

The Influence of Shagya Blood in Warmblood Breeding Submitted by Terry Hey

Although rare and relatively little known in America, Shagyas have had a profound influence on European warmblood breeding programs. Studs in Trakehner, Hannover, Holstein, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, Westphalia and many others have been using the Shagya for years to bring refinement to warmblood breeds. The stallion most responsible for this influence was the Anglo-Shagya stallion Ramzes. He is often incorrectly referred to as an Anglo-Arab. However, his dam was the Shagya mare Jordi, who was sired by Shagya X-3, and sired by the Thoroughbred Rittersporn. Ramzes and his offspring made such significant improvements in warmblood breeding that the Germans coined a phrase "*No riding horse without his blood*". The descendants of Ramzes are well-known in the sporthorse world. They include such stars as jumper Salut II; legendary dressage sires Roemer, Olympic dressage horses Romantico and Rembrandt, Hilda Gurney Trakehner, Condus. The list goes on to include such greats as Rampal, Ramiro, Der Radetsky, and Romadour II. Look closely at the pedigrees of "R" line warmbloods and you are very likely to find Ramzes. Shagya lines can be found through other warmblood families as well. The outstanding Trakehner sire Burnus, whose most famous descendants include the stallion Habicht and the current world class eventing stallion Windfall II, was sired by the Shagya stallion Lapis by 561 Siglavy. Weltmeyer had Shagya blood as well, tracing back to Shagya XVII. The present day premium Oldenburg mare Allegra by Frohwind, is out of a Shagya mare named Aifa. Shagyas are known as the great improvers, passing on refinement without losing size or bone, wonderful temperaments, overall balance and harmony, and lovely, floating gaits. Their success in FEI sports speaks for itself.



Hungarian Warmbloods carry a high percentage of Shagya blood; some of them are fully half-Shagya and have also had much success in the FEI sports including the mare H.Aldas, sired by the Shagya stallion *Shandor.

Pictured are examples of Shagya/warmblood crosses: the chestnut filly WS Elodie, out of the Shagya mare Emilagra (by *Shandor), owned by Kathy Richkind of New Mexico, and Hera, owned by Adele Furby of Montana, a grey filly by *Shandor out of Heritance, a Trakehner mare with Shagya lines whose pedigree goes back to Lapis, a purebred Shagya stallion.

WS Elodie was sired by the Trakehner stallion Feuertanzer, who was chosen by Kathy Richkind in part because Feuertanzer's sire line traced back to Lapis though Martini, and his dam line traced back to the Ramzes son Condus.

This unusual combination of two different Shagya bloodlines in the stallion's pedigree made his selection as a partner for the Shagya mare Emilagra an interesting combination, and the result was this lovely filly, now 16 hands at four years of age, who is beginning her dressage career but has also shown outstanding promise as a jumper. In addition to being registered as part Shagya, she is also registered as Trakehner and last summer was accepted into the main mare book of the Oldenburg NA registry.

Please visit our website www.shagya.net to see these and other exceptionally high quality sport horses.

