most common colour, but chestnut occurs quite frequently. Small, expressive head. Massive neck. Broad chest. Slightly rounded croup. Powerful, clean limbs. Short pasterns. Good hooves. Height 150–155 cm, weight 550–650 kg.

Distribution: Switzerland. Isolated animals in other countries, primarily for crossing with heavy coldblood breeds to give the latter a somewhat smaller frame.

Uses: Expressive, contented, obliging horse, matures early. Good character. Frugal. Correct, economical gait. The Freiberger is an ideal draught, pack and saddle horse for the purposes of agriculture in hilly areas. In Switzerland it is also still often used for military purposes and is invaluable in forest work.

Breed history: The original habitat of

this horse is the Swiss Jura, especially the high plateau of the Freiberg, where it has been kept for centuries. During the nineteenth century, stallions of 10 different breeds were used, in particular Anglo-Norman and Belgian Coldblood, but also Thoroughbred. The breed has been consolidated since the start of this century. After World War II, the population fell to one-fifth of the earlier maximum of 80,000 animals. It has better prospects than other coldblood breeds owing to its lighter calibre and its use by the Swiss Army for pack duty in the mountains.



Black Forest Fox

Characteristics: Light to medium-weight, balanced coldblood horse. Fine head. Short, powerful and well set-on neck. Short midquarters. Broad croup. Powerful, clean constitution with little feather on the pasterns. Hard hooves. The colour is mostly dark brown, the long hair being light, often almost white (liver chestnut). Mares are 150 cm high, stallions several centimetres higher.

Distribution: The Black Forest area.

Uses: Good-natured, yet lively. Good draught animal with stamina. Agile and tough. Long, smooth gait. Used in forestry work and on smallholdings. Used in tourism as a coach and sleigh horse, but also suitable for leisure riding. Undemanding. Thrives even on the lime-free land of the upper Black Forest.

Breed history: There have been cold-blood horses in the Black Forest for many hundreds of years. At first, all colours were found. The chestnuts can

be traced back mainly to a stallion born in 1875. In 1896, breeders joined together to form the Black Forest Horse Breed Cooperative. Their animals were shown for the first time under the breed title Black Forest Horses at a DLG show in 1906. Up to the end of World War II, stallions of many different coldblood breeds, and also warmbloods, were used for cross-breeding. After the war, numbers fell at first; from 1970 the trend was upwards again. There are about 170 registered mares and ten stud stallions. In recent years the breed has become somewhat more disparate again with the purchase of Noriker stallions. Stallions are now reared and kept at the state stud at Marbach.



South-German Coldblood

Characteristics: Medium-sized, tough, very clean coldblood horse. Good fore-quarters. Fairly long but taut mid-quarters. Firm, broad loins. Long, divided croup. Well-muscled. Good depth and correct constitution. Mainly bay and chestnut. Height 155–165 cm, weight 700–900 kg.

Distribution: Baden–Württemberg, Bavaria.

Uses: Prolific, long-lived, frugal. Good character. Agile and versatile. Suitable for agricultural work and timber-hauling in the mountains and on flat land. Long stride. In recent years it has often been used as a coach horse in tourist areas and as a show horse in carnival processions.

Breed history: In centuries past, a coldblood horse was bred in Bavaria which was said to be descended from horses of the Roman province of Noricum, and was therefore called a Noriker. There were two types: the

heavy strain was called 'Pinzgauer', and the light strain 'Oberländer'. Over a period of time, warmblood and coldblood stallions of other breeds, both domestic and foreign, were often crossed with them. Later, attempts were made to reinforce the type and to make it homogeneous. Austrian stallions were then used. After World War II, the two strains were combined under the designation 'South German Coldblood'. The State Association of Bavarian Horse Breeders encompassed about 28,000 mares and 600 stallions of this breed after the war. There was no real decline in the breed until the 1960s. Currently it is not possible to meet the demand for this horse in Germany.



Rhineland–Westphalian Heavy Draught

Characteristics: Powerful working horse of broad build, medium weight and medium size. Mainly dappled grey; also chestnut and bay. Attractive head on a powerful neck. Compact, sloping shoulders. Deep, broad chest. Short, muscular back. Divided croup. Short limbs. Height 163–173 cm, weight up to 1000 kg.

Distribution: North-Rhine/Westphalia. Breeding pockets in Lower Saxony, Hesse and Rhineland–Palatinate. Isolated animals in other states of the former West Germany.

Uses: Powerful, robust, willing horse. Placid temperament. Occasionally it is still used in agriculture and increasingly in forestry. Currently, it is used by breweries, mainly for promotional purposes. Matures early. Frugal.

Breed history: Intensification of agriculture and industrialisation in the middle of the last century required a

heavy commercial horse. English cold-bloods were used first, then later Belgian Heavy Draughts and Ardennes were preferred. These had influenced Rhenish horse breeding since the start of the nineteenth century. In 1892 the Rhenish horse stud book was founded. In the 1930s this breed constituted 50% of the total horse population of the German Empire. After World War II its commercial importance fell sharply. In 1957 the state stud at Wickrath, which had been founded in 1839, was dissolved; the remaining Heavy Draughts were transferred to the Westphalian state stud at Warendorf. In recent decades there has been considerable shrinkage, and the former heavy carthorse has become a medium-framed horse. The Westphalian horse stud book now contains about 400 mares and 46 stallions.



Schleswig Heavy Draught

Characteristics: Low, short-legged, compact horse of medium build. Predominantly chestnut; there are a small number of greys. The silky feather is typical. Height 156–162 cm, weight is about 800 kg.

Distribution: Schleswig–Holstein and Lower Saxony. Isolated numbers in other parts of the former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Outstanding draught animal in agriculture, especially on heavy marshy ground. It was also used by hauliers and forestry operators in the past. Extensive stride and trotting gait. Lively but good-natured temperament. Good stamina, undemanding.

Breed history: The Schleswig Heavy Draught is descended from the Jutland horse of Denmark. The introduction of the stallion Oppenheim around 1860 was important for the Danish breed and hence also for the Schleswig Heavy Draught. Its precise origin is uncertain;

it may have been Suffolk or Shire. In 1891 the Association of Schleswig Horse Breed Societies was founded. This breed had its golden age in the years following World War II, when the Association encompassed more than 15,000 breeders with about 20,000 brood mares. Later, attempts were made to modernise the breed by cross-breeding with stallions of the French Boulonnais. Some years ago, Jutland stallions and mares were bought to increase the build and to strengthen the constitution. Originally, the breeding centre was in the northern provinces of the state of Schleswig–Holstein. Now it is in the province of Segeberg. There are currently about 80 mares and 19 stallions in the stud book. The state of Schleswig–Holstein sponsors the preservation of the breed.



Appaloosa

Characteristics: Well-muscled, square-shaped horse. The most prominent feature is the partially spotted coat. Often the front half is fully pigmented (perhaps with markings), while the rear half of the body is white or white with spots of pigment. Often the entire coat is white with dark spots or spiky hairs. The base colour can vary from black through all shades of brown to golden yellow. There is often also a uniform mixture of red and white hairs, and greys can occur. Refined head. Straight nose line. Widely spaced eyes. The pupil has a white ring around it. Relatively short back. Deep body. Sloping croup. Fine hair in the mane and tail. Height 148–160 cm, weight 430–570 kg.

Distribution: North America, central Europe.

Uses: Tough. Hardy. Fast starter and sprinter, but also has stamina. Used for Western shows and racing. Suitable for

leisure riding, and for children and young people. Owing to its placid temperament and its manageable size it is suitable for riding therapy.

Breed history: The Nez Percé Indians in the north west of the USA bred part-coloured horses from the start of the eighteenth century. White people first saw these horses by the little Palouse river which flows through this region. They designated them as 'a Palouse', which later became Appaloosa. The Indians selected their horses not only for their markings, but also for their speed and endurance. The Appaloosa was recognised as an independent breed in the USA in 1950. In recent decades, American Quarter Horses, Arabs and other breeds have been crossed with them occasionally.



Pinto

Characteristics: Part-coloured Western horse of the 'Pleasure Type', i.e. a powerful, well-muscled horse, which is nevertheless elegant, with a refined head and a nicely curving neck. Short back. Long, sloping shoulders. Height 145–160 cm, weight 400–500 kg. The Pinto has the same two colour patterns as the Paint – Tobiano and Overo.

Distribution: Originally North America. Now also central Europe.

Uses: Fast, good stamina, undemanding. Used for Western shows as well as for long-distance riding, trekking and skill tests. Typical well-balanced horse that rides easily, has a friendly nature and intelligence. The original and typical Pinto also possesses 'cow sense' in working with cattle. First-class family and leisure horse.

Breed history: The same origins as the Paint Horse to some extent, but developed differently. Arabs were crossed with them over a period of time. There

are four breed books with requirements of varying strictness:

- *Permanent Registration Division.* Any part-coloured horse of any breed may be registered.
- *Premium Registration Division.* At least one generation must be registered already.
- *Approved Breed Division.* Pure-bred Pintos, i.e. there are already several perfect Pinto offspring.
- *Solid Colour Breeding Stock Division.* Must be 100% inheritors of the colour, i.e. ancestors have been part-coloured for at least six generations.

A Pinto Horse Society was founded in 1941, but Pintos have only been officially recognised as a breed since 1963.



Paint

Characteristics: Compact, agile horse of medium size with well-developed musculing. Distinctly athletic. There are two different colour patterns. In the Overo, which is recessive, the white extends from the side, the belly or the legs. The white does not cross the back line. In the Tobiano, it appears to extend out from the back. The white markings cross the top line of the animal. Tobianos always have white legs. Small, wedge-shaped head. Alert eyes. Broad forehead. Small ears. Comparatively short neck. Shoulders well-muscled. Withers well-defined. The short back is well-knit to the hindquarters. The latter are very muscular, especially the powerful, sloping croup. Powerful constitution. Paints weigh 550–650 kg, and are 150–155 cm high.

Distribution: North America. Central Europe. UK. Japan. Australia. South Africa.

Uses: Robust and good-natured. Paints perform particularly well as short-distance race horses over a quarter of a mile. In North America they are used on ranches (cowboy horses) or as Western horses. The latter applies to a certain extent in Europe as well. They are good leisure and trekking horses.

Breed history: Part-coloured horses occurred from time to time among the Quarter Horse, and were excluded from breeding. Two groups of Paint breeders were formed, and they merged in 1965 to form the American Paint Horse Association. From the outset, this organisation recognised only horses of pure Quarter Horse descent as Paint Horses; it is therefore a part-coloured Quarter Horse.



Quarter Horse

Characteristics: A compact horse with strong muscling. The most common colours are chestnuts and various shades of brown, but all colours and shades from grey to black are possible. Always mono-coloured with or without markings on the head and legs. Refined head. Short back. Powerful, sometimes top-heavy hindquarters. Height 145–156 cm, weight 520–680 kg.

Distribution: North and South America, Australia, central Europe and other regions.

Uses: Very versatile horse. It is the sprinter among horses. Superior to all other breeds over short distances. Invaluable assistance on ranches for driving and sorting cattle. In the USA it was used for races over a quarter of a mile, the ideal distance for it. This gave rise to its name. In North America it is used in Western shows and rodeos. Docile and easily trained.

Breed history: Developed at the begin-

ning of the seventeenth century from horses of Spanish and English descent. It was recognised as a breed in 1665. Later, English Thoroughbreds were crossed with it. In the past it was used mainly on ranches. The first horse races in North America were held with the Quarter Horse, in Virginia. In 1941 the American Quarter Horse Association was founded. It has been kept in the former West Germany since the 1970s. By number of animals, it is the most common horse breed in the world.



Peruvian Paso

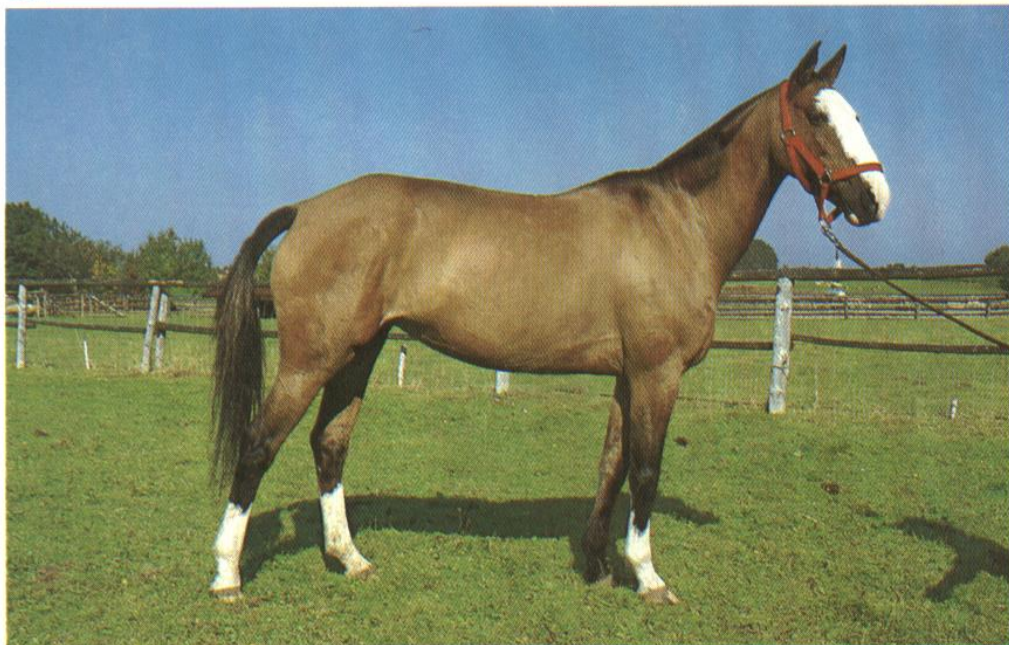
Characteristics: It is said to radiate energy, strength, grace and vitality. It can be black, chestnut, grey, palomino, blue roan, or red roan. Dark nostrils. White markings allowed only on the lower legs, between the eyes and above the lips. Small, straight, finely shaped head. Broad forehead. Expressive eyes. Small muzzle. Large, thin-rimmed nostrils. Gracefully curving neck. The back is of short to medium length and strong. The chest is well-rounded and deep. The shoulders are rather sloping and well-muscled. The legs have well-defined tendons. Overall, the muscles are well-developed. Height 144–154cm.

Distribution: Peru, North America. Also central Europe in recent years.

Uses: Intelligent, obedient and always willing. The gait of the Paso is a broken pace, the pure four-beat toelt being greatly preferred. In the 'Termino' the front limbs are unfurled. It should travel down from the shoulder. This

and other elements of the movement produce a free, fluid, rolling motion which gives rise to a smooth, elegant gait. A characteristic is that the rear hoof impression falls past the front hoof impression of the same side. Suitable for trekking and long-distance rides.

Breed history: Derived in Peru from the horses of the Conquistadors, essentially crossbreeds of Andalusians and Berbers. There the desire was for a hard, refined saddle horse with a smooth, comfortable gait, as owners of large estates were often in the saddle for 8–10 hours in order to cover the large distances on their extensive holdings.



Argentinian Polo Pony

Characteristics: Refined, long-legged horse. Occurs in all basic colours, but brown predominates. The centre of the torso is short. Well-muscled. Height in general 150–160 cm. The term 'pony' is no longer really justified. It dates back to a time when polo ponies were considerably smaller.

Distribution: Spread from Argentina to all countries where polo is played. In recent years, numbers in the former Federal Republic of Germany have also increased.

Uses: Fast, agile and with good stamina. Has an astonishing ability to understand tasks and to grasp the rider's intentions. This applies not only to polo, but also to its use in cattle farming. It has 'cow sense'. Owing to this continual practice and the continuing selection of the most able animals, Argentinian Polo horses are prized all over the world.

Breed history: The game of polo was

brought to the UK from India in 1870, and it soon spread from there to many other countries where equestrian sport was popular. Initially, indigenous ponies were used in these countries until, at the beginning of this century, Australian ponies were found to be the most suitable. From 1930 the Argentinian Polo Pony was so superior to other types of horse that it almost displaced them all over the world. This trend was intensified by World War II, when the sport of polo almost came to a halt, except in Argentina. Originally the Polo Pony was more a type for a specific purpose than a breed. For a long time only mares that have proved themselves in the sport have been used for breeding, so that the Polo Pony can be regarded as a true breed. The word polo is derived from the Tibetan word for ball – 'pulu'.



Andalusian

Characteristics: Refined, elegant horse, fairly deep and broad. Mostly grey with a blue sheen, but also black and other dark colours. Expressive head with straight or slightly convex profile. Curved, well set-on neck. Prominent withers. Correct shoulders. Elegantly carried tail. Very clean legs with short cannons and well-defined fetlocks. Height 155–160 cm.

Distribution: Spain. Significant holdings as well as isolated animals in the former Federal Republic of Germany and other European countries.

Uses: Agile and with good stamina. Free, smooth movements. High gait. Good jumper. Excellent for haute école. In Spain used for riding and as a coach horse as well as in bull fights.

Breed history: Descended from horses which the Phoenicians brought to Spain. Later, Berbers and Arabs were crossed with the indigenous horses by Muslim rulers. The breed had its golden

age in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, when it had a great influence on almost all other European horse breeds. Lipizzaners and Kladrubers, in particular, are directly descended from Andalusians because, in Baroque times, the latter conformed most closely to the ideal of a beautiful horse. Only the monks of the Carthusian monastery at Jerez opposed a royal order to cross heavier horses and coldbloods with them. Thus the Andalusian survives to the present day. Several centuries ago they were also popular in central Europe, and they have been kept as a pure breed in the former West Germany for some years. Almost all Central and South American horses as well as the Western horses of North America can be traced back to the Andalusian.



Berber

Characteristics: Small, clean, powerful horse. The long, powerful head is usually slightly convex. Broad chest, flat shoulders. Short back and steeply sloping croup. The tail is set low. Long legs with strong bones. All basic colours occur. Height 148–155 cm.

Distribution: North Africa. A few animals in other countries. Isolated examples are kept in the former West Germany and Switzerland.

Uses: Temperamental. Good-natured. Tough with good stamina. Frugal and willing.

Breed history: Berber horses were known in ancient times and were famed for their speed. It is assumed that the Berber also goes back essentially to coldbloods, which the Vandals brought with them from the north during the migratory era. When the Arabs came to North Africa in the seventh and eighth centuries, they brought their horses with them and crossed them

with some of the native horse population. Horses with Berber blood then also came to Spain via the Arabs. As the Berbers with their rounded body shapes conformed best to the Baroque ideal of beauty, they came into the possession of many European rulers around this time, and thus started to be bred in those countries. In North Africa, larger, heavier horses were crossed with them by colonials. Many breeds all over the world have Berber ancestry, such as all American horse breeds introduced via Spain, the English Thoroughbred and the Lipizzaner.



Camargue

Characteristics: The type is very reminiscent of the Berber. Adult animals are always grey. Short head with a straight nose profile, broad forehead and small ears. The neck is powerful and well set-on. Short body. Short, powerful, slightly sloping croup. Stable constitution with clean joints and broad hooves. The colour of the foals varies from dark brown through reddish brown to light brown; there are also some light grey foals. The pure white colour is not achieved until the age of 5–7 years. Height 135–145 cm.

Distribution: The main habitat is the Rhone delta in southern France, in particular between Montpellier to the west, Tarascon to the north and Fos to the east. There are some animals in other European countries. Isolated animals in North–Rhine/Westphalia.

Uses: In its native region it is used by the 'Gardiens' for herding cattle. It is particularly lively and adept at this

activity. Good endurance, undemanding. Well adapted to the marshes and sparse vegetation of the region; in the summer it feeds mainly on reed shoots, and in the winter on the salty vegetation of the steppe. Eminently suitable for leisure riding owing to its gentle nature and small size.

Breed history: One of the oldest horse breeds in the world. Presumed to derive from cross-breeding various forms of horse. The horse of the Camargue was familiar to the Phoenicians; Caesar is also said to have fostered the breed. Napoleon equipped his army mainly with the Camargue; it proved to be a successful pack animal when the Suez Canal was being built. In recent decades, Berbers and Arabs have been crossed with it. It is now bred for a somewhat larger type better suited to the changed conditions of cattle farming.



Karabakh

Characteristics: The build is at the lower end of the mid-range. Similar to the Arab. Refined head. Broad forehead. Prominent, large eyes. Narrow nose region. Small muzzle. Powerful, well-formed neck. Prominent withers. Compact, short body. Somewhat sloping croup. Clean, very fine constitution. Predominantly chestnut, but also dun, with a soft, silky coat with a golden sheen; rarely isabelline or grey. Height on average 150 cm.

Distribution: The former Soviet Union (Karabakh mountains, Azerbaijan), Iran. Isolated animals in the former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Energetic. Tough. Light, nimble movements. Good riding horse. In its native country is considered to be an excellent horse for equestrian games.

Breed history: Ancient horse breed. Reference was made to it 1500 years ago. Presumably derives from refined Turkmenian, Persian and Arabian

horses. Leading Russian horse experts consider the Karabakh to be the only breed which has been kept pure. In some ancient texts it is called the most refined horse breed. It had its golden age in the eighteenth century, when it was coveted all over Europe. It has been crossed with numerous other Russian breeds, especially the Don. When the Persians conquered Baku in 1826, they took almost all of the Karabakh herds as plunder. Queen Elizabeth II of England received the golden dun 'Zaman' from Nikita Khrushchev, and it produced outstanding offspring when used for breeding riding ponies in England. The Karabakh is now bred mainly in the Akdam stud in Azerbaijan. Occasionally it is still crossed with Arabs.



Karabai

Characteristics: It resembles the Arab in size and type, but is more powerful. Clean head. Broad back. Generally very muscular. Clean legs. The long hair is not very prominent. All basic colours occur. Height 148–152 cm, occasionally higher.

Distribution: The former Soviet Union (Uzbekistan). The former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Good stamina, fast and agile. Undemanding. Intelligent and courageous. Very capable, willing to work and adaptable. In its native region it is used for the wildest equestrian games. Suitable for agricultural work. Used as a draught and pack horse in the mountains. Versatile.

Breed history: Ancient breed, which has probably been repeatedly crossed with horses belonging to the neighbouring peoples (Mongols, Kirghizians and Turkmenians). It was mentioned 2400 years ago. It was well-known and

widely distributed in the eighteenth century. There are three types with differing constitutions, which are used for different purposes. The breeding centre is the Dshisak stud.



Kabardin

Characteristics: Powerful horse of medium build. Mostly brown, dark bay or black, rarely chestnut. The head has a straight nose line. Prominent withers. Powerful body. Fairly long back. Sloping croup (mountain horse). Clean constitution. Relatively short legs. Very hard hooves. Height 147–155 cm. Today there are also many Anglo-Kabardins which are somewhat larger.

Distribution: The former Soviet Union (Caucasus). The former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Sure-footed. Good stamina. Tough. Willing. Undemanding. Long-lived and prolific. It is considered to be the best mountain breed in the former USSR. Placid temperament. Patient. Versatile. Suitable as a pack animal and for long-distance riding; 15 riders on Kabardins and Anglo-Kabardins covered 3000 km in the Caucasus in 47 days. Anglo-Kabardins are faster and better for dressage. Intelligent and with

a good sense of orientation (even in darkness). The mares' milk is made into various products.

Breed history: The region of origin is Kabardin in the former Soviet Union. It presumably derives from the Circassian horse. Little is known of its origins otherwise. During the course of time it has been improved with Turkmenians, Karabakhs and Arabs. In the former Soviet Union it has also been widely distributed outside the Caucasus since the sixteenth century, and it still is. The main studs are Malokarakhayev and Malinskoye in the northern Caucasus.



Budyonny

Characteristics: Robust, somewhat heavily built, but nevertheless an elegant riding horse. Predominantly chestnut, but other colours occur, except grey. Fine, clean head. Straight nose line. Small ears. Long, high-set, muscular neck. Strong shoulders. Prominent withers. Deep chest. Well-knit, strong loins. Powerful constitution. Fine coat with a golden sheen. Height generally 162–165 cm.

Distribution: The former Soviet Union. Smaller numbers in central Europe.

Uses: Undemanding. Good temperament and stamina. Well suited to all equestrian sports, especially long-distance and steeplechasing. The stallion Santos covered 1800 km in 15 days. The breed has also achieved good results in flat racing; the record for 2-year-olds over 1000 m is 1.03 min. Internationally it has achieved great success in show-jumping, dressage and military events.

Breed history: Named after Marshal Semyon Mikhailovich Budyonny, who signed the order to found new studs on the Salic steppes in 1921. The original aim was a first-class riding horse. Elite Don mares (the breeding centre was at Rostov on the Don plain) and Black Sea mares (horses of the Zaporog Cossacks) were mated with English Thoroughbred stallions. Strict selective breeding was performed from the outset. In 1941 the studs were evacuated beyond the Urals, from where they returned at the end of 1944 to 1945. The breed was consolidated after World War II. It was officially recognised in 1948. The horses are kept intentionally in large herds on pasture almost all year round. The powerful constitution and good condition are considered to result from the hardiness this engenders and to the healthy diet. Only when there is hard frost or deep snow are the herds protected from the wind.



Tersk

Characteristics: Elegant riding horse of the Arab type, but with a larger frame. Light grey or white horses with a silver sheen, more rarely chestnut or bay. Elegant, Arab head with a straight or slightly concave nose line. Broad forehead. Large, expressive eyes. Long, pointed ears. Long, elegantly carried neck. Prominent withers. Long back with powerful renal area. Tail high set-on. Clean legs with strong bones. Skin has a distinct silvery sheen. Height 154–162 cm, occasionally higher.

Distribution: The former Soviet Union. Increasing numbers in central Europe.

Uses: Good cross-country horse. Has stamina. Used for flat racing with good results. Excellent all-round horse. Impressive appearance, good dressage performance and gentle temperament have led to its use in the circus. Elegant, lively movements. Learns easily.

Breed history: In 1921, the Soviet state founded the state stud of Tersk

on the Caucasian estates of Count Stroganoff and Sultan Girea. The basis of the breed was formed by the remnants of the well-known Streletzker, as well as Kabardins, cross-breeds, English Thoroughbreds, and Dons. The progenitors were the two pure-bred Arab stallions Cenitel and Cilindr. The breeding plan was initially to produce good riding horses for the army. From 1925 the desire was for an elegant, tough riding horse of the Arab type, but with a larger frame. As the breeding base had become narrow in the chaos of war, it was crossed with Dons, Kabardins and English Thoroughbreds after World War II. The aim of selective breeding was a type corresponding largely to the Arab, but somewhat larger and more muscular. The breed was officially recognised in 1948–49. Soon afterwards, the herd was moved to the state stud at Stavropol.



Don

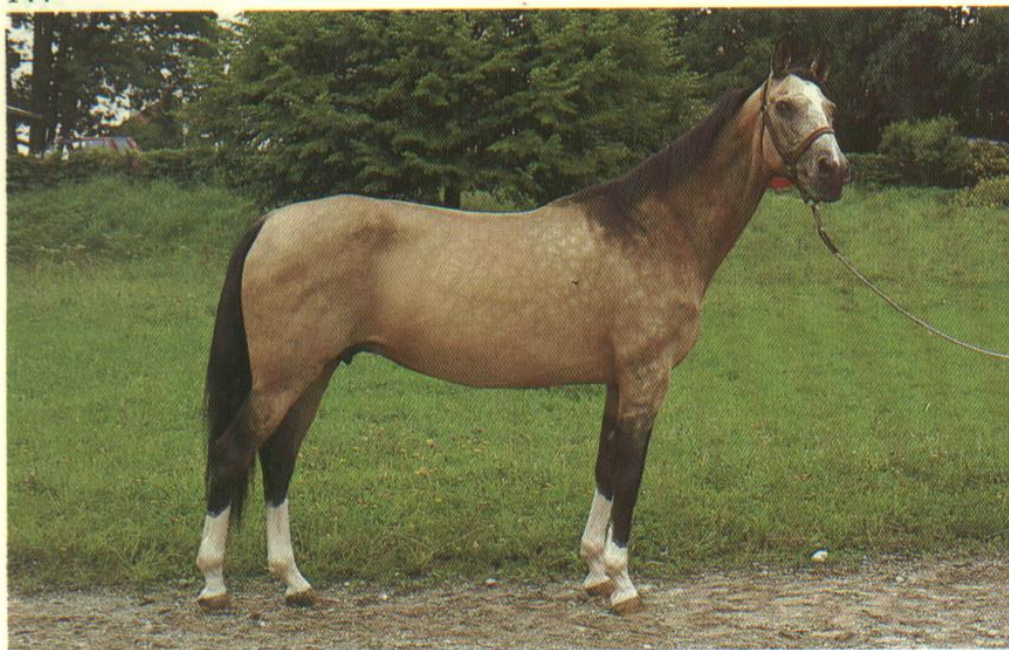
Characteristics: Stately, light, but powerful horse of the thoroughbred type. Low build. Predominantly chestnut with a distinct golden sheen. Medium-sized, fine head. Well-spaced eyes. Fairly small ears. Long, straight neck. Good withers. Broad back. Powerful hindquarters. Clean constitution. Height 160–165 cm.

Distribution: The former Soviet Union. Other East European countries. There are also a few examples in the former Federal Republic of Germany.

Uses: Tough and with unusual stamina. Undemanding. Tolerant of harsh weather. Outstanding coach horse and first-class riding horse. In 1883, four officers and 14 Cossacks rode 1300 km from Novgorod to Moscow in 11 days in temperatures as low as -20°C . In 1950, five Don horses covered 305 km within 24 hours; another, Zenit, covered 311.6 km.

Breed history: Derived from the horses

of the Tartars. Originally the favourite horse of the Don Cossacks in pony size. In 1770, the Cossack Ataman M. I. Platov founded the first stud on the Don. In the nineteenth century it achieved a larger build by cross-breeding with English Thoroughbreds, Orlov Trotters and other Russian breeds. It lives in the steppes of the southern former USSR under very harsh conditions — outdoors all year round on sparse fodder. In World War II, the valuable brood horses of this breed were evacuated beyond the Urals. Subsequently, the breed has been rebuilt systematically, developing from a cavalry horse into a versatile warm-blood horse. Breeding centres are in the Don region, Kirghiz and in Kazakhstan. Don horses from Issyk-Kul have the best reputation; this is the most easterly stud in the former Soviet Union, situated at an altitude of 1600 m in the Tien Shan mountains.



Akhal-Tekke

Characteristics: Very refined horse. The most common colours are golden bay, dun, isabelline and black; there are also greys and chestnuts. The legs are long and the girth shallow. Straight, strong back with long, high withers. Long body. Fine, clean limbs with well-defined tendons. Small, hard hooves. The skin and hair are extremely fine and have a characteristic golden sheen. The long hair is fine. Three types are classified in the stud book: standard, middle and heavy. Height 152–164 cm.

Distribution: The main breeding centres are in the steppe regions of the southern former Soviet Union and in northern Iran. Also found in the former West Germany and other central European countries.

Uses: Real desert horses. Refined. Tough. Good stamina. Tolerant of heat. Elegant, light movements. Energetic and temperamental with a good stride

and a long, supple gait in a gallop. Well suited to dressage, but also excellent show jumpers. In addition they are good all-round and long-distance horses. Impressive endurance.

Breed history: Named after the oasis of Akhal and the Turkmenian people of the Tekke, who live on the northern slopes of the Kopet-Dag mountains. Planned breeding has been carried out for several centuries. It has been registered in the state stud book since 1934–35. The Akhal-Tekke had a great influence on the development of warmblood breeds in many parts of the world; in Germany, it influenced the Trakehner considerably. There are about 1500 animals in all. Breeding is based on about 300 mares. The current breeding centre is the Makhmud-Kuli stud in the Akhal oasis near Ashkhabad. There are about 120 animals of this breed in the former Federal Republic of Germany.



Polish Konik

Characteristics: Powerful, well-muscled pony. Slightly top-heavy. Firm back. Short, sloping croup. Relatively undeveloped chest. The colour is brown, dark bay or mousy grey, often with a black line along the back. There are often zebra stripes on the legs. The mane, forelock and tail are well developed. Height 120–140 cm, weight 280–370 kg.

Distribution: Poland. Some animals in the former West Germany (East Friesland).

Uses: Robust. Able to withstand cold weather. Very contented. Good draught animal. Strong bones, very hard hooves.

Breed history: Konik means 'little horse' in Polish. In Germany this breed was also known by the name Panje horse. It derives from a primitive land race, the Mierzyn (i.e. Middle horse). Planned breeding started about 1927 in Poland. After World War II, several studs were set up to develop the breed,

and Koniks are also kept in several research institutes. Fjord horses were cautiously crossed with them for a while. In 1936, on the initiative of T. Vetulani, some selected Koniks of the wild horse type were allowed to range freely in the hope of recreating the ancient type by means of appropriate selection. Today there are such horses in various reserves and stations. They are very uniform in type and coloration; steely grey predominates, with almost no brown (the designation mousy grey is misleading). In the game stud at Popielno in the Mazury, several herds are allowed to range freely all year round on a reserve of 320 hectares. Contrary to expectations, they have not become wild, but positively friendly. Some of these horses are used in agriculture.



Shagya

Characteristics: An Arab with a larger build and with more riding horse features. All colours occur. Greys predominate; blacks are rare. There may be white markings on the head and the lower extremities. Fine Arab head. Well-developed jaws. Large nostrils. Well-muscled, nicely set-on neck. Tail carried high ('pheasant-like'). Stallions 156–165 cm high, mares 153–160 cm.

Distribution: Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the former Soviet Union, Austria, the former Federal Republic of Germany, Denmark, Switzerland, the USA.

Uses: Excellent, versatile saddle and carriage horse. Eminently rideable. Outstanding movements. Enormous jumping ability. Tough and has stamina. Suitable for long-distance riding or for hunting with the pack.

Breed history: Developed in the nineteenth century in the Hungarian military studs of the Imperial and Royal Monarchy from desert Arabs by cross-

breeding with indigenous land races, Andalusians, Lipizzaners and English Thoroughbreds. The desire was for a horse of the size and calibre of a cavalry or carriage horse, but which would also be an excellent show horse. The Royal Guard in Budapest rode fine Shagya Arabs. This breed was further developed by pure breeding, with the best and finest-looking desert Arabs being used from time to time, so that the breed would not get too heavy. Recognised by the World Arab Organisation as 'Pure-Bred Shagya Arab' since 1978. Systematic breeding has been conducted in central Europe since 1960; in the former Federal Republic of Germany, the regional centre is in the north. There are only a few hundred registered brood animals. Named after 'Shagya', the founder of the line, a thoroughbred Arab imported into Hungary in 1837.



Anglo-Arab

Characteristics: Pleasant appearance. Refined. In the past, a light horse, often of fine conformation. Today a better calibre is required. All basic colours occur; brown predominates. Nice head. Neck well set-on. Prominent withers. Long, sloping shoulders. Good depth and breadth. Clean, well-defined legs. Height 160–170 cm.

Distribution: High-performance horse with excellent basic gaits and outstanding jumping ability. It is used with success in all equestrian events from dressage and show jumping to all-round tests and steeplechasing, and has won many important international prizes.

Breed history: The Anglo-Arab was developed by crossing Arab and English Thoroughbreds, as the name indicates, and was intended to possess the advantages of both breeds. Consolidated studs. Originally developed independently in France, Poland and

Spain. In the former Federal Republic of Germany, the Anglo-Arab Ramses (v. Rittersporn), for example, has earned a good reputation. His offspring include many famous show jumpers and dressage horses.



Orlov Trotter

Characteristics: Powerful, compact horse. Considerably heavier than American and French Trotters. Large head. Large eyes. Short ears. Well set-on, arched neck. Powerful back. Broad, slightly sloping croup. Strong leg bones. Often pronounced feather on the pasterns. All basic colours occur. Height 160–165 cm.

Distribution: Former Soviet Union. Other former Eastern Bloc countries. Small numbers in central Europe.

Uses: Has good stamina. Long-lived. Prolific. Excellent carriage and sleigh horse. In racing it is distinctly inferior to the other trotting breeds. Well suited to equestrian sports.

Breed history: Count Alexei Grigoryevich Orlov took part in a coup in which Catherine II came to the Russian throne. She later gave him a large estate among the enormous steppe lands of the province of Voronesh. Count Orlov, a great lover of horses,

obtained many Turkish, Persian and Arabian horses from far-flung areas of the Russian Empire. The splendid Arab Smetanka, which he bought for 60,000 gold roubles — a fortune in those days — was brought to his Ostrov estate near Moscow. Bars I, a grandson of the stallion Smetanka, in whose veins also flowed Dutch and Danish blood of Spanish/Andalusian descent, was an exceedingly good trotter. He was the progenitor of the Orlov Trotters which have Danish, Dutch, Norfolk Trotter and English Thoroughbred blood. The desire was for a fast, elegant coach horse. The first regular trotting races in western Europe involved Orlov Trotters exclusively. As a working horse for pulling coaches or sleighs it had to be sufficiently well-built and strong to withstand the great demands made on it.



Trotter

Characteristics: In general, longer but somewhat smaller and with a finer constitution than the English Thoroughbred. It does however have a strong bone structure. There are brown, chestnut, and black animals, and also lighter colours. The rear quarters are well developed and somewhat higher than the withers (trotter's croup). It weighs between 450 and 600 kg, height 152–163 cm.

Distribution: World-wide.

Uses: Trotters compete in races in which they generally have to cover a distance of between 1600 and 2400 m at a trot. Trotting is defined as a gait with a diagonal hoof sequence, in which the front foot and rear foot of opposite sides are lifted from the ground simultaneously and replaced simultaneously. The world record is 1:11.3 min for 1 km. The German record of 1:15.5 min is held by the stallion Simmerl. Trotters are sometimes also used as

carriage horses.

Breed history: The German Trotter breed has an American base; it was also influenced by the French Trotter after World War II. The American Trotter's ancestry includes the English Thoroughbred, Arabs and pacers of various breeds. The French Trotter is descended essentially from the Anglo-Norman. Only in its country of origin does it have greater significance.

The sport of trotting developed only after 1874 in Germany; the Trotter was bred there from 1885. Before World War II, Germany was a leader in trotting. Although German Trotter breeding has produced first-class stallions in recent decades which have sired excellent offspring (e.g. Permit), it still depends on the introduction of foreign blood.



Arab Thoroughbred

Characteristics: The most refined breed of horse. All colours occur. The most common is white in all possible shades. Black animals are rare. The small, fine head is carried high and free. The forehead is noticeably broad and high. The head narrows considerably towards the muzzle. The bridge of the nose is slightly dished at the transition to the facial part of the head. Large, flared nostrils. Small, alert ears. Large, expressive, protruding eyes. Short back line. Elegantly carried tail. Nicely shaped joints and clearly defined tendons. Very hard hooves. The skin and long hair are fine and silky. No feather on the legs. Height 145–155 cm. Fully grown animals weigh 400–450 kg.

Distribution: Distributed almost all over the world. Originally found in the countries of the Arabian peninsula as well as Egypt. Significant populations in the USA; in Europe, particularly

common in the UK, the Netherlands and the former Eastern Bloc countries.

Uses: Famed for its stamina, contented nature and fast recovery after great exertion. It has courage, high intelligence and a placid temperament. It takes the saddle well, but is also capable of carrying heavy loads for long distances. Matures late. Long-lived.

Breed history: Among Arab horses, only those which have always been bred within lines which go back to a specific ancient stock are Arab Thoroughbreds; pure breeding and often in-breeding were always carried out. The first occurrence of this horse is not known. It is certain that in the seventh century Mohammed was not the founder, but merely the great patron of this breed. Introduced to the non-Arab world in the nineteenth century. In its countries of origin it has declined sharply since mechanisation.