



# Fall 2022 Newsletter

## From the Arena Fence

Every now and then we experience negativity in our lives. Those of us who have been with ICAA long term are used to dealing with false information and do our best to educate and correct misconceptions, but there will always be those who, because they don't understand our views, will speak negatively about us. In spite of that, we will continue to move forward.

Our goal is to support and promote our members who believe in a blood-breed Appaloosa. We are not the ApHC nor do we wish to be the ApHC.

*Cheryl Miller-Yurcak  
Chairman/CEO*

## Base Color Genetics By Joanne Jordan

If you breed Appaloosas, there's a lot to consider; conformation, soundness, health, temperament, pedigree and lastly, base color, leopard spotting complex (LP) and pattern. Thankfully, we can pull hairs from the mane or tail and test for health issues (HYPP, PSSM1, etc) and base color, LP, and PATN1. This article will focus on base color only. You'd think figuring out base color would be easy, as there are only THREE (3) base colors a horse can be; bay, black or red. But that pesky LP gene so commonly found in our beloved Appaloosas can "skew" base color so much that DNA testing is the only way to confirm if the horse is bay, black, or red. Additionally, many of our foals are sold during their first foal shed which can really make it difficult to confirm base color. So DNA testing to the rescue!

Why would base color be so important anyway? Some breeders have a particular base color goal/preference in mind. Black based horses seem to be the most common preference but if you want bay or red also, understanding basic, base color genetics will get you to that goal faster than guessing. The frequently heard "breeding Appaloosas is a crapshoot with regards to color" is not really true. We CAN narrow down possibilities of base color pretty well. Can you answer the following questions correctly?

**What color is this horse?**



*Poplars  
Zamocho  
(F6N)*



*Photo  
courtesy of  
Sovereign  
Photography*

**What color is this horse?**

EEAa

**What happens when you breed these two horses together?**

EeAA x EEaa

**Or these?**

EEAA x eeaa

Would you believe the answer to these three questions is the same? Bay. All these examples are of a bay horse. But how can that be when everyone says that EE means "homozygous black"? Heck, it even says that on the color test results I received from the genetics lab! And herein lies the problem. Color genetics have been "dumbed down" so far that it's misleading. Being able to interpret those base color results for ourselves is critical. Otherwise, you may be buying or breeding to what someone thinks is a black horse when it's actually bay. So here we go.

### Extension and Agouti

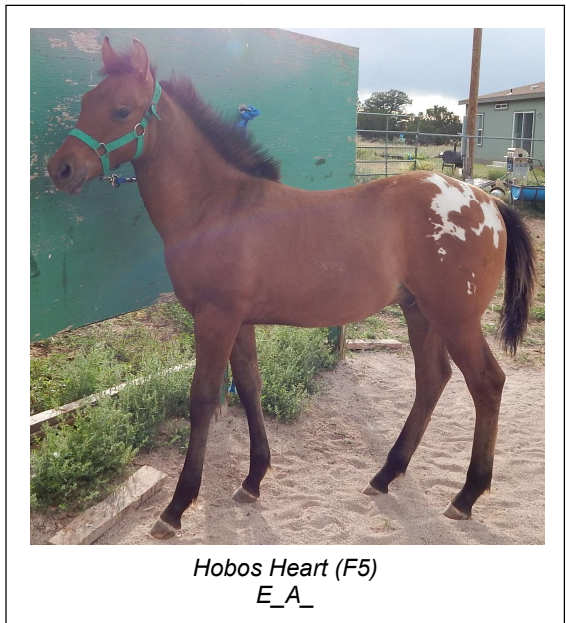
Every horse on the planet has Extension and Agouti. We hear people say their horse has "no Agouti" or "negative for Agouti" and that is not correct. What they should say is that their horse has recessive Agouti. More precisely, their horse has homozygous, recessive Agouti (aa). Think of Extension as a pigment switch and Agouti as a traffic cop. Extension allows black or red pigment to enter the hair shaft and Agouti tells the black pigment where to go. Extension allows black or red pigment to enter the hair shaft and Agouti tells the black pigment where to go.

Extension = EE, Ee, or ee. Where a capital "E" = black pigment and a lower case "e" = red pigment. Every horse has 2 copies, one from each parent.

- EE = homozygous (two copies), dominant (capital letters) Extension. It is NOT homozygous black as we do not have info on Agouti.
- Ee = heterozygous (one copy) dominant Extension, one copy heterozygous recessive Extension. This horse is also NOT black because again.....we don't have Agouti info.
- ee = homozygous (two copies), recessive (lower case letters), Extension. This horse is red. We don't need info on Agouti as Agouti does not affect red pigment (see above "Agouti tells the black pigment where to go").

Agouti = AA Ae or aa. Where a capital "A" = dominant Agouti (tells the black pigment where to go) and a lower case "a" = does not do a thing to black pigment. Every horse has 2 copies, one from each parent.

- AA = homozygous (two copies), dominant (capital letters) Agouti
- Aa = heterozygous (one copy) of dominant (capital letters) Agouti and one copy of recessive Agouti.
- aa = homozygous (two copies), recessive (lower case letters) Agouti.



Hobos Heart (F5)  
E\_A\_



Plaudit Storm Dancer MA (F5N) Eeaa  
Sonic Ghost Dancer MA (F5) EEaa

Now let's put Extension and Agouti possibilities together and see what we get:

- EEAA = bay -- this horse cannot produce anything but bay offspring, no matter who it's bred to.
- EEaA = bay -- this horse can produce black or bay offspring. Cannot produce red.
- EEaa = black -- this horse can produce both black and bay. Cannot produce red.
- EeAA = bay -- this horse can produce both bay and red offspring depending upon the mate, but can never produce black.
- EeAa = bay -- this horse can produce all three base colors depending upon the mate.
- Eeaa = black -- this horse can produce any of the three base colors depending upon mate.
- eeAA = red -- this horse can produce bay and red but can never produce black.
- eeAa = red -- this horse can produce all three base colors depending upon the mate.
- eeaa = red -- this horse can produce all three base colors depending upon the mate.





Squirrel Creek MyComanche (F2) eeAa

Now that the codes on your base color test results have been "de-coded" you can be certain that what you're buying, be that a foal or a breeding to a stallion, is what you're paying for. While many seem to prefer the sharp contrast that the black base color provides in our Appaloosas, please try to think beyond "black and white" when buying or breeding. Our genetic base in the higher generation Appaloosas is so limited already. And who doesn't love a striking bay or flaming red base coat anyway!

Note: Cover horse Poplars Zamocha is EEaA



### International Colored Appaloosa Association, Inc

#### Dedicated to the Development, Preservation, and Promotion of the Purebred Appaloosa

- ❖ Foundation was a place to start. The ICAA is building the finished product -- a breed for the future, one generation at a time.
- ❖ Founded in 1991, the ICAA is well established and in it for the long haul.
- ❖ The only registry offering a program to track a horse's training from birth.
- ❖ The only registry building a database of breeders who are producing five-plus generation horses.
- ❖ A "stand-alone" registry that does not require prior registration in another registry if the horse is the product of an ICAA registered sire and dam.
- ❖ The only registry using the full-generational concept of eight-generations plus, with no out-crossing, to produce a true, purebred Appaloosa, following the generally accepted genealogy method of generational identification.
- ❖ The ICAA is partnered with AGI and offers members exclusive pricing options on 6-Panel, color, and pattern testing, as well as DNA Profiling. Parentage verification is free on foals from parents who have been DNA Profiled.



**CORRECTION FROM THE SUMMER NEWSLETTER**  
 Ghostdance Quik Cash (F5) is by MHS First Chance (F4), and out of AR Country Rose (F4N).  
 He's owned by Verna Roberts.

### MEMBERSHIP SPECIAL

Due to popular demand, we will once again be holding our Membership Special from October 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>!

This special is for both new and renewing memberships! Membership will be good for the remainder of 2022 and all of 2023.

At this discounted rate, there is a limit of two years (2023 and 2024) that can be purchased. Please note that if you've purchased your membership under this special in the past, you may only be eligible for one year, as this special is only good for the years 2023 and 2024.

Membership fee will be reduced from \$15 to \$10 for each year. Membership Applications and online payment options are available on the website at [www.icaainc.com](http://www.icaainc.com).

## New Registrations



BCA Yamas Ocelot (F7)  
Black Near-Leopard Colt  
Owned by Charles Potts, Blue Creek Appaloosas



BCA Yamas Yellowhawk (F7)  
Black Near-Leopard Bolt  
Owned by Charles Potts, Blue Creek Appaloosas



BCA Nuksays Nooksak (F6)  
Black Near-Leopard Colt  
Owned by Daniel Bjergo



Olympic Blue Spruce (F5)  
Black Near-Leopard Colt  
Owned by Joanne Jordan



LR Midnite Dreamer (F3)  
Bay Varnish Near-Fewspot Mare  
Owned by Karisa Larson



HHA Rumor Mill (F4)  
Bay Blanketed Filly  
Owned by Amanda Hubbert

## New Registrations



FVF Iron Ryel (F7)  
Dunskin Snowcap Colt  
Owned by Jan Dobson & Eric Beene



Apaches Silver Bear (F4)  
Leopard Gelding  
Owned by Shelley & Ron Antle



Plaudit Storm Dancer MA (F5N)  
Black Solid Colt  
Owned by Sean Elliott



Ghostdance Frayah (F4) & Ghostdance Ovation (F5)  
Dark Bay Blanketed Mare & Dark Bay Fewspot Colt  
Owned by Verna Roberts, Ghostdance Appaloosas

### **Welcome New Members!**

Shannon Bishop of GA  
Tom and Karen Freund of KY  
Alexa Maine of WA  
Sherri Ritter of MO

We're sorry but there was not enough space to get photos put in of all the beautiful horses we registered this quarter. The following horses were also registered:

PJA Ghostwind Oreo (F4) owned by Michelle Vega  
BCA Black Mountain (F7N) owned by Charles Potts  
BCA Chats Catrada (F6) owned by Charles Potts  
Sonic Ghost Dancer MA (F5) owned by Sean Elliott  
MHS Tobys Trilogy (F5) owned by Verna Roberts



Ghostdance Quik Cash  
Bay Leopard Colt  
Owned by Verna Roberts, Ghostdance Appaloosas

## PULLING HAIR FOR TESTING

The following is from an email sent to us from Animal Genetics (AGI) and thought it may be educational for some of our members:

“In the attached documents you will find 2 pictures (shown below). The first being the sample that we had submitted for “Andy” that came back with some discrepancies for parentage. In the second photo you will find another sample that was submitted the same day that shows the ideal roots that we are looking for on the end of horse hair. These roots will appear as small bulbs or beads at the end of the hair. These will contain DNA from the skin that the root was plucked out of. This skin tissue contains the nucleated cells that carry the DNA needed for our testing.

You will see in Andy’s” sample, it is barely visible if any roots are left to present for a retest. This is very common with most foal hair, as their hair is still so young, and their roots may not be well developed to gather enough of the skin tissue when they are plucked. Or in the event that this was hair that was collected that had fallen off of the foal.

If you would like to use either of these as examples for your clients as ideal or not ideal samples, you are more than welcome to. The lack of hair roots could be a reason why we had discrepancies with the ISAG DNA Profile.”



“Andy’s” hair sample on left.

Normal hair sample on right.



## 2023 STALLION SERVICE AUCTION

ICAA will once again be holding its annual stallion service auction. Details will be sent out via email, posted on Facebook, and posted on the website for the list of stallions and the dates the auction begins and ends.

### Stallion Owners

You will receive free advertising if you donate your stallion, in addition to receiving a free registration in 2023 or 2024. He will be advertised on the website, on the ICAA Facebook Auction page, on the ICAA Facebook page, and shared to many Appaloosa groups. You will also be helping ICAA to move forward while still keeping our fees low if your stallion’s service sells. Stallions must be ICAA registered or pending registration and be 6-Panel negative.

### Mare Owners

By bidding on our stallions so graciously donated by these stallion owners, you will be receiving the services of a quality stallion that is 6-Panel negative, at a discounted fee, as well as helping keep ICAA’s fees low. You will also receive a free membership.

***Seeking the best of any breed is a noble venture.  
Buying a purebred animal ensures that breed characteristics are continued for the future.***

If you choose to buy a foal from a reputable and quality breeder, this breeder is responsible for every foal's health.

This breeder will skip vacations, miss sleep, and most of their personal time is dedicated to their horses and their well being. The truly passionate breeder, who loves what they breed, puts all of their time into it. Not only for foals that are sold, but also for every customer who owns a piece of their heart and is now a member of their large family. Breeders worry about their babies after leaving and will take them back without question. A breeder will get his hands dirty, often covered in everything that comes with birth. Because that's what life is all about... in the midst of birth and death is life. The wheel that keep spinning. A breeder conducts ultrasounds, analytics, emergency vet calls, vaccinations, registrations, researches pedigrees, deworming, hoof trims, and provides the base start for the future of the foal in handling, trailering, and bathing. Last but not least, a breeder **CHOOSES** the family who is lucky enough to have one of their foals. Yes, you read that correctly.

A real breeder chooses who to sell to.

There really is no compensation that can offset the investment a breeder has made.

A good breeder has other criteria for those who want to continue their bloodline, why? Because breeding isn't a responsibility to take lightly, it's a lifestyle choice reserved **ONLY** for the few devoted people willing to sacrifice.

Since a foal is never "just a pet," he/she is the legacy of the breeder, a little boy's best friend, a caretaker of the little girl, therapy for the elderly, a member of the family, someone's whole world!

~Author Unknown~

### **ICAA Annual Membership Meeting**

The 2022 Annual Membership Meeting was held on Saturday September 24<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. The 2021 Minutes and the Financial Report were approved. The Stats, updates on District Representatives and Board of Trustee members, and other updates that have transpired over the past year were discussed. We were pleased with the attendance!

For the future year, we will be once again holding our Annual Stallion Service Auction, keeping our ad in the ApHC Journal Horseman's Directory, and sponsoring the ApHC National and World shows with our ICAA banner being hung at those shows. Promotional ideas were discussed and virtual show updates were given. Amanda Hubbert was nominated and approved as the ICAA Show Secretary.



Amanda Hubbert, ICAA Show Secretary  
(760) 905-0130  
Email: [turtle\\_love@ymail.com](mailto:turtle_love@ymail.com)



The next ICAA Quarterly Meeting will be held **on Saturday January 21, 2023 at 12:00 noon EST**. Emails will be sent out as a reminder as well as the link to current members to join. Hope to see you all there!

These meetings are very informative and a lot of input from members is always welcome!



*Stars Dreamwalker (F2) & Stars Wildfire SL (F4) with Linda Hokanson*

## Contact Information

Need to contact ICAA? Here's how!

Send snail mail to:

**ICAA**  
**PO Box 427**  
**Whiteface, TX 79379**  
(Please check website for current address)  
**Call Sharon at 575-607-9737,**  
**Cheryl at 814-882-5014,**  
or email us at [icaa@icaainc.com](mailto:icaa@icaainc.com)

Visit our website at [www.icaainc.com](http://www.icaainc.com)

Like us on Facebook (type International Colored Appaloosa Association in your Facebook search engine)

## Remember

Current members get discounted rates on registrations, transfers, and genetic testing through AGI. Members can also enjoy the benefits of free advertising on ICAA's website and inclusion in teleconference meetings!

Advertise your ICAA stallions for free in the Stallion Showcase!

Advertise your ICAA sale horses for free in our Sale File!

Show off your ICAA horses on the ICAA Facebook Page!



*MHS Mintaka of Orion  
(F5)*

*Owned by  
Michelle Vega*

**Power**

**The**

**APPALOOSA**



**International Colored Appaloosa Assn, Inc**  
**PO Box 427**  
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**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**