

Polish stallions' 100-day test internationally recognized

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In November 2020 a trial took place concluding the 100-days under-the-saddle performance test of 17 stallions from Poland and Germany at the Łąck stallion Depot in Poland, where the system of gaining and awarding licences is very flexible.

Alongside the said 100-day stationary test, riding stallions can qualify for breeding basing on sport achievements, results in the young horse championships, and two-day field performance test. Every owner chooses the selection path for his/her stallion, taking into consideration the intended direction of his career, degree of advancement in development and training, as well as the potential and cost of available training facilities.

The 100-day test recorded in studbook breeding programmes for riding horses bred within the Polish Horse Breeders Association (PZHK) is the only form of stationary training existing in Europe that has such a time span and includes also an element of cross-country work. This is the

reason that it's a particularly interesting alternative, first of all for breeders oriented towards three-day-event horses. Presently, in the programmes of other European breeding associations, a path directed towards the selection of young eventing stallions is difficult to find.

Hence the considerable interest demonstrated by Trakehner horse breeders (Trakehner Blancor, Grenoble, Sturmpfeil, as well as Dacerus and Liard, with Trakehner pedigrees recorded in the Wielkopolska studbook maintained by PZHK), for whom, breeding of horses for the discipline of eventing is the main direction next to specializing in horses for dressage. The Trakehner Association took a high eighth place in the WBFSH ranking for this discipline, with Trakehner Grafenstolz (Polarion - Gipsy Lady x Camelot) leading the list of best sires.

In the evaluation trial upon completion of the 100-day training the basis for calculating the final scores is made by the following elements: free jumping, jumping under saddle, work under the saddle in walk, trot and canter/cross country jumping (committee and head of the training centre), as well as rideability and aptitude for the discipline (by the jumping rider and the dressage rider).

All the above scores are taken into consideration in calculating the overall result. The dressage score is based on: work under the saddle in walk, trot, and canter and evaluation by the dressage test rider; while the jumping score is calculated from: free jumping, jumping under saddle, work under saddle in canter, and evaluation by the jumping test rider.

It is worth taking this opportunity to emphasize the importance of the possibility to observe horses during work in the field, also in the context of their dressage and jumping potential. This offers the committee an additional chance for possible correction of gaits and the jumping-under-the-saddle evaluation.

As experience has shown the indoor arena often limits horses' ability to demonstrate their



Hickstead Junior OS (Hickstead White x Chico's Boy)

qualities in full. When working outdoors they tend to be more expressive, moving and jumping more freely.

Additionally, the head trainer evaluates suitability for training, temperament, and character. However, these scores have only supplementary character and they do not constitute the basis for the final results calculation.

During the 100-day test the horses were prepared for the final trial by the head trainer, Krzysztof Kierzek, a rider who has competed in all three Olympic disciplines. He won medals in the national young horse championships in jumping and eventing on horses that he had trained himself. He has a trainer's license and an FEI course designer certificate. Kierzak has worked in a number of breeding centres. He was a member of a specialist team at Stanisław Szurik's Stud at the time when the stallion Nevados S, world young horse champion and team European champion (Gregory Wathelet, BEL) was bred there.

During the two-day trial stallions were evaluated by the commission chaired by Bogdan Kuczejda, an experienced sportsman, trainer, judge, breeder, and multi-year member of the board of the Polish Horse Breeders Association (PZH) and the Polish Equestrian Federation (PZJ). Other members of the commission were: Marlena Gruca, a rider



*For My Pleasures/ex For Passion GPH WM AES
(For Pleasure - Vigo d'Arsoilles)*

who has competed at GP level, and an FEI3* dressage trainer and judge; and Łukasz Joczyk, a still active competitor, many-time medalist of the Polish young horse jumping championships, as well as a European championship and World Cup participant. The test riders were sister and brother: Teresa Tomaszewska, a GP level rider and dressage trainer, and Antoni Tomaszewski with similar achievements in jumping.

The winner in the general classification (8.2) and, unexpectedly, in the dressage classification (8.3) was the



Stallions performance test - final ranking

Place and date: **Łąck 4-5.11.2020**

Rank	Horse	Year of birth	Head Trainer's evaluation			Commission's evaluation						Test riders' evaluation					Final result			
			Suitability for training	Temperament	Character	Free jumping	Jumping under the saddle	Work at a walk	Working in a trot	Work at a canter	cross-country/galop	Dressage			Jumping		Average	Total	Dressage	Jumping
												Suitability	Rideability	Average	Suitability	Rideability				
1	Hickstead Junior old. (OS) (Hickstead White old. (OS) - Canturia hol./Chico's Boy hol.)	2016	8.5	8.0	6.5	8.6	8.1	7.4	8.3	8.4	8.6	9.5	8.5	9.0	6.5	7.0	6.8	8.2	8.3	8.0
2	Diamond Pearl old. (Diamond Hit old. - Chanel old./Fürst Romancier old.)	2016	9.0	7.5	8.5	6.8	7.5	7.8	7.9	8.1	7.8	9.0	8.5	8.8	8.5	8.5	8.5	7.9	8.2	7.7
3	Biancor trk. (Adorator trk. - Blanchette trk./Suchard trk.)	2017	8.5	6.5	8.5	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.6	7.8	8.4	7.5	8.5	8.0	7.5	8.0	7.8	7.9	7.8	7.8
4	Dacerus PZH (wkp/trk. origin) (Eloquent trk. - Datura wkp/trk.origin/Life and Liberty xx)	2017	8.5	8.0	8.0	7.6	7.5	7.4	7.4	8.0	7.9	8.0	9.0	8.5	6.5	8.5	7.5	7.7	7.8	7.7
5	Quickstep DSP (Quiz old. - Holle DSP/Colestus westf.)	2017	8.0	7.0	7.5	7.5	8.1	7.4	7.6	7.4	7.3	7.5	8.0	7.8	8.0	8.5	8.3	7.7	7.6	7.8
6	For My Pleasure (ex For Passion GPH WM) AES (For Pleasure han. - Hinosa C KWPN/Vigo D'Arsoilles BWP)	2016	8.5	8.0	9.0	8.9	8.3	7.8	6.8	7.9	7.9	5.0	6.0	5.5	9.0	7.5	8.3	7.7	7.0	8.4
7	Don Plaisir westf. (Don Nobless han. - Finesse han./Fürst Heinrich westf.)	2017	9.0	8.0	7.5	7.6	7.1	8.3	7.4	8.3	6.9	8.0	7.5	7.8	6.5	7.5	7.0	7.6	8.0	7.5
8	Action Balou ML old. (Action Blue old. - Credina OS/Balou du Rouet old.)	2016	8.0	7.0	8.0	8.9	8.0	7.5	6.6	7.4	7.8	6.0	6.5	6.3	8.5	8.5	8.5	7.6	7.0	8.2
9	Fabion Blue Hors han. (Farell han. - Feine Dame han./Fidertanz rhein.)	2017	8.5	8.5	8.5	6.5	6.8	8.5	8.1	7.6	7.1	7.5	8.0	7.8	7.0	7.5	7.3	7.5	8.0	7.1
10	Grenoble trk. (Marseille trk. - Graffiti trk./Brioni trk.)	2017	7.5	8.5	8.5	7.8	7.1	7.3	7.4	7.1	7.5	6.5	7.5	7.0	7.5	8.0	7.8	7.4	7.2	7.5
11	Stumpfehl trk. (Under Fire trk. - Sexytoo trk./Sixtus trk.)	2017	8.5	7.0	8.0	7.0	7.4	7.1	6.8	7.5	7.3	7.0	8.0	7.5	7.0	8.0	7.5	7.3	7.2	7.4
12	Diamant de Plaisir II han. (Diamant De Semilly sf - Lady Pleasure old./For Pleasure han.)	2017	8.0	7.0	8.0	8.1	8.4	7.0	6.4	7.6	7.8	6.0	7.0	6.5	7.0	6.5	6.8	7.3	6.9	7.7
13	Qatar Odeveid BWP (Kannan KWPN - Finesse Odeveid BWP/Lord Z hol.)	2016	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.8	7.3	7.5	6.5	7.1	6.9	5.5	6.5	6.0	9.0	8.0	8.5	7.2	6.8	7.7
14	Liard PZH (wkp/trk. origin) (Eloquent trk. - Li wkp/Hamlet Go trk.)	2017	8.0	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.5	7.1	7.4	7.6	7.8	5.5	6.0	5.8	6.5	6.5	6.5	7.2	7.0	7.3
15	Spartacus T ex Everest DSP (Skyflight hol. - Camille old./Castellini hol.)	2016	7.5	8.5	9.0	6.9	6.8	7.9	6.4	7.1	7.8	5.5	7.0	6.3	7.5	6.5	7.0	7.0	6.9	7.0
16	Beau Noir (ex Black Berry W) mekl. (Bemay rhein. - Charlotte old./Salut Le Bon old.)	2016	8.0	8.0	7.0	6.1	6.0	7.0	7.5	7.8	7.3	7.0	8.0	7.5	6.0	6.5	6.3	6.9	7.5	6.6
17	Legion AA PZH (m (AA)) (Juniperus m - Lerka m/Arcus xx)	2017	7.0	7.0	6.0	6.8	6.8	7.4	7.0	7.0	7.1	5.5	6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.8	6.9	6.7
AVERAGE			8.12	7.59	7.82	7.55	7.44	7.54	7.24	7.63	7.60	6.85	7.47	7.18	7.32	7.50	7.44	7.46	7.42	7.54
STANDARD DEVIATION			0.60	0.64	0.85	0.80	0.64	0.43	0.59	0.43	0.49	1.32	0.94	1.10	0.98	0.85	0.81	0.38	0.51	0.49

2018 jumping winner of the DSP stallion approval in Neustadt-Dosse, Hickstead Junior OS (Hickstead White x Chico's Boy). The very beautiful medium-caliber stallion was very much appreciated by the dressage test rider, Teresa Tomaszewska, who assessed his suitability for the discipline at 9.5, and his rideability at 8.5.

Hickstead Junior is owned by the Sprehe Stallion Station and was entered for the performance test by his lessee, the Saxon Moritzburg Stallion Stud.

In the jumping horses' classification, For My Pleasures/ex For Passion GPH WM AES (For Pleasure x Vigo d'Arsouilles) was awarded the highest score (8.4). He was the winner at the final of the free jumping championship in Saasveld (Denmark) at the age of three. The jumping talents of this stallion, currently owned by the Gerd Sosath Station, was highly assessed by both the commission (free jumping 8.9, jumping under saddle 8.3), and the test rider (8.3, including 9.0 for suitability for the discipline)

In dressage Diamond Pearl, as well as the very versatile Blancor and Dacerus also impressed during the test. Diamond Pearl OLD (Diamond Hit x Fürst Romancier) is a very noble, beautiful horse of a modern dressage type. The committee was impressed with his very good movement in all three gaits. He was also highly rated by test riders, both in dressage (8.8) and – surprisingly, given his dressage pedigree – in jumping (8.5).

Equally high scores for all the evaluated features and, above all, confidence in jumping and an efficient gallop



Dacerus PZHK (wlkp) (Eloquent x Life and Liberty xx)

presented during the cross-country presentation, provided the grounds to believe that the stallions Blancor TRK (Adorator x Suchard) and Dacerus PZHK (wlkp) (Eloquent x Life and Liberty xx) can become high class eventing horses in the future.

In addition to horses of Polish breeding and ownership, stallions belonging to renowned companies and organizations operating in the field of sport horse breeding in Germany: the Trakehner Association, the Moritzburg Stallion Stud, the Sosath Stallion Station, the Sprehe Stallion Station, were trained in Łack. Among them were recognised sons of the world's best sires: Diamant de Semilly, Kannan, For Pleasure, and Diamond Hit. This should come as no surprise – after all, stallions and mares of foreign breeding and foreign ownership have many-a-time participated in the field and stationary performance trials organised by PZHK.

It is also worth adding that the results of this test, approved in breeding programs by the Polish Ministry of Agriculture, are internationally recognised. The interest in horse training in Poland in successive years confirms the high quality of the Polish Training Centre curriculum, the qualifications of its head trainer, the staff, the evaluation commission, the training facilities, the horse nutrition and care system and, of course, the organizational and financial conditions. ■



Diamond Pearl OLD (Diamond Hit x Fürst Romancier)