



**North American Shagya Arabian Society (NASS)
Breeding Committee Meeting Report
December 1, 2008**

The Dec 1, 2008 Breeding Committee Conference call was called to order by Chairperson Adele Furby at 6 PM Pacific time.

Attending were: BC members Kathy Richkind, Elaine Kerrigan, Hallie Goetz, and Kathleen Warren, Registrar Carol Neubauer and President Jamie Buck.

Absent were: BC member Linda Rudolphi and Assistant Registrar Terry Hey.

Reports:

Adele presented suggestions for some changes to the NASS Guidelines for Shagya Breeding.

She explained that integral to these changes is also the proposal to expand eligibility for registration for Part-Shagya-Arabians as well as for Part-Shagyas. This proposal would allow offspring of either a Part-Shagya or a Part-Shagya-Arabian to be registered in the appropriate division of the Registry. (The current regulation allows only offspring of one Purebred Shagya to be registered in the Part-Shagya registries.) This change would not be complicated or difficult to implement and it would create an appropriate place in the registry for many Shagya-bred horses such as some of the Japanese horses as well as an imported stallion on the east coast of Babolna breeding who do not have one Purebred Shagya parent, but rather have one Part-Shagya-Arabian parent. It would also accommodate the proposed changes to the NASS studbooks which would comply with the ISG RZBO regulations which call for the existence of two Studbooks for approved horses, Stallion Books I and II, and Mare Books I and II, along with their accompanying appendices.

Adele then described the chart of "Studbook Categories" which had been sent to BC members prior to the meeting. This shows the general structure of the categories.

Studbook Categories

**Stallion Book I
(Main Stallion Book)**

Registered as Purebred Shagya-Arabian per NASS definition.
Meets 9/16 rule. Meets minimum scores (average 7 or above, 7 or above for type, no score under 5) for permanent status must pass performance test.

**Appendix Stallion Book I
(Appendix to Main Book)**

Does not meet 9/16 rule (fewer than 7 Shagyas in 4th generation).
Registered Purebred Arabian or Part-Shagya-Arabian Book I (sire is in Stallion Book I and dam is in Mare Book I or Appendix I) who has met performance test requirements. Meets minimum scores (average 8 or above, 8 or above for type, no score under 5). Negative SCID test.

Stallion Book II

Registered as Purebred Shagya-Arabian per NASS definition. Meets 9/16 rule. Does not meet minimum scores, or does not pass performance test.

Appendix Stallion Book II

Does not meet 9/16 rule (fewer than 7 Shagyas in 4th generation).
Registered Purebred Arabian or Part-Shagya-Arabian. Does not meet minimum scores as listed in Appendix to Stallion Book I.

**Mare Book I
(Main Mare Book)**

Registered as Purebred Shagya-Arabian. Meets 9/16 rule.
Sire and Grandsire in Stallion Book I. Meets minimum scores (average 6, no score under 5).

Appendix to Mare Book I Does not meet 9/16 rule (fewer than 7 Shagyas in 4th generation). Registered as Purebred Arabian or Part-Shagya-Arabian Book I (sire in Book I), and meets minimum average score of 7 and no score under 5, or Registered as Shagya-Arabian Book II, if sire is in Book I. Meets minimum average score of 7 and no score under 5.

Mare Book II (Mare Book) Registered as Purebred Shagya Arabian, meets 9/16 rule, Scores below minimum score of 6, OR Registered as Shagya-Arabian Book II (sire in Book II, meets 9/16 rule, must be inspected.

Appendix to Book II (Appendix of Mare Book) Registered as Purebred Arabian, sire not in Book I, must be inspected, scores average of 7, no score under 5, OR Registered as Part-Shagya-Arabian Book I, does not meet 9/16 rule, does not score minimum average of 7 with no score under 5, OR Registered as Part-Shagya-Arabian Book II, does not meet 9/16 rule, must be inspected.

Adele explained that the new RZBO regulations require that every horse which is inspected at an ISG-conforming inspection and which does not have genetic defects must be placed into a studbook. Therefore, the RZBO created two studbooks, numbers I and II. The horses which are in studbook and mare book I and their appendixes are those which have achieved the usual requirements for Purebred Shagya Arabian breeding. All other horses which do not achieve these requirements are placed in the Studbook II. In the case of NASS's studbooks, the creation of two studbooks would also necessitate dividing the Part-Shagya-Arabian registries into Books I (for horses with an approved sire) and Book II (for horses with a sire and/or dam in Book II. (Horses with a Shagya or Part-Shagya-Arabian sire which is not in either Studbook I or Studbook II are placed in the Part-Shagya-Arabian registry.)

Kathy commented that it would help to have specific examples. Adele agreed and commented that it will help to understand how it all works when the Guidelines for Shagya Breeding are edited to reflect the new categories. Hallie commented that she had been able to understand the categories as they were presented. Adele agreed to proceed with creating a Draft of Updated Guidelines for Shagya Breeding for all BC members to study ASAP, with the aim that by January the BC can have a follow-up meeting to review the proposed changes, make any agreed-upon edits or changes, and hopefully vote to accept the Draft of the Guideline changes and to present the Draft to the Board of Directors.

Shagya Database

Prior to the meeting Adele had sent to the BC copies of correspondence between Bruno Furrer and Adele regarding the Shagya Database. This Database has been created by Bruno Furrer and Alfred Zingg, with the cooperation of many pedigree experts and informational sources. This database is used by others, such as the German Shagya Society ZSAA, which uses the Shagya Database as a basis for their own database. This Database provides the opportunity for anybody to go to the website: www.shagya-database.ch and to trace pedigree information back in every ancestor to the original recorded horse from that line. It can include all relevant data which usually appears on the registration certificate such as date of birth, color, markings, breeding approval, etc.

At this time Bruno is entering the information from the 2006 Draft of the NASS Studbook, which contains all NASS approved breeding horses through 2004. He suggests that by early 2009 NASS can take over the data entry of NASS horses. NASS needs to appoint a person who will be responsible for entering new NASS data into the database. The person will have a special password known only to that person and to Mr. Furrer and Mr. Zingg. This will allow the person to access the database through www.shagya.info, where there could be a special "NASS" button, and with the password data can be entered in www.shagya.info. The data entered will then be checked by the database administration for accuracy and then the newly entered

information will be integrated into the database.

A motion to cooperate with the Swiss Shagya Database by entering information of NASS horses into the database and to appoint a NASS member responsible for data entry was made and was unanimously approved by the quorum in attendance. Elaine Kerrigan volunteered to take on the task of data entry for NASS.

Inspection Update and Inventory

Adele reported that she has not yet heard back from our invited European judge. Kathy suggested that we wait until after the holidays to pursue this, since it is such a busy time of year. (Note: Several days after the meeting our invited judge did respond to the NASS BC invitation to the effect that he hopes to find the time to judge for NASS during the inspection tour in September 2009, and will contact Adele with specifics by the New Year).

Adele also reported that the BC has recently added several horses on to the list of horses which members would like to bring to inspections, so that now there appear to be approximately 25 horses on the inventory. Tentative sites at this time are: Montana and BC (12-16) Northern California (3-5), Florida (2), Midwest (2), Vermont (5), and Texas (1).

It was agreed that the BC will wait until we hear definitely back from our invited judge before considering whether or not we may be able to invite more than one foreign judge (finances being the major constraint).

Elaine and Kathy: Regulations re: Stallion Performance Requirements

Elaine presented information from several American-based warmblood registries that either: pertain to the stallion NOT passing a performance test, or pertain to reinstatement policies and other considerations for completing performance test criteria. After some general discussion it was agreed that Elaine will do more research, especially by asking some of the other ISG member societies how they handle these questions. It was agreed that because NASS is a relatively small registry, we may have different considerations than some of the large warmblood registries.

Kathy also pointed out that it will be necessary to develop rules and regulations for the performance testing which will be on site during an inspection, for example how test riders are chosen, liability with test riders, etc. Adele requested that Elaine and Kathy keep working on these areas and hopefully they can present a more specific draft of regulations at the next BC meeting in January.

Elaine: Update on Stallion in Columbia

Elaine reported that she has recently been in e-mail correspondence with the owners of the stallion in Columbia which has NASS registration papers. She is keeping in touch with him so that he understands the regulations for foreign stallions which are approved by NASS for breeding with frozen semen. She has also been assisting him in understanding some of the options for storing frozen semen in the US which could then be utilized by American breeders. She reported that the owner maintains that there is no frozen semen in the US currently which has been authorized for use by American breeders.

Kathy: Update on DNA typing developments and suggestions

Kathy reported that she has been in communication with Dr. Graves at U of K regarding possible ways that the paperwork part of the DNA testing might be improved to insure greater accuracy on the database details, etc. Carol Neubauer contributed her thoughts on this also. Adele requested that Kathy work up some wording for a new policy for the protocol she and Carol are suggesting, whereby the DNA samples would first be sent to Carol Neubauer along with registration applications, and Carol would forward them on from there.

Linda, Hallie and Kathleen: Part-Shagya Showcase

A discussion of how to organize a Part-Shagya Showcase was held. Kathleen volunteered that she felt that such a showcase is appropriate for the Breeding Committee to manage, since one of the main rationales for such a showcase is to promote the use of Shagya breeding stock with other breeds. Adele suggested that the accomplishments publicized by these horses should not be limited to competitive results, as an example, the use of a horse as a therapy horse or as a nursing home visitor are very worthwhile endeavors. Kathleen volunteered to generate a more specific proposal with guidelines, and to serve as an outreach person to generate participation. Adele suggested utilizing the Regional Directors in the outreach and also the idea of inviting Part-Shagyas to participate in showing off their horses at Inspection Sites during a NASS Inspection.

Carol and Terry: Suggested changes for Registration Applications

There was no report given, but Adele reminded Carol and Terry that they are in charge of generating any desired changes to the registration application forms, along with Jamie to assist with website formatting.

Carol and Terry: Studbook printing/publication

Since Terry did not attend the meeting, discussion of this topic was kept to a minimum. Adele reported that Terry had indicated in the recent BoD meeting that she hasn't had much time to research publication possibilities, but hopes to report on this soon. Carol volunteered to discuss this option further with her local publisher as well. It was agreed that the most practical option is probably to print a certain number of hard copies which would be paid for by subscription, and then to produce a CD which would be affordable and useable by most people.

Hallie: Update on Forms

Frozen Semen: Hallie did not have a copy of the draft form which she had sent out last April. Adele had a printed version but couldn't find an electronic copy. Adele volunteered to PDF the printed draft and send to Hallie and Jamie. We discussed the need for adding some possibility to indicate whether the semen was being sold by the dose or by the breeding (with a pregnancy or live foal guarantee), and Hallie will work on adding this info to the form and reformatting it.

Embryo Transfer: Hallie had sent out some suggested regulations and forms prior to the meeting for members to review. We discussed whether such regulations should be added to the Breeding Guidelines, and it was agreed that we need to check with ISG regulations to see if more than one pregnancy per year is allowed from a donor mare before we can proceed to finalize regulations and forms for embryo transfer.

Stallion Report Form: A discussion was held regarding the stallion annual report. It was suggested that the main changes which need to be made are in formatting so that there is more room in the boxes for the name, address, etc of the mares bred. Jamie volunteered to look into this and reformat.

Other Forms: Elaine volunteered to work with the Assignment of Breeder Designation form which had been started recently, as well as the Transfer for Eligible but Unregistered Foal form.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 Pacific time.

The next meeting will be scheduled in January, meeting date to be established at a later time.

Respectfully submitted,
Adele Furby, BC Chair