

ATAA Newsletter

Articles:

| | |
|---------------------------------|----|
| AT Booth at WEG | 1 |
| AT Population | 1 |
| Naked Foal Syndrome Fund | 2 |
| ATAA News | 2 |
| BOD Nominee Bios | 3 |
| ATAA/WWW Grant | 4 |
| ATAA Awards | 4 |
| Distance National Championships | 5 |
| Philosophy of Breeding | 7 |
| Dressage at Devon | 8 |
| Registration is Fundamental | 9 |
| Defining a Breed | 10 |
| Farm and Competition Reports | 11 |
| Foals of 2018 | 16 |
| 2018 NFS Report | 18 |
| Classifieds | 21 |

Akhal-Teke Booth at the 2018 World Equestrian Games

We're going to the GAMES!

Thank you to all the sponsors who have made the Akhal-Teke breed booth at the 2018 WEG a reality! We are still fundraising as we have raised over \$8000 but expect to need around another \$6000 to get everything done comfortably. We still need to rent walls for the booth, ship materials to NC, and actually decorate the booth. We are well on our way, but still need more cash. Items will be available to borrow after the WEG, including artwork, banners, and music. Our

WEG committee is working very hard to pull together a professional and eye-catching booth. We are still also working on having a ridden demo during the Games, although we still don't know if we will get one. A huge shout out to the very patient and willing riders who have said they would do a demo...without knowing if we will get one. Thank you! We are also looking for volunteers for manning the booth, from September 11-23. Betsy Wandler and Cathy Leddy will be there in overlapping times, but we *continued on page 20*

U.S. Akhal-Teke Population Shrinking?

by Patricia K. Johnston, ATAA board liaison to the Livestock Conservancy, and Kevin Matthews, Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes

Many of us wonder how our beloved breed is faring. In February 2018, the ATAA was invited to participate in the first Endangered Equine Summit at Texas A&M organized by the Livestock Conservancy. The Conservancy monitors most mammalian livestock populations through their respective breed associations. In preparation

for the summit, the Conservancy asked each breed association to provide a census of their equine population, based on registrations. This data gives an indication of the active breeding populations in a given year.

The ATAA's registrar, Amrita Ibold, used 2015 information to produce the census of ATAA purebred Akhal-Teke registrations. The data shows an average of fewer than 16 foals born annually from 1999 through 2015. It also shows more of our horses are ten years or older, with fewer numbers of younger horses. *continued on page 6*

Akhal-Teke Breed Booth at the World Equestrian Games in Tryon, NC, September 11-23, 2018!!! Details are [here.](#)

Dressage at Devon AT in-hand class, September 25th, with Parade of Breeds to follow. Info [here.](#)

AHA/ATAA Distance Championships October 26-28. Info [here.](#)

[Akhal-Teke Association of America - ATAA](#)

Naked Foal Syndrome Testing Fund

While Naked Foal Syndrome does not appear to be a large problem in our N. America Teke population, as we only know of one affected foal born approximately 20 years ago, the ATAA BOD has decided to be proactive about this genetic fault.

The ATAA BOD has voted to establish a fund to help owners and breeders test their horses. Working in conjunction with UC Davis, we will offer to pay half of all tests via a coupon code to help owners and breeders to see if their horses are affected and if so, how NOT to pass this defect along.

It has been suggested that all active breeding stallions and brood mares as of 2015 be tested and then if any of these horses show a mutation, test their offspring. We can possibly test other horses, but this has been suggested to start.

As of July 20th, 2018, the ATAA coupon fund has helped test 42 horses since 2016 with results received, and there are about 10 outstanding coupons now that have not been used. Our cost so far is \$860 for 2 years.

We originally budgeted for 50 tests at \$20 each with a projected cost of \$1000. We are nearing that amount and cost now but have decided to continue the program for a while. Results of all NFS results via the coupon program are here: <http://www.akhal-teke.org/nfs-results.html>

Article and results **on page 18** of this newsletter.

Make sure that YOU take advantage of this program. If you aren't sure if your horse(s) should be tested, please contact Amrita at ibolds@rockisland.com or Cathy at c.leddy@frontier.com



As always, a huge shout out to the Board of Directors. The BOD is working hard to come up with new promotions, answer questions and basically help the ATAA become the best it can be. Please contact a BOD member with any questions you may have.

ATAA NEWS

General Membership Meeting: Saturday, September 15th, time tbd, World Equestrian Games, Tryon, NC

2018 General Membership Meeting Agenda

Date/time: Saturday, September 15th, time tbd

Location: WEG

Call in information: (712) 451-0613; access code: 470-613

Back up phone number: Tish: (530) 400-9909 (please try conference call number first)

Agenda

1. Presidents Report- Tish Saare
2. Treasurers Report- Amrita Ibold
3. Registrar Report- Amrita/Cathy
4. Secretary's Report - Cathy
5. Website Report- Amrita/Cathy
6. Newsletter Report-Cathy
7. Awards Committee Report- Betsy/Catrina
8. Promotions Report- DAD, WEG, Distance Championships- Cathy, Betsy
9. Nominations and Election Report- Jas
Farm reports while ballots are counted.
10. Old Business
 - a. VNIK registration and the ATAA
 - b. ATAA Awards
 - c. Horse of the Year Award
 - d. Breed Standard and Grading
 - e. Trademark/Brand
 - f. Semen Bank
 - g. Akhal-Teke Database
 - h. WEG/2018 Conference
 - i. 2018 Christmas Silent Auction
11. New Business
 - a. Grant for VNIK Registration Project
 - b. Breeders Certificate Program
 - c. Online Registration Database
 - d. Breed Show for 2019- ? Rare Breed Show? W. Coast?
 - e. Conference for 2019

Ballots will be out in the mail in time to get back before the GMM on September 15th. Most will go out via email. Send them back in time to be counted!

ATAA Awards – The Deadline is coming for the ATAA Awards! August 18th is the last day to nominate yourself or someone else. **See page 4** for details.

Teke T-shirts-Jessica Drake of The Painting Pony will be doing our ATAA Logowear shirts for WEG and the AHA/ATAA Distance Championships. Volunteers at WEG and competitors (and crew, most likely) will get T-shirts for their efforts. (and our thanks of course!)

Dressage at Devon – the ATAA is sponsoring an Akhal-Teke in hand class again at Dressage at Devon in late September AND there will be a Parade of Breeds to follow. Get your entries in! Article on page

2019 ATAA General Membership Meeting and Conference needs a host. We need to find a host and venue for our 2019 Conference and General Membership Meeting. If you might like to host it, contact a BOD member for details. And, even if you're not chosen in 2019, perhaps you can host it in 2020. We try to rotate it around the country and have been on the East Coast the last several years (Rare Breeds Show in 2016, Dressage at Devon in 2017 and WEG in 2018) Maybe it's time to go West? South? North?

We can't do it without you! Thank you to all members, volunteers, donors and AT friends!

continued on page 3

ATAA News from page 2

2018 BOD openings:

3 Board Openings this year, Cathy Leddy, Jas Shearer-McMahon and Pat Johnston's terms are up. We have bios of nominees below. We do most of our work via email, with occasional conference calls and one yearly meeting. We have several nominees this year:

Dean Miller, Florida:



Hi, I'm Dean Miller and I live in Florida on the Gulf Coast of Sarasota. I moved here from the UK in 2012, although this is not my first time in the USA. I have traveled most of the country and lived in North Dakota at one point where I picked up my interest in horses from my uncle. I was always interested in horses but living in the UK it was an interest only wealthy people could be involved in, so my time in North Dakota allowed me to ride and be involved with horses and enter in rodeos for roping and saddle broncs. Well, when we moved back to Europe that interest was put on hold till 2012, when I moved back to the US and in 2014 I ended up with a young 12- month-old Akhal-Teke cross called Damascus. I had read and knew of the Akhal-Teke from books in the UK, but they were always a thing of fantasy and I was like most people who would never believe to see one, let alone own one. That led me to my interest in the AATA and the need to promote the breed at a grass roots level at

local events, to introduce them to the public and to dispel the stigma surrounding them and show they are an all- around horse and more than capable of the same feats as the tried and true breeds in the USA, if not better in some respects and to show they are affordable and not some unattainable object. That would be my interest in the being on the Board of the AATA.

Jas Shearer-McMahon – Colorado



I saw my first Akhal-Tekes in 1985 at the Sprandel Farm in Wellington, Colorado and was so impressed with their conformation and temperament I knew I had to have some. I purchased my first mare, Minorka II, at the Sprandel auction in 1990, followed shortly after by the lease and eventual purchase of Fergan. These two mares were the start of my breeding program and I still own a daughter by each of them. From 1998 until 2006, I leased Cathy Leddy's great stallion, Astrachan, who I stood at stud and competed in Endurance as well as doing several demos with. "Khano" always attracted a crowd and was a great ambassador for the breed.

I compete in Endurance and dabble in dressage with these horses and still raise a few foals. My gelding, MV Patrickhan and I have placed in the year end standings every year in our regional club, MRER, and almost every year in the Mountain Region of AERC. He now has 3685 Endurance miles and as long as we make it for one 50 miler in 2018, we will get our Decade Team Award!

I have been on the Board of Directors for the Akhal-Teke Association of

America for many years since 1997, serving as treasurer, director at large, and currently as Vice President and I have helped to organize and participate in the Association Grading tours, taken stallions to horse expos, promoted the breed wherever I could and I have introduced the breed to many people over the years. I plan to continue preserving, protecting and promoting this wonderful breed for as long as I am able and I will continue to serve on the board as long as my services are needed.

Pat Johnston – Oregon



I started on the ATAA board in 2014 and I would like to continue working to preserve this endangered breed through my service with the ATAA board. Since 2013, my husband, Kevin Matthews, and I continue our work to preserve the Akhal-Teke, breeding horses that maximize genetic diversity and emphasizing athleticism at Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes. Over the last 5 years our mare herd has grown and our stallion, Ehyr Atlaz has matured. Currently, I serve as the ATAA liaison to the Livestock Conservancy where I participated in the 2018 Endangered Equine Summit. I was inspired by the overwhelming interest in collaboration among participants from all the rare breeds. There are so many things that we can do together that will further the missions of the individual rare horse breed associations.

Continued on page 4

BOD nominees, continued from page 3

One of the things that emerged was the importance of tracking US horses in order to set and attain goals around the recovery of rare breeds, to grow them incrementally until they are no longer on the Conservation Priority List. If re-elected, I would like to continue the work I started to provide an online database for our members to use, that would include pedigrees, registration status, hypothetical foal and inbreeding coefficient calculations to name a few functions. Since starting this project, I have reached out and done substantial research on what could serve the ATAA as an organization, as well as serve Akhal-Teke breeders, owners, and enthusiasts. I hope we will be able to have something available for beta testing in the next year or so. I have been involved in nonprofit organizations since the early 1990s. I have started three nonprofits and raised millions of dollars. I would like to continue to help the ATAA get to the next level of accomplishments, building on the great contributions of those who have worked so hard already, to preserve important bloodlines, promote the breed, and create a standard for the North American Akhal-Teke horse by working in productive partnerships, both within our country and worldwide.

THANK YOU to everyone that is willing to run for the BOD. We can't do it without you!

Ballots will go out via email or snail mail, depending on how you get your newsletter. Please print the ballot, sign and send it back by the due date, so your vote (or votes for Ranch and Family members) are counted.

**Make sure you and your horse
are eligible for the 2018
Incentive Fund!**

\$3000 to share!

Information at: <http://www.akhal-teke.org/ataa-news/ataa-incentive-awards-checks-for-2017-going-out>

2018 ATAA Awards



*Some
past
ATAA
Awards*

Guidelines and Rules:

The awards outlined below are for ATAA members and ATAA registered horses (purebred and part-bred).

A current board member may be asked to step in for a tie-breaker (that is not personally involved with a particular category).

All awards will be chosen based on **nominations** from registry members (a paragraph or more explaining why the individual person and/or horse should be chosen for that award). Individualized award will be given out to each award recipients (1 recipient per category)

Nominations are due on August 18th by midnight (MST) and will be presented at the general membership meeting in September.

Volunteer Awards:

1. Community Involvement- promotes the ATAA and the Akhal-Teke to those outside of the breed (example: local 4-H or Pony Club)
2. Event Attendance/Breed Promotion- a member that actively helps the ATAA at one or more horse function(s) (example: exposition or show)
3. Publicity- contributes article(s) to one or more ATAA newsletters.

Horse Awards:

1. Endurance Award: A registered horse that actively competes in recognized endurance or CTR rides.
2. Dressage Award: A registered horse that actively competes in schooling shows and/or USDF recognized shows
3. Eventing Award: A registered horse that actively competes in schooling shows and/or USEA recognized events.
4. Jumping Award: A registered horse that actively competes in schooling shows and/or USEF/USHJA recognized events.
5. Horse of the Year: A registered horse that is a great ambassador to the breed and ATAA by actively competing in any discipline(s) and/or is producing offspring that are actively competing in any discipline(s).

Nominations to be sent to: Betsy Wandler, ATAA Awards Chairperson, Betsysee@gmail.com



DISTANCE HORSE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HOSTED BY THE ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

**2018 Distance Horse National Championships,
AHA/ATAA Spook Run Open Championships,
October 26-28, Henryville, IN**

The ATAA is happy to announce that we have partnered with the AHA to bring our members a National Distance Championship! You must be an ATAA member and your horse must be ATAA registered. This will make you eligible for this year's

Incentive Fund Awards of **\$3000!!!**

Thank you to Amber Erickson and Betsy Wandler for pointing the ATAA in the right direction for this opportunity and a big thanks to Betsy for acting as our ATAA/AHA liaison.

More information, rules, etc. on the ATAA website at:

<http://www.akhal-teke.org/ataa-news/2018-distance-horse-national-championships-ahaataa-spook-run-open-championships-october-26-28-henryville-in#comments>

THE ATAA WILL BE PROVIDING LOGOWEAR T-SHIRTS TO ALL AT AND AT CROSS PARTICIPANTS. PLEASE LET BETSY OR AMBER KNOW IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING! WE ALSO HAVE THE POSSIBILITY OF FILMING THIS RIDE, BUT THAT WILL ONLY BE IF ENOUGH PEOPLE PARTICIPATE!!

BETSY – betsysee@gmail.com
AMBER – endurochiro3@gmail.com



Introducing at stud

Wepaly Gulki

Sephard Shael x Pekhimli, 2013 Black 16 hand

ATAA/VNIK registered



Frozen semen only, \$1200 stud fee/multiple mare discounts

Esler Arabians, 916-652-8937, Eslerarabians@gmail.com

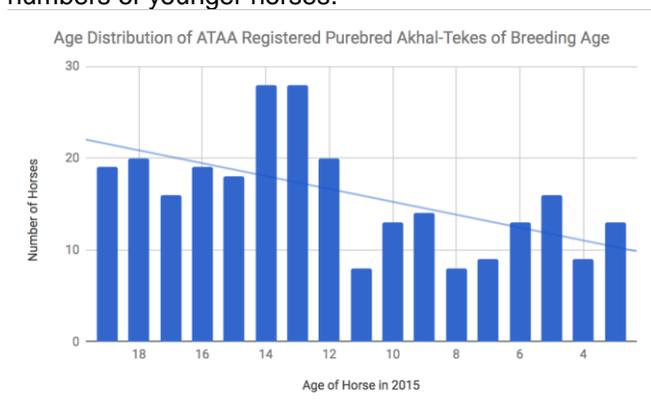
Eslerarabians.net

continued from front page

The table shows the alarming year by year results.

| Census of ATAA-registered Purebred Akhal-Tekes Age 3 to 20 | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------|------------|------------|---|
| Some shown as stallions have since been gelded. Birth-based population totals not adjusted for deaths. | | | | | |
| Year of birth | Total foals born | Stallions | Mares | Geldings | |
| Annual Average | 15.9 | 5.7 | 7.8 | 2.5 | |
| 2015 | 13 | 6 | 7 | | |
| 2014 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 2 | |
| 2013 | 16 | 8 | 5 | 3 | |
| 2012 | 13 | 6 | 6 | 1 | |
| 2011 | 9 | 3 | 4 | 2 | |
| 2010 | 8 | 3 | 2 | 3 | |
| 2009 | 14 | 6 | 6 | 2 | |
| 2008 | 13 | 5 | 5 | 3 | |
| 2007 | 8 | 1 | 7 | | |
| 2006 | 20 | 8 | 10 | 2 | |
| 2005 | 28 | 8 | 14 | 6 | |
| 2004 | 28 | 5 | 19 | 4 | |
| 2003 | 18 | 7 | 6 | 5 | |
| 2002 | 19 | 6 | 7 | 6 | |
| 2001 | 16 | 5 | 9 | 2 | |
| 2000 | 20 | 8 | 11 | 1 | |
| 1999 | 19 | 8 | 11 | | |
| Totals | 271 | 97 | 132 | 42 | |
| Earlier years | 1998 | 15 | 7 | 7 | 1 |
| | 1997 | 13 | 4 | 6 | 3 |
| | 1996 | 20 | 6 | 12 | 2 |
| | 1995 | 15 | 7 | 7 | 1 |

We have graphed the age distribution of ATAA registered purebred Akhal-Tekes of breeding age, taken for this purpose to be a range of 3 to 19 years old. The downward trend line on the graph illustrates the lower numbers of younger horses.



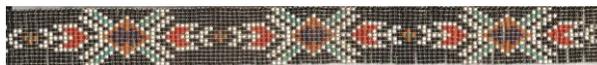
This downward trend should be a matter of real concern to the ATAA and all North American Akhal-Teke lovers. Perhaps the biggest factor influencing this trend is the actual number of Akhal-Tekes, with fewer younger horses indicating a shrinking number of births over the last twenty years.

Another major factor that could affect the trend is shortfalls and variations in ATAA horse registrations.

When Akhal-Teke horses are not registered with the ATAA, they do not show up in the census. Furthermore, if horses are not registered with VNIK, due to the closed studbook for the breed, these horses risk falling out of recognized purebred status.

Other factors influencing the downward trend may include changing rates of horse imports, as well as changing rates of reported demise. It will be important to repeat this census regularly, to pin down whether the population of Akhal-Tekes in North America is rising or falling.

The ATAA Board of Directors finds these results to be alarming. The census does not account directly for VNIK registered Akhal Teke horses. However, we estimate that there are fewer VNIK registered horses than ATAA registered horses, and that many of the VNIK registered horses in the U.S. are dual registered with ATAA, so they are included in the ATAA results.



To donate for the Akhal-Teke Breed Booth at the 2018 World Equestrian Games, you have three options:

- **Donate without getting a tax deduction** – this is directly to the ATAA, [HERE IS THE LINK](#). If you do this, please realize these funds are NOT tax deductible. But they would be appreciated and used anyway! Or, send a check to Amrita Ibold, 2097 W. Valley Rd, Friday Harbor, WA 98250. Or go to <http://www.akhal-teke.org/donations.html>
- **Donate through the Equus Survival Trust. EST is a 501c3 and as such, donations are tax deductible** within the scope of the IRS regulations. Donations by check or via the EST website PayPal "Surprise Us" option are acceptable for this ATAA fundraiser. All donors will receive a written receipt for tax purposes. Donations to EST for ATAA must be earmarked STRICTLY as follows: "Donation to ATAA". [DONATION BUTTON IS HERE](#). Send checks (made out to EST noting they are for the ATAA) to Equus Survival Trust, 525 Bartley Road, Lowgap, NC 27024
- Make **sure** you note that the ATAA and EST.
- We'll see you in September at WEG!

A basic and guiding philosophy is the single most critical component of any breeding program. A breeder's first ask is the development of a specific purpose in breeding animals. This may seem obvious, but it is very often overlooked, with the result that breeding is done with little progress toward any goal. Perhaps even worse than an aimless approach is a breeding program that chases after the fads dictated by the show ring or by other people. Such a program is constantly acquiring, discarding and thus wasting genetic resources in a futile attempt to catch up to the current leaders in the breed.

A philosophy of breeding combines the elements of genetics, selection, and husbandry to accomplish a goal. If a philosophy is in place, every animal and every mating can be evaluated relative to the goal, giving purpose and identity to the herd or flock. This chapter considers the philosophies of conservation and improvement. An understanding of the methods and goals of each of these will enable breeders to develop their own philosophies of animal breeding.

The Philosophy of Conservation Breeding

The philosophy of conservation breeding has as its objective the management of a breed as a genetic resource for the future. The goal is to maintain a breed's original genetic identity, including its production potential, by using selection criteria consistent with the breed's history. In addition, selection is made for physical soundness. This means that sound animals of breed type will be used in reproduction, with careful attention to maintain all existing bloodline. (An exception may occur in the case of extremely rare breeds or strains, where it is not always possible to cull all unsound or blemished individuals until numbers have been increased.)

The conservation philosophy focuses on animals as a group rather than as individuals. Attention is placed upon a breed, or on a herd or flock of a breed. The genetic variation present in a single herd or flock will be managed so that this smaller group serves the breed's long term genetic needs. The most dramatic management change required by the conservation philosophy is the selection and use of a relatively larger number of individuals (particularly males) for breeding. In addition, a sound animal somewhat lacking in appearance or performance but representing less common genetic variable may be used for mating instead of one which is superior in appearance or performance but whose genes are already well represented in the herd or flock.

The popular interpretation of the word "conserve" is to save things exactly as they are, but this is not exactly the case. Living animals continue to evolve, and conservation allows these changes to occur. Conservation of livestock and poultry includes their

continued use and evolution in the habitat of agriculture. Those breeds that are treated as museum pieces will surely become extinct.

Preservation, in contrast, does mean keeping things exactly as they are. Animal genetic preservation is accomplished through cryopreservation, which is the freezing of semen, embryos, and other genetic materials for the future. This technology can be used to ensure the survival of all male bloodlines in a herd, flock or breed, and it can provide the opportunity to reintroduce bloodlines that become lost from the population.

Preservation is not, however, complete in itself. A breed kept *only* in frozen storage is, ironically, at greater risk of loss because its characteristics and utility will be forgotten. Effective genetic conservation programs for domestic breeds must include living populations.

The Philosophy of Improvement Breeding

The philosophy of improvement breeding has as its goal the increase of performance for specific production or conformation traits in a breed, herd, or flock. The idea of making animals more useful, productive, and even beautiful has always been the driving force in the breeding of domestic species. To understand the philosophy of improvement breeding, however, is it necessary to go beyond its broadest objectives and look at how breeding for improvement is practiced today. Within the improvement breeding philosophy are two distinct and sometimes opposing objectives: the increase of uniformity in a population; and the production of outstanding individuals. The first objective guides most production animal breeding programs, since herd or flock uniformity, especially uniformity of performance, is highly desirable. The second objective, with its concentration on individual performance, is more common in horse breeding and in the production of show stock of any species.

Most improvement programs are focused on performance for a single production trait, or a very few production traits. These include rate of weight gain in beef cattle, volume of milk production in dairy cattle, and speed in race horses. The disadvantage of this approach is its reliance on very narrow selection criteria. If *every* animal lacking superb performance for the trait is culled, this can lead to loss of variation for other traits. If *every* animal that shows superb performance for the traits is bred, then other, undesirable characteristics may be perpetuated. The trait of body size has often been the focus of improvement programs, and production breeds in every livestock species have been selected for very large stature. This selection has resulted in biological problems, including longer reproductive intervals, difficulty of birth (dystocia), delayed maturity, unsound feet and legs, and shorter lifespan. In miniature animals, selection has been for small size, since the smallest animals can bring the highest prices. Small size, however, can be caused by congenital and hereditary problems, so miniaturization can inadvertently select for these defects and leave animals unfit. Breeding for

continued next page

Conservation Breeding, continued from page 7

any extreme cannot be considered beneficial and is instead often destructive to the genetic health of a population.

In a more sound approach to improvement breeding, selection is based on performance for several production traits rather than a single trait or only a few traits. Such a program results in more balanced performance animals and fewer genetic losses. Dairy cattle breeders, for example, could follow the example of the Dutch Belted, a rugged, sound dairy breed whose strengths include excellent production on forage, reproductive efficiency, maternal ability and milk composition.

Conservation and Improvement

The philosophy of improvement need not conflict with the philosophy of genetic conservation and it is always desirable to include both in a breeding program. This is especially true for breeds which historically have been shaped by an improvement philosophy. In these breeds, improvement should continue to be a part of bred conservation. Examples include the Oxford sheep as a crossing breed for meat and wool production, and the American Mammoth Jackstock ass breed, used to produce elite mules for work and riding.

Improvement and conservation conflict only when improvement represents a departure from the historic uses and characteristics of a breed. Such transformation usually implies loss of the breed's genetic heritage. Jacob sheep are an example. The Jacob sheep in America reflects its origins as a relatively small and primitive breed, but the British Jacob has been improved to fit the modern marketplace and is now much larger and smoother than in the past. Though the breed name is the same, the original breed type of the British Jacob has largely been lost.

Pig breeding poses a particularly difficult challenge in the light of conservation and improvement strategies. Most rare pig breeds are fatter than the current pork market desires. These breeds were skipped over when intense selection for leanness and against fat was used in the development of modern commercial types. To select today's rare breeds for leanness might better assure their survival, but the cost would be loss of original genetic type. Again, the names could be saved, but the hogs would be different. These examples illustrate the fact that no single philosophy is correct for every breeding program. Individual breeders must develop their own philosophies based on the genetic status and heritage of their breeds. As breeder's experience grows, their philosophies will evolve. What remains constant is the importance of philosophy. An understanding of the concepts of conservation and improvement, along with conscious reflection on the goals of a specific breeding program, will greatly increase the chances of accomplishment.

DRESSAGE AT DEVON 2018



The ATAA is sponsoring the AT In-Hand class again at Dressage at Devon, the PREMIER horse show in N. America.

This is the 3rd year we are sponsoring this class, all registered ATs are welcome!

Added bonus: There will be a Parade of Breeds after the class on Tuesday, September 25th.

Information from previous years is [HERE](#).

Dressage at Devon website is [HERE](#).



This is excellent exposure for our breed to the equine world at large. In previous years, ATs have competed in many under saddle classes besides the in-hand class, alongside warmbloods, Friesians, and other breeds and have done well! Let's keep the trend going!

Dates: September 25-30th, 2018, Devon PA



Registration is Fundamental to Breed Preservation

by Patricia K. Johnston, ATAA board liaison to the Livestock Conservancy, and Kevin Matthews, Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes

The population of a purebred breed like the Akhal-Teke consists of the registered horses. Without being registered, a horse is not formally recognized as an Akhal-Teke.

The recent provocative census of U.S. Akhal-Tekes shows a shrinking population and shines a spotlight on registration issues in the breed, as well as the apparent low birth rates.

Quoting from the Livestock Conservancy, "Registered animals are those with documented pedigrees... Undocumented purebreds are both excluded and lost from the purebred population, as are any unique genes that individual animals might carry. This makes continuity of pedigree registration from generation to generation very important."

The Livestock Conservancy maintains the influential Conservation Priority List for U.S. livestock breeds. Using previously available information, they have listed the Akhal-Teke in the U.S. in the "threatened" category. Livestock Conservancy criteria for "threatened" are fewer than 1,000 annual registrations in the United States and an estimated global population less than 5,000.

However, the recent ATAA census highlights much smaller numbers of Tekes in the U.S., suggesting that with better information, the Akhal-Teke might qualify for "critical" status based on the Livestock Conservancy criteria of fewer than 200 annual registrations in the United States — although the world population of Akhal-Tekes may not meet the Livestock Conservancy criteria for "critical" status of an estimated global population of less than 2,000.

Examples of horse breeds currently listed as threatened by the Livestock Conservancy include the Lipizzan, Clydesdale, and Shire, while critical horse breeds include the Caspian, Cleveland Bay, and Suffolk Punch.

To provide the accurate information needed for Akhal-Teke breed preservation, and specifically to help establish critical status for the Akhal-Teke in the U.S., both the ATAA registry and the VNIIC registry are important. The ATAA is working to identify barriers for Akhal Teke breeders and owners to register their horses both with the ATAA, and in the closed Russian studbook, VNIIC. The ATAA has received a \$19,000 grant to assist in building a sustainable, supportive process to get

Akhal-Teke horses that are still eligible for VNIIC registration into the closed studbook. Backfilling missed registrations, and improving our registration rates going forward, is a big project, but one that the Akhal Teke Association of America is committed to fulfilling.

Every Akhal-Teke owner can help, by making sure your registrations are complete and up-to-date!

The ATAA has received a monetary grant from the WWW Foundation to:

- **Educate** owners and breeders as to WHY it is important to register your Akhal-Tekes horses with both the Russians and the ATAA, not only for awards, promotions and community, but to save the critically endangered Akhal-Teke horse breed from possible extinction.
- **Facilitate** registration of all North American purebred Akhal-Tekes in the closed Russian studbook, before their genetics are lost to the world.
- **Work** with owners to get all purebred Akhal-Tekes horses into the closed Russian Studbook and preserve and protect the genetic stock of the Akhal-Teke.
- **Travel** to collect DNA samples, photos and information from purebred horses for registration in worst-case scenarios.

We are still working on a plan on the best way to use these funds. Keep watching the newsletter and the website. Member input would be appreciated!



Dp Connected Farms, LLC
Boarding, Training, Breeding & Sales
Sales List includes:
Purebred Akhal-Teke Horses
Akhal-Teke Sport Horses
Nez Perce Horses
And Reconditioned Trail horses of various breeds

Owners
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Defining a Breed Genetics expert Phillip Sponenberg, DVM, PhD, addresses the differences between "breed" and "purebred." By the Editors of EQUUS magazine. BY EQUUS, MAY 9, 2003

Question: I am trying to find a good definition of the terms "breed" and "purebred" to be able to distinguish the difference between the two. Also, what is the rule on how many generations of breeding strictly within a breed it takes to be considered purebred? Answer: I am afraid you are looking for clear-cut definitions and hard-and-fast rules that don't exist. When speaking of horses, more than other livestock species, several different concepts for "breed" emerge. Each of these has legitimacy, but each is very, very different. The narrowest definition is that a breed is a group of animals distinct enough by appearance to be logically grouped together and that when intermated produce that same appearance. To the criterion of similar appearance could also be added "similar by descent (relationship) or geographic origin." Under this definition, the concept of breed is one of genetic consistency. This is the most useful definition if predictability breed is one of genetic consistency. This is the most useful definition if predictability is what is desired from a breed. Most horse breeds with closed studbooks--meaning only foals with registered parents may be registered--do satisfy the requirements to be considered as breeds under this definition, but only in the narrowest genetic sense. Extremes include the Icelandic Horse, which has been geographically and, therefore, genetically, isolated for 1,000 years, and breeds such as the Thoroughbred, which has been more artificially isolated for a few hundred years. A few horse associations add restrictions to the genetic breed concept so that not all horses that are born of registered parents are automatically registered. For these breeds, registered parents are essential for registration but only make foals eligible. Further evaluation or testing might be required, or the foal might have to meet certain other requirements, such as color. Many European breeds, in their homelands, require varying levels of testing for horses to be registered as eligible to reproduce. Other examples are Cleveland Bay and Friesian horses, in which color restrictions apply so that chestnut foals of either breed are not eligible for registration even though the parents may have been registered. Other horse breeds, and many of the most popular breeds in this country, have "open" herdbooks, allowing outcrosses produced from matings with other designated breeds. Quarter Horses allow Thoroughbred outcrosses, Paints allow Thoroughbred or Quarter Horse outcrosses, and Appaloosas allow Thoroughbred, Quarter Horse or Arabian outcrosses. The result of having herdbooks open, but open in only a restricted direction, is that the core identity of the breed as genetically based is really

not hampered much. These breeds form what could be called, in a larger sense, the "Western Stock Horse," which is heavily influenced by Thoroughbred breeding. Selection pressure keeps them somewhat distinct by favoring a different type. They are less consistent than a very tightly defined genetic breed (Friesian, for example) but are still consistent enough to be predictable and much more predictable than other more completely open registries. However, if breeders are more interested in the traditional, foundation type within these breeds, then they mourn the inclusion of any outcrossing. At the furthest extreme are registries that are one notch more closed than "wide open," such as many of the strictly color-based registries, including closed than "wide open," such as many of the strictly color-based registries, including pinto, gray and a few others. "What is a purebred horse?" then becomes a pretty tricky question. At one extreme the answer could well be "any registered horse," although the consistency arising from generations of mating within a defined genetic pool are clearly lacking with such a definition. At the other extreme is some sort of insistence on predictability and genetic consistency, which can come from isolated matings within a specific restricted population. Thoroughbreds and most heavy draft breeds are good examples of such a strategy. The issue of "When does a population become purebred?" likewise has no easy answer. If two very different and genetically distant breeds, Arabians and Belgians for example, are crossed, and then a herdbook established, it might well take seven or eight generations of breeding, with very intense selection, for genetic repeatability to be achieved. If old-style Oldenburgs and old-style Hanoverians, two breeds close in genetic relation and appearance, are crossed, the result could be achieved much more quickly, perhaps in two or three generations. The key importance of pure breeds is that they represent real, repeatable, predictable choices for horse owners. To some extent modern horse breeding has converged on a very few popular international types. Most breeds are slowly (through selection) or quickly (through outcrossing) being transformed into those types. This trend means that future horse owners may not have as wide an array of choices in horse types as have we, or as have previous generations. Fortunately, the American Livestock Breeds Conservancy (<http://albc-usa.org/index.htm> <http://albc-usa.org/index.htm> is working diligently with breeders of rare horse breeds to ensure that future generations do have a choice. D. Phillip Sponenberg, DVM, PhD Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine Blacksburg, Virginia



Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes Summer 2018 Farm Report, Tish Saare, CA

Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes has had a busy spring and summer – delivering and making little horses, raising kids and horses, and attending the Western States Horse Exposition. The 2018 Western States Horse Exposition in Sacramento was our big event for the summer. Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes teamed up with Deb Bowker and together we brought six Akhal-Teke mares to the Expo. We showed the horses each of the three days of the Expo in the breed demonstration, we had an ATAA booth in the shopping pavilion, and we had a nice display in the barn next to the horses. Expo attendees were able to see the horses in action, meet and touch the horses, and discuss the breed with us. The horses that attended



Alajoz and Pri

were Alajoz, Pri, and Kizmet (owned by Deb Bowker), Kooski and Ivy (owned by Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes), and MV Manlayli (on lease to Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes from Magic Valley Akhal-Tekes). Trainer Brandi Esteves rode Alajoz and Brandi's twelve-year-old daughter, Haley, rode Pri in the breed demos. The rest of the horses were shown in hand during the demos. The horses behaved really well and did the breed justice.



We spoke with a ton of people about the breed at the barn and at the booth. I believe the number of people that had never heard of the breed was much less than in previous years. There were many people that were very excited to see and touch an Akhal-Teke for the first time. We even had a handful of people tell us that the only reason that they attended the Expo this year was because they heard that the Akhal-Tekes were going to be there. How cool is that!?! Over all, I believe that it

was a great event for breed promotion and public education about the Akhal-Teke. Photos from the Expo are posted on our webpage:

www.pleasantgroveakhaltekes.com

In addition to attending the Expo, we have been delivering and making foals. We had two colts and a filly born this year. The filly, Piper (Gallo x Pipi) is a very nice buckskin with four tall socks. We haven't named the colts yet...but the first is a big bay colt (Gallo x Kamiah) and the second is a flashy chestnut colt (Kevlin x Alyeshka). The chestnut colt is Kevlin's first foal – we are super excited. Photos of the foals can be found on our website on the For-Sale page. We also have four mares in foal and two that we will breed in the first week of July for 2019 foals. Asalari and MV Manlayli are in foal to Kevlin and Kooski and MV Fergazel are in foal to Gallo for next year. We will rebreed Kamiah to Gallo and Alyeska to Kevlin as we were very happy with both crosses. Deb also plans to rebreed Pipi to Gallo in July. We have quite a few foals and horses for sale this year and will have even more for sale next year. We have seen an increased interest in the Akhal-Teke breed over the last few years and are excited to be part of breed promotion and eventual recovery!

Please visit our website for photos and more information about our farm: www.pleasantgroveakhaltekes.com

News from Magic Valley, summer 2018, Jas Shearer-McMahon, CO

It's been a very different year for me so far. In January I underwent shoulder surgery for full thickness tears of the rotator cuff and the bicep muscle. While the surgery went quite well the recovery time has been brutal. I don't remember a time when I could not ride or interact with my horses for 4 consecutive months. I was told by my surgeon that if I reinjured that shoulder before it was healed enough he would not be able to repair it again. So, I followed his recommended recovery protocol and started riding Patrick in April, but only if the footing was good and only schooling close to home. The others I have only worked in the Round pen until the first of June, when I resumed riding Merdan and ground driving Elfia. The only close calls with Merdan have been when deer resting in the deep grass have jumped up unexpectedly! I am ramping up my conditioning this month as I have been cleared to compete as of August 1. While I have missed some of my favorite rides this spring, I will try and make it up this fall by going to some multi-day rides. Since I had all that down time when I couldn't ride I started horse trailer shopping. After a 6-month search, I found my "dream trailer", a 1998 4 Star 3 horse slant with living quarters. This trailer is immaculate, it was custom built for an Endurance riding couple who used it for 4 years and then due to an illness, it spent the last 14 years

Farm and Competition Reports

in storage. I picked it up on June 9th and have spent the last three weeks cleaning out my old trailer and setting up the new one. I'm looking forward to my first trip with it.

Melissa Harlinski, MD



RDF Bavaria (barn name Bayla) went to the Young Horse Show <http://www.younghorseshow.com/> on Saturday, July 7th at High Point Hanoverian Farm in Chestertown, Maryland. She competed in the yearling class which consisted of two parts: in-hand and at liberty. The class fee included a handler fee which was nice. Horses are required to be registered with a breed registry recognized by USEF. Bayla received 3rd place and \$25 prize money. Her score was a 2.96 (3 is considered excellent). There was some tough competition and I was very happy with her performance! She is bred by Gretta Teets of Royal Dutchess Farm

Mary Curran and Hendrix, IL

Hendrix and I were second in Training Rider A division at Fox River Valley Pony Club Horse Trials in Barrington Hills IL, June 24, 2018

Hendrix was 2nd in the Senior Training Rider A division at Fox River Valley Pony Club Horse Trials on June 24, 2018 in Barrington Hills IL. FRVPCHT is the largest horse trial in the Midwest. Hendrix is 11 years old, out of Kyra by Halhelooya, bred by Holly Flowers. AATA# AAKTR06. His show name is Flying Colors!



Sweet Water Farm news, Amrita Ibold, WA

Like every year spring arrives and life seems to go in overdrive...

I had a wonderful trip to Europe and visited Argamak stud in Holland to see their herd. Then to the annual Akhal-Teke meeting in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. I got to see the newly published Russian studbook, and I bought a copy of the stallion volume and mare volume. I should have them in early July and this will be tremendously helpful with registration!

I had a short meeting with Nadegda Abramova, the Russian registrar for the closed studbook of AT horses. We discussed easier payments to Russia and faster paperwork, but she is understaffed and, on the road, mostly in the summer. She judges at venues and grades horses at AT farms and is not in the office much. The horses in Ashgabat looked stunning, but on the race track sadly more than ever it was obvious that they are TB crosses and some looked like pure TB and had double the speed of the pure AT's. Devastating really since it now makes our gene pool of pure bred AT's that much smaller.

Back on the farm, in March we had the young stallion Komissar Hyrdar who was bred by us, here for 2 months to train to the phantom at our farm, and we succeeded to have one mare pregnant, Aktepel for 2019.

In May I went to an Eventing clinic with Sarah who boards her Akhal-Teke gelding Paelka here and we had a fabulous time, learned a ton and our horses did great.



Sarah and Paelka

In the breeding shed, the mare Saz Jahan is confirmed pregnant to Kiergen standing at stud in Virginia at Shenandoah farm.

Ayal Pikira had a lovely colt by Kambarbay. Maralle had a filly by Aliger.

We are in the midst of breeding and hope to have 8 foals next year.

Farm and Competition reports continued on page 13

Farm and Competition Reports

Denise and Bill from Die Kinder Stud, Australia would like to say 'Thank you' to Tom and Dawn Thomsen for allowing us to permanently care for the amazing and only Purebred Akhal Teke Stallion available at stud in Australia, JBK Mukam sired by Mamuk from Galina. We have also purchased the mare Gelmay by the Russian stallion Almaz from the lovely mare Gel Beri (foaled at Shael Stud Russia). These two lovely horses are the sire and dam of our other mares Gemma and Gubilee.



We have a thoroughbred and an Arabian Warmblood mare due to foal to Mukam this season and hope to breed Gelmay to him this year. Gubilee is due to foal this season to our Arabian bred Stallion Die Kinder Zolotoy. While Gemma has a stunning palomino Akhal Teke/ Arabian cross colt by Zolotoy. We are planning to attend a show and have a display with some of our Akhal Teke horses in September.

Laura Spear and Diesel, OR



Diesel finished 8th at the 25 mile Still Prineville Ride on May 4th
Then he won his .85m and .95m classes at the EquiSpirit Farms schooling jumper show.

Briar Cottage, Cindy Sither, KY

Briar Cottage summer camp year 5 is under way! Akhal Tekes and Akhal Teke crosses used in camp are: Marigold, Garpun, Wizzy, Tali, Elek, and Kiwi. Non-ATs include Morgan the Clydesdale and Sammy the Shetland...except Sammy ripped her eyelid whilst trying to rub off her halter this morning, now has stitches...will see how she feels in the morning. This camp has 7 young ladies ages 9-13, here from 8-noon this week. Good group, smart horses, able to ride all together with no wrecks so far. Walking over obstacles, weaving through mazes, practicing trot on lunge line, tried sidesaddle. Still to do: mounted archery, bareback riding and trail ride. Oh, and they talked me into a sleepover tomorrow night...gak.



And they are talking about doing ongoing lessons:)
Good ambassador ponies:)

Silver Hill Akhal-Tekes, Betsy Wandler, MT

Hope everyone is enjoying a great spring! We have had record rainfall for the year here in Billings, so it has been a wet, muddy spring. Since the barn was built, I have decided that we need to get down to 4 horses (the number of stalls in the barn!) so have been working on decreasing our horse numbers. The latest news at Silver Hill Akhal-Tekes is that our Salamdor (Salam x MV Elfia) has been sold to Montana Getz of Hamilton, MT. He is loving his new home, has a beautiful pasture, lots of attention, and field of beautiful mares to gaze at. He will be traversing up and down the Bitterroot Mountains this summer. We have retained breeding rights to him, so will still have some Salamdor foals in our pastures in the years to come.

Continued on page 14

Farm and Competition Reports



Salamdor in his new home.

The beautiful mare "Amerka" (Aliger x Krosna) and her 2017 colt "Silverhill Samson" will be leaving for the Midwest in a month or two.

Our coming 3-year-old colt, MV Mele-Chus (Merdan x MV Manlayli) is pending sale right now and will be leaving for his new home late July.

We have 2 other horses offered for sale right now, the Akhal-Teke Sporthorse yearling colt "Silverhill Shaka" (Salamdor x MV Kiyasa), a gorgeous metallic light golden bay. He also has a lifetime registration with USEF... so if you are in the market for a future competition horse, this is your guy! He should mature to 15.2 hands. The 2nd horse offered for sale or lease is a 16.2 hand Arab/Dutch Harness Horse mare that is bred to Salamdor for a May 2019 foal. I loved her 2017 colt so repeated the breeding.



My daughter playing with her Breyer Horses with MV Kiyasa (Astrachan x Kyra) and Silverhill Shaka (Salamdor x MV Kiyasa) watching attentively.

"Silverhill Avienda" (Salamdor x Amerka) has been out on a breeding lease the last year, she recently had a gorgeous dark buckskin/bay filly by "Tay Shael". She will be bred back to "Tarek" (Tay Shael x Lanka) and will go into full time training under saddle after her current filly is weaned late fall. She will return to us early spring.

We are impatiently waiting our one-and-only foal this year...MV Mele-Chus x Kazahk-Yurek RHR. Palomino? Buckskin? Only time will tell!

So... a lot going on! I am looking forward to representing the ATAA at The WEG in September!

Cascade Gold Akhal-Tekes, Cathy Leddy, WA

This year it's been all about breeding. Last year's breedings didn't go well (no foals this year, sniff), so we started early. So far, we have Alamet in foal to Sephard

Shael, leased mare Nadiyat in foal to Sephard Shael, both due in March 2019, Aishet in foal (finally!) to Gerald, foal due in June 2019. Client mare Merdjen in foal to Gerald and we're still working on one last client mare, who has another date with Gerald. At least a few of these will be for sale.

Gala (Galadrielle) has settled in very nicely and will be under saddle shortly. She and I have been getting to know each other and polishing her ps and qs. I've been doing lots of planning for the World Equestrian Games in September in NC. I will be there for set up and for the first week, then I have to come back to the 'real' world. I look forward to a fantastic time, meeting the public and talking Teke until I'm hoarse. The ATAA has an onsite camper, so I expect we will be party central (if we can stay awake after the day is done). I do remember in 2008 that I didn't have much energy after a day of talking to thousands of people.

After the WEG, I am hoping to get back into the saddle, with both Galen and Gala and hit the trails with the plan of competing again next year. Time will tell! See you at WEG!



Three pregnant ladies! Alamet, Aishet and Nadiyat

The 11th Russian studbook is now for sale!



Stallion book and mare book.

Horses registered from the year 2000 to 2013.

All in Russian, it has more color pictures than ever before.

They are \$150 each plus Western Union fees and shipping to your door comes to about \$410 US dollars.

Contact Amrita Ibold if you would like to order a set.

ibolds@rockisland.com

AT and AT cross 'For Sale' Book at the ATAA Booth at WEG.



The ATAA will have a 'For Sale' book at our Akhal-Teke booth at the WEG, from September 11-23.

THOUSANDS, if not TENS of THOUSANDS of people will see this. Each horse will get a full page in the book. Get your sales and/or stud ads in to Catrina Quantrell, godscavalry@gmail.com asap.

We are asking for a small donation to help pay for the booth, printing costs, etc., but will not require it.

**2018 Rockbridge Fair - Sept 6, 7, 8th
Lexington, VIRGINIA**

The Equus Survival Trust will be presenting numerous rare breed horses on display at the 2018 Rockbridge Fair - Thursday, Friday, Saturday.



All three days will include a Breed Pavilion with both rare and popular breeds, and daily educational all-breed demo/parade. Tekes will be specially featured on Saturday with a Teke Over-Fences Drill Team coordinated by Sabine Desper.

Thursday will feature a Trail Obstacle clinic. Friday will feature Caspian Horse and Draft Clinics & Classes. Saturday EST will host a series of All-Breed Obstacle classes with courses for: In-Hand, Ridden or Ground Driven, and Working-Driven. Evening will be a Caspian Horse workshop and the grand finale is an evening Draft Pull competition.

We'd love to see some Akhal-Teke participants!

Check out our event weblink:
<http://www.equus-survival-trust.org/rockbridgefair2018.html>

or Contact Victoria Tollman, event organizer
EquusSurvivalTrust@yahoo.com



Spring Hollow Farm
Akhal- Tekes
Wilmore, KY
Cindy Sither
(859) 509- 6137
<http://springhollowfarmky.wordpress.com/>
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@SpringHollowFarmTekes







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For more information

Kris Ahlberg DVM 303.929.6677

krisdvet@aol.com

Facebook
Fool's Gold Akhal-Tekes



Foals of 2018

Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes, CA



Colt – Gallo x Kamiah



Filly – Gallo x Pipi



Colt – Kevlin x Alyeska

Sweet Water Farm, WA



Merwerit – filly, Aliger x Maralle



Colt – Kambarbay x Ayal Pikira



Die Kinder Stud – Australia

Colt – Zolotoy(Arab) x Gemma



Silver Hill Akhal-Tekes, MT

Filly – Tay Shael x Avienda

Shenandoah Farms, VA



Zarinna – Anikit x Zara, purebred filly



Drakarys – Kiergen x Venus (TB), colt

Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes, OR



Colt – Kuwwat x Pallas Athena



WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!



Donate to help our AT Breed Booth at WEG!!

- Directly to the ATAA, non-tax deductible
- To Equus Survival Trust, tax deductible, **MAKE SURE TO NOTE IT'S FOR THE ATAA**
- Information on the ATAA website at: www.akhal-teke.org/donations

For Sale- Synergos – Suyji x Cara (Morgan cross), 2013 gelding, 14.3, AAKTS0173



High energy, very athletic. Really good dressage foundation: leg yields, shoulder-in, basic collection, lengthen and started into medium trot. A little bit of jumping (this is where he would need the most miles) been exposed to water, ditches and up banks, some trail miles (and has done great). I have taken him away from home a handful of times this year and he has done amazing. \$4500 negotiable, Catrina Quantrell, WA state, godscavalry@gmail.com or 509-823-0877

**Incentive Awards Program 2018 - \$3000 to share!
EVEN MORE MONEY IN 2018**

The incentive program will only be available for people competing in recognized events (we have been discussing this and look forward to comments from our members regarding schooling and or open shows) If you have comments, please send them to Catrina, email address below.

To participate:

- 1) Must be a member in good standing with the ATAA
- 2) Horse competing must be registered with the ATAA either as a pure or part bred.
- 3) Send in 2 or more pictures from the event (must be 375kb or bigger) (if you placed please send a picture with your ribbon and/or prize)
- 4) Sign a release that the ATAA may post photos and results to our website and use photos in promotions for the ATAA
- 5) Email the link to the results page for the event
- 6) Just sending photos in for the newsletter and/or website is NOT enough (but we appreciate it)

At the end of the year the ATAA will send you a check, so the more you compete the larger your share of the "jackpot" will be. The amount you receive will be divided out of the set amount in the awards fund and therefore will depend on how many people participate in the Incentive Program. The Incentive Program does not depend on you placing or earning points, it is completely about competing in recognized events in all disciplines and sending in the above listed information to the association.

Contact Catrina Quantrell for more information and send your results to her at: godscavalry@gmail.com

ATAA 2018 Naked Foal Syndrome (NFS) Report

By Patricia K Johnston

Naked Foal Syndrome (NFS) is a recessive hereditary disorder, so far only known in the Akhal-Teke horse breed. Affected foals are born hairless, or with only very few remaining hairs. These foals suffer from diverse weaknesses, and usually die within weeks or months. Some rare cases have survived up to two and a half years with intensive care. Overall, however, naked foals have a very low life expectancy and severely limited quality of life.

The relatively small North American Akhal-Teke population increases the probability of carrier to carrier matings, and thus the potential for new NFS cases. Further, the mating of two carriers has a 25% risk of producing an NFS foal.

The ATAA is grateful for the research scientists from the University of Bern, Institute of Genetics, Switzerland, the University of Göttingen, Germany and Dr. Iris Bachmann of Agroscope, Swiss National Stud Farm that studied the genetic background of NFS in a research project. More information about Naked Foal Syndrome and the Akhal-Teke can be found on the ATAA website at <http://www.akhal-teke.org/naked-foal-syndrome.html>

In 2015, the ATAA established a program to eliminate NFS based on Dr. Bachmann’s suggestion to:

- Establish a fund to help owners and breeders test their horses for NFS;
 - Publicize results; and,
 - Print NFS results on registration certificates.
- Working in conjunction with University of California at Davis, the ATAA pays half the cost of the NFS test for participating horses. The full cost for the NFS test is \$40, with the ATAA contributing \$20 through our NFS “coupon” program.

In return for the subsidized test, results are made public and are published on the ATAA website and in the ATAA newsletter. The ATAA has urged that all active breeding stallions and brood mares be tested. If any of these horses show a mutation, it is recommended that their offspring also be tested. It is our intent at the ATAA to work with breeders to eliminate NFS in the North American population.

Results are reported as:

- N/N — No copies of the NFS mutation; animal is normal.
- N/NFS — One copy of the NFS mutation; animal is normal but is a carrier.
- NFS/NFS — Two copies of the NFS mutation; horse has the full syndrome.

Continued on page 19



EHYR ATLAZ

At Stud via Cooled Semen for 2018
by Pan Tau out of Pallas Athena
16 hands • Peren line • ATAA & VNIHK registered
Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes • Dexter, Oregon • 541-485-7757
SwanFarmDexter@gmail.com
Facebook.com/SwanFarmAkhalTekes

Magic Valley Akhal-Tekes
is proud to present for the 2018 breeding season;
MERDAN



Metman X Aishet, purebred 2012 Akhal-Teke buckskin stallion, lovely gaits and a kind and willing disposition. Going nicely under saddle and started his endurance career in 2017. Frozen semen only.



Mele-Chus, 2015 colt
out of Manlayli
←
Menze Khan, 2016
colt out of Asalari



For more information about breeding to Merdan or about our other Akhal-Tekes, contact: Jas Shearer-McMahon
2935 W County Road 82 E, Livermore, CO 80536 970-493-1773 endurintekes@gmail.com

NFS Testing and Results from page 18

Accompanying this article is a table of the current results of the ATAA NFS project. Fifty-four purebred Akhal-Teke breeding (or potentially breeding) horses, represented by 18 farms or owners have been tested to date, with an additional twelve NFS test results pending. It should be noted that many horses are considered N/N if both of their parents are N/N so these horses, while not tested, are known to not be NFS carriers. If a horse you are interested is not listed in these results, look for NFS test results for their sire and the dam. For example, though Ehyr Atlaz is not listed himself, his dam (Pallas Athena) is N/N and his sire (Pan Tau) is N/N. Ehyr Atlaz is therefore also N/N.

If you are interested in participating and having your breed able Akhal-Teke horse(s) tested through this ATAA program, please contact Cathy Leddy or Amrita Ibold. You may, of course, privately test your horses at full price and not be required to share the test results. For the good of the North American Akhal-Teke population, the ATAA requests permission to publish all results to help everyone make better breeding decisions.

| NFS Test Number | Registration Number | Horse Name | Sex | Birth Year | Test Result | Farm/Owner |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------|---------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| NQ34978 | AAKT 148 | Aliger | Stallion | 1995 | N/N | Ahlberg, K. |
| NQ33758 | RS 101 005 403 | Aishet | Mare | 2003 | N/N | Cascade Gold Akhal-Tekes |
| HR5151 | AAKT 79 | Anastasia | Mare | 1991 | N/N | Cascade Gold Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ35058 | AAKT82 | Astrachan | Stallion | 1990 | N/N | Cascade Gold Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ41744 | AAKT138 | Meshhurlyk | Mare | 1998 | N/N | Cascade Gold Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ33695 | AAKT 344 | Salam | Stallion | 2000 | N/N | Cascade Gold Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ35640 | AAKT 423 | Komissar Hyrdar | Stallion | 2015 | N/N | Donaldson, M. |
| NQ41205 | AAKT 442 | Rock On | | | N/N | Fender, B. |
| NQ39916 | AAKT 295 | Gelmay | Mare | 2004 | N/N | Kaye, Denise |
| NQ37282 | AAKT 409 | Gemma | Mare | 2009 | N/N | Kaye, Denise |
| NQ37281 | AAKT 408 | Gubilee | Mare | 2011 | N/N | Kaye, Denise |
| NQ39915 | AAKT 278 | JBK Mukam | Stallion | 2005 | N/N | Kaye, Denise |
| NQ37602 | AAKT 387 | Gella | Mare | 2012 | N/N | Kopet Dag Akhal-Teke |
| NQ37603 | AAKT 384 | Hallygul | Mare | 2012 | N/N | Kopet Dag Akhal-Teke |
| NQ37601 | AAKT 474 | Yuri | Stallion | 2014 | N/N | Kopet Dag Akhal-Teke |
| NQ41057 | AAKT 292 | Dar Khanum | Mare | 2004 | N/N | Oasis Akhal-Tekes/Munn, J. |
| NQ38674 | AAKT 348 | Galadrielle | Mare | 2012 | N/N | Oasis Akhal-Tekes/Munn, J. |
| NQ38677 | AAKT 259 | JBK Gulkusi | Mare | 2004 | N/N | Oasis Akhal-Tekes/Munn, J. |
| NQ38675 | AAKT 348 | Magaryf | Stallion | 2008 | N/N | Oasis Akhal-Tekes/Munn, J. |
| NQ38676 | RM 2788 | Magnolia | Mare | 2009 | N/N | Oasis Akhal-Tekes/Munn, J. |
| NQ38497 | AAKT 356 | Farasha | Mare | 2011 | N/N | Parris Crooks |
| NQ39149 | AAKT 334 | Arin | Stallion | 2008 | N/N | Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes/Saare, T. |
| NQ39148 | AAKT 335 | Gallo | Stallion | 2008 | N/N | Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes/Saare, T. |
| NQ39147 | AAKT 333 | Iashma | Mare | 1999 | N/N | Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes/Saare, T. |
| NQ39150 | AAKT 189 | Kamiah | Mare | 2000 | NNFS | Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes/Saare, T. |
| NQ39242 | AAKT 438 | Kevin | Stallion | 2013 | N/N | Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes/Saare, T. |
| NQ27218 | AAKT 353 | Hobella | Mare | 2009 | N/N | Royal Dutchess Farm/Teets, G. |
| NQ35042 | AAKT371 | Ginni | Mare | 2007 | NNFS | Shad'zadeh Akhal-Tekes LLC |
| NQ35043 | AAKT296 | Jack | Stallion | 2006 | NNFS | Shad'zadeh Akhal-Tekes LLC |
| NQ35403 | AAKT 104 | Miranda | Mare | 1990 | N/N | Shad'zadeh Akhal-Tekes LLC |
| NQ41019 | AAKT 289 | MV Manlayli | Mare | 2005 | N/N | Shearer, J. |
| NQ41018 | AAKT 254 | MV Fergazel | Mare | 2004 | N/N | Shearer, J./M.Brasher |
| NQ43499 | RS 101801105 | Kiergen | Stallion | 2005 | N/N | Shenandoah Farms/Case, P. |
| NQ43497 | AAKT 459 | Kurizma | Stallion | 2009 | N/N | Shenandoah Farms/Case, P. |
| NQ38787 | AAKT 472 | Anduma | Stallion | 2011 | N/N | Shenandoah Farms/Case, P. |
| NQ34400 | AAKT 264 | Amerka | Mare | 2004 | N/N | Silver Hill Akhal-Tekes/Wandler, B. |
| NQ34401 | AAKT 345 | Salamdor | Stallion | 2010 | N/N | Silver Hill Akhal-Tekes/Wandler, B. |
| NQ40808 | RS 101801299 | Pegas | Stallion | 1999 | N/N | Stevens, C. |
| NQ35517 | AAKT 228 | Annuschka | Mare | 2000 | N/N | Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ35516 | AAKT 399 | Anima | Mare | 2014 | N/N | Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ35518 | AAKT 210 | Pallas Athena | Mare | 2000 | N/N | Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ44125 | AAKT 504 | Sarka | Mare | 2007 | N/N | Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ35515 | AAKT 485 | Swan Bir Sah | Stallion | 2018 Deceased | N/N | Swan Farm Akhal-Tekes |
| NQ34345 | AAKT 453 | Ak Hadyasa | Mare | 2016 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| NQ33698 | AAKT 283 | Aktepel | Mare | 2000 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| HR4980 | AAKT 281 | Altyn Gush | Mare | 2008 Deceased | NNFS | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| HR4985 | AAKT 275 | Ayal Pikira | Mare | 2005 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| NQ34344 | AAKT 421 | Alylyssa | Mare | 2015 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| NQ34814 | AAKT 374 | Edielen Jady | Stallion | 2013 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| NQ37683 | AAKT 476 | Maralle | Mare | 2010 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| HR4982 | AAKT 190 | Pan Tau | Stallion | 1995 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| NQ33698 | AAKT 322 | Shehrezad | Mare | 2006 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| NQ33697 | AAKT 282 | Shirin Giz | Mare | 2004 | N/N | Sweet Water Farm Akhal-Teke |
| HR4981 | AAKT 158 | Olimpic Gul | Mare | 1998 | N/N | Swensen, C. |

Table of all 'coupon' tested horses in N. America. Other horses may be tested, but we have not received their results. We will continue to update the NFS results page on the ATAA website, as results come in. Link is [here](#).

Let's stamp out NFS!



WEG 2018 continued from front page

could use more than one Person at the booth! Cathy and Betsy would like to go see some of the WEG also.

We have onsite camping, with a bunkhouse camper for volunteer housing. Volunteers will also get ATAA T-shirts for their time. Gretta Teets has set up an online volunteer form at:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b044ba8a722aafa7-ataa> and you may contact Betsy Wandler if you are interested in our decidedly non-glamorous housing (we are asking for a small donation to help pay for the camper and campsite).

Our booth is in a great position, directly in front of the entrance to the vendor's area, a few booths from the central waterfall and near several restaurants. We should get LOTS of traffic. We are in the WEG Online Marketplace also:

<https://vendors.tryon2018.com/directory/List/collection/216>

Donate, volunteer, or just stop by and say hello!



ATAA Logowear at The Painting Pony

Over the years, the ATAA has tried a few different versions of Teke Logowear. We did up a bunch of sweatshirts (and there were supposed to be ball caps too) which sold ok, but not great. Also, our poor 'Logowear Chair' Tish Saare ended up with boxes of items she had to ship out.

So, we hemmed and hawed and tried to figure out a way to offer ATAA Logowear to members without us having to:

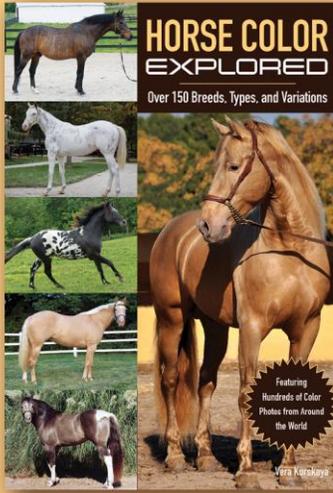
- Do the design work
- Find the best prices
- Keep items in stock
- Ship them out and take care of any returns.

After a lot of looking at different websites, online stores and talking to people, we came up with a simple solution: Let someone who ALREADY has an online store do the work!

The ATAA now has a line of Logowear at the online store "The Painting Pony"! run by one of our own Teke people, Jessica Drake.

The Painting Pony offers all sorts of equestrian (and other) themed items, from clothing to household items and a line of ATAA Logowear designed just for us!

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Available from
Trafalgar Square Books
800.423.4525 • www.HorseandRiderBooks.com

Another great benefit of this store is that the ATAA receives a percentage of every sale made where the customer enters the ATAA coupon code, 'ATAA' at checkout! We have already received several checks for our portion.

So, when you are thinking about doing a little bit of shopping or when you just have to have some ATAA logo stuff, please check it out!

One of the AT themed items for sale at ['The Painting Pony'](#)



Classified Ads

Horses For Sale

For Sale: Synergos – 2013 14.3 bay AT-Morgan cross gelding, AAKTS0173. Athletic, personable, going very nicely under saddle. Has done trails, dressage, jumping. Good dressage foundation, started lateral work, lengthenings, and basic collection. \$4500 negotiable, Catrina Quantrell, WA godscavalry@gmail.com or 509-823-0877

Horses For Sale

For Sale: Magaryf (Maruk X Fergan) 2008 Purebred bay gelding, frozen semen available. Has been started under saddle., Miss Nike, 2011 Bay AT X Arab cross filly; Raísa, 2012 Bay AT X Arab filly. All Ak Sakal line. Details on DreamHorse or Equinenow.com. Website: www.oasisakhal-tekes.com. Email: jacquemunn@aol.com.

Classified Ads

Each ATAA member will receive a free ad in the ATAA Newsletter Classifieds each issue.

Individual membership: 30 free words per issue. Family membership: 60 free words per issue. Farm membership: ¼ page ad

If that amount just isn't enough, you can buy more ad space.

Full Page: \$75 per issue

Half Page: \$50 per issue

Quarter Page: \$35 per issue

1/6 Page: \$10 per issue

Business card: \$8 per issue

You can pay via check or on the ATAA website with the PayPal button on the membership page. Just make sure you add a note with your payment, so we will know what it is for.

Send Ad copy to ATAA newsletter, 21314 129th Ave SE, Snohomish, WA 98296 or c.ledddy@frontier.com

Ads due by the end of the month before publishing.

Thank you to all our members. We can't do it without you!

Silver Hill Akhal Tekes



Please visit the website for our current sales list, which includes MV Mele-Chus (Merdan x MV Manlayli) 2015 Perlino colt

Visit us at www.silverhill-tekes.com or our Facebook page

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ATAA Facebook page:

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Pleasant Grove Akhal-Tekes

We are proud to stand three excellent purebred stallions. We have quality purebred horses for sale.

Gallo (photo right) is a metallic bay stallion from the Skak line. Available for cooled shipment.



Arin (photo above) is a shiny cremello from the Gelishikli line. Frozen semen only.

Kevlin (photo right) is a stunning palomino and is available for live cover.



Jack and Tish Saare
 Pleasant Grove, CA
 (530) 400-9909
 saare@zetabb.com
 pleasantgroveakhaltekes.com

Please see our website for more photos and information.



ATAA
 21314 129th Ave SE
 Snohomish, WA 98296
 July 2018