

ISG Breeding Rules Update, March 2024

To all NASS members, I want to inform everybody about an update to the ISG RZBO (Breeding Rules Framework) which affects all ISG-member organizations.

In June of 2023 at the Delegates' Conference in Bábolna, a resolution was passed which will change the ISG RZBO. The final minutes of this Conference were actually not published until the latter half of January, 2024, which is when they became official.

This breeding rule change addresses the sire lines of the mares and stallions used in Purebred Shagya-Arabian breeding. The rationale for the change in the breeding regulations is that in order to keep the breed and all of its unique qualities, new sire lines should not be added because new lines may not be genetically consistent with the overall history and breeding aim of the Shagya-Arabian breed.

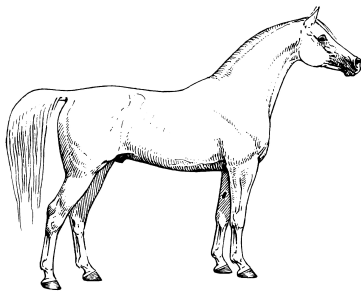
This rule states that no mares or stallions should be used in Shagya-Arabian breeding that have a sire line which is not already in use. There is a list which has been developed which states which lines are considered the historically accepted Shagya-Arabian sire lines. Purebred Arabian stallions with sire lines other than these sire lines will not be considered for Shagya-Arabian breeding in future. However, stallions that have already been fully approved will be "grandfathered in" and allowed to remain in the studbook. Also, their offspring will be grandfathered in.

With mares which have sire line which is not already allowed, there will be a one-year grace period during which time their foals will be accepted, but after that, their offspring will not be accepted except as Part-Shagyas (P-Sh). While the original document states that the one year grace period is from 2023 to 2024, because the official minutes were not published until recently, NASS will have a one-year grace period which begins now and lasts through the foals born in 2025.

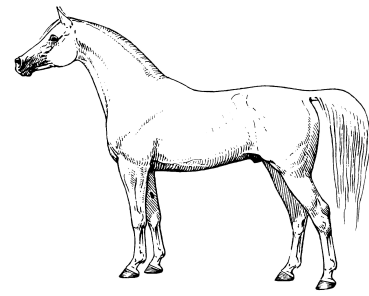
If you have any questions about stallion, mare or offspring eligibility, either now or in the future, I would be glad to respond to your questions.

Below is the full official document which was approved at the ISG Delegates' Conference in 2023.

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ISG NEWS



At the ISG Delegates' Conference this past June in Babolna, a new breeding regulation regarding Purebred Arabian horses used in Shagya-Arabian breeding was adopted unanimously. It states:

5.1 A purebred Arabian stallion can be used in Shagya-Arabian breeding if his sire line traces to one of the sire lines which exist in Shagya-Arabian breeding. The purebred Arabian stallions must be approved (licensed) for Shagya-Arabian breeding and successfully complete the stallion performance requirement, meeting at a minimum the RZBO (ISG framework) stallion requirements.

5.2 A purebred Arabian mare can be used for breeding Shagya-Arabians if her sire line traces to one of the sire lines in Shagya-Arabian breeding and the sire of the mare is at least eligible for approval for Shagya-Arabian breeding.”

The rationale for this decision was explained, “The use of other purebred Arabian stallions from additional lines not yet established would result in an increasingly divergent Shagya-Arabian population. The ISG delegates, in the subsequent discussion, have consistently spoken out in favor of the proposed solution for the preservation and thus safeguarding of the genetic potential of the Shagya-Arabians.

March 18, 1816 is considered the date of birth of the Shagya-Arabian breed, because at that time, by decree of Emperor Joseph II, the Bábolna mares were to be covered only with stallions of oriental blood. Consequently, only stallions from the stallion lines listed below should continue to be used in Shagya-Arabian breeding.”

The recognized and proven stallion sire lines in Shagya-Arabian breeding:

Siglavý db 1816 born 1810 in Egypt. The Siglavý sire line in Radautz
Siglavý db 1816 born 1810 in Egypt. The Siglavý sire line in Bábolna
Siglavý db 1816 born 1810 in Egypt. The Siglavý sire line in Mezöhegyes
Siglavý IV db born 1819, bought 1825 in Constantinople for Mezöhegyes
Shagya db 1836 born 1830 among the Bani Saher Bedouins
Bairactar db 1817 born 1813 in Arabia
Gidran db 1816 born 1810 in Syria
Gazlan-Gazal db 1852 born 1840 among the Anazé Would Ali Bedouins
Dahoman db 1852 born 1846 among the Anazé Gjelas Bedouins

O'Bajan db 1885 born 1881 among the Anazeh el Spaa
Hadban db 1897 born 1891 in Syria
Saklawi I db born 1886 among the Ruala Bedouins
Kuhaylan Zaid db 1931 born 1923 among the Ruala Bedouins
Gamil el Kebir db born 1870 among the Fedaan Bedouins
Koheilan Adjuze db 1885 born 1876
Kemir (Sven Hedin) AV born 1905
Mahmoud Mirza (db) 1866 = Jussuf AV born 1869 in Bábolna
Mersuch db 1902 born 1898 at Pasha Chasim in Baghdad
Siglavý Bagdady db 1902 born 1895 among the Ruala Bedouins
Ibrahim db 1907 born 1899 among the Beni Sakr Bedouins
Nibeh (Nedjari) db 1912 born 1906 among the Meheyed Bedouins in Syria
El Sbaa db born 1920 in Syria

Since there have already been stallions and mares from other sire lines used in the recent past, as a transitional arrangement from June 16, 2023 until December 31, 2023, the licensed and performance-tested purebred Arabian stallions that exist today in Shagya-Arabian breeding will be grandfathered into the Shagya-Arabian breed. Offspring born in 2023 and 2024 from Shagya-Arabian mares or purebred Arabian mares from licensed and performance tested stallions that do not correspond to the above-mentioned stallion lines will still be accepted as belonging to the Shagya-Arabian population and can participate in “Shagya-Arabian” breeding. Offspring of such mares born after 2024 will not be accepted. This rule must be implemented in the national associations beginning in January, 2024. All previously licensed purebred Arabian stallions and their offspring will be grandfathered in.

In other news, President Ahmed al Samarraie announced that Denmark, Columbia, Venezuela and Croatia have all left the ISG “for various reasons, such as cessation of breeding or dissolution of the national organizations. In addition, the overall number of foals is continuously decreasing. Examples: Sweden-0 foals, Norway-zero foals, France-5 foals.”

Also, until now, Romania has been represented in ISG by the Radautz State Stud. Now a private Romanian breeding association has applied for full independent membership. This application was accepted unanimously. Also, Dr. Simona Alecu of the Romanian private breeders association invited the ISG to the delegates' meeting in Radautz in 2024, and the invitation was accepted. The meeting will take place June 27-30th.