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# Racing & Equestrian Club a Landmark in Qatar

At first glance at the sports activities in the State of Qatar, one can realize the great value of the Racing and Equestrian Club (REC) as one of the main pillars in the country which are truly a source of pride of everyone

in Qatar. ell.These pillars have been established by His Highness Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar, and are followed up by His Highness Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Special Adviser to the Emir. All such efforts by the wise leadership have made the equestrian activities in the State of Qatar an example followed not only in the Arab region, but throughout the world as well.

This fact is confirmed by the value of the State of Qatar in this heritage sport which is loved by all and is considered one of the elements of the Qatari and Arab heritage. Qatar has taken this sport from a national and regional scene to a wider one as demonstrated by Qatar's hosting numerous regional and international equestrian events, in a manner that

reflects the great confidence the world's equestrian circles have in Qatar, and by sponsoring top world events such as the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and the Qatar Arabian World Cup, which are held annually in

Paris.

REC is as source of pride to Qatar. Its facilities represent a unique architectural masterpiece that is in continuous and accelerated



development through the efforts and guidance of the wise leadership who spare no effort for bringing the State of Qatar on equal footing with the leading countries in sports. This has been demonstrated recently when Qatar won the bid to host the FIFA World Cup, to become the first Arab and Middle Eastern country to host the world's top event, after having throwing down the gauntlet to some of the mightiest sporting powers on earth.

The Qatari achievement is matchless not only on the sports level but also on all levels given the difficulties that faced Qatar's bid and were overcome by Qatar through promising young leaders headed by the rider, His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Hamad Al Thani, the Chairman of Qatar Bid and the rider who is one of major supporters of the Qatari equestrian sport which participated through one of its riders this unprecedented achievement.

The achievements made in sports in general and in the equestrian sport in particular impose more challenges for the Qatari equestrian sport and more responsibilities for us to continue the success on the world scene under the support and guidance of the wise leadership from

whom excellence and perseverance to serve our country are inspired.

**Mohamed Bin Faleh Al Thani** 

### Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club

The Racing and Equestrian Club (REC) was established in 1975. HE Sheikh Mohamed Bin Faleh Al Thani is Chairman of the REC Board of Directors. Mr. Sami Jassim Al Boenain is the General Manager of REC and Secretary General of REC Board of Directors. Located in New Rayyan, Doha, it has the mission of developing thoroughbred and pure bred Arabian horse racing events, organising Arabian horse shows and encouraging horse owners to own the best horses and to develop horse breeding.

Thanks to state-of-the-art facilities, REC is one of the most enviable horse training centres in the world. Racing events take place every Thursday from October to May with over 40 race meetings held annually since 1975. Under the kind patronage of His Highness the Emir and His Highness the Heir Apparent, more and more attention is increasingly paid to the equestrian sport. The number of equestrian related facilities and arenas has been on the increase and such facilities match their international counterparts.

Since 2008, REC has become the official sponsor of the weekend of Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, which is held in Longchamp, Paris during the first weekend of October. REC will be the official sponsor of this prestigious racing event till 2022.

One of the richest races on turf in the world, Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe attracts over 1 billion television audience every year besides more than 70,000 spectators at the Longchamp.

There is a sand track and a turf. There are also show arenas, where horse shows and national championships are held as well as grandstands for spectators. The REC's stables have been equipped with all that is necessary for horse care. The REC

has appointed professional vets for horse veterinary care.

Affiliation of the Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club to international organisations International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) in 1992 - This Federation is concerned with supervising race meetings held by the Member Countries which amount to 68 countries round the world. It timely provides the REC with the latest methods and techniques of sponsoring and holding race meetings. Further it supervises and issues racing rules and regulations and supervises horse health care.

The Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club has issued the Racing Rules. The State of Qatar is, thus, the first Arab country to issue racing rules. The Higher Racing Rules Committee is chaired by H H Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar.

World Arabian Horse Organisation (WAHO) in 1990- This organisation supervises the P/A horses in Member Countries. It approves P/A Studbooks developed by Member Countries. It issues pedigree certificates for P/A horses and their pedigrees. It has data of P/A horses worldwide.

European Conference of Arab Horse Organisations (ECAHO) in 1994 -This Conference supervises all P/A horse shows held around the world by Member Countries. It is worth mentioned that the State of Qatar, having the most beautiful P/A horses in the world, pays a lot of attention to P/A horse shows supervised by ECAHO. Such shows are attended by concerned professionals from all over the world, as well as representatives of both ECAHO and WAHO to supervise the shows.

1990. Qatar the State of

became Member of the Executive Committee of the FederationEquestre International <(FEI).

1999 **IFAHR** (International Federation of Arabian Horse Racing Authorities) was founded. Qatar Is one of the founding members for purpose of co-operation between all national and international Arab Horse Racing Associations throughout the world. IFAHR currently has 27 member countries

In 2000, the State of Qatar chaired the Development & Rating Committee of IFAHR.

In November 2001, the State of Qatar became Member of the Asian Equestrian Federation (AEF).

In January 2002, the State of Qatar filled the office of the Vice Chairman of IFAHR.

Since 2008, the State of Qatar has been filling the office of the Chairman of IFAHR. Mr. Sami Jassim Al Boenain, REC General Manager, is the Chairman of IFAHR.

#### **Horse Race Meetings**

The Racing & Equestrian Club has been organising national race meetings since it was established in 1975. It has been encouraging horse owners to own the best horses and to improve horse breeding. It has been holding race meetings for all available horse breeds owned by local horse owners. With effect from the 2000-2001 RacingSeason, the REC has been organising the Qatar International Equestrian Festival (QIEF), which is an annual one-week event. The first Festival was held in March 2001. Arab and international horse owners, trainers and jockeys are keen to participate and be part of QIEF.

# AL SHAQAB RACING CONTINUES EXCELLENCE ON EUROPE'S RACECOURSES Olympic Glory wins Jlt Lockinge Stakes (Gr1) at Newbury

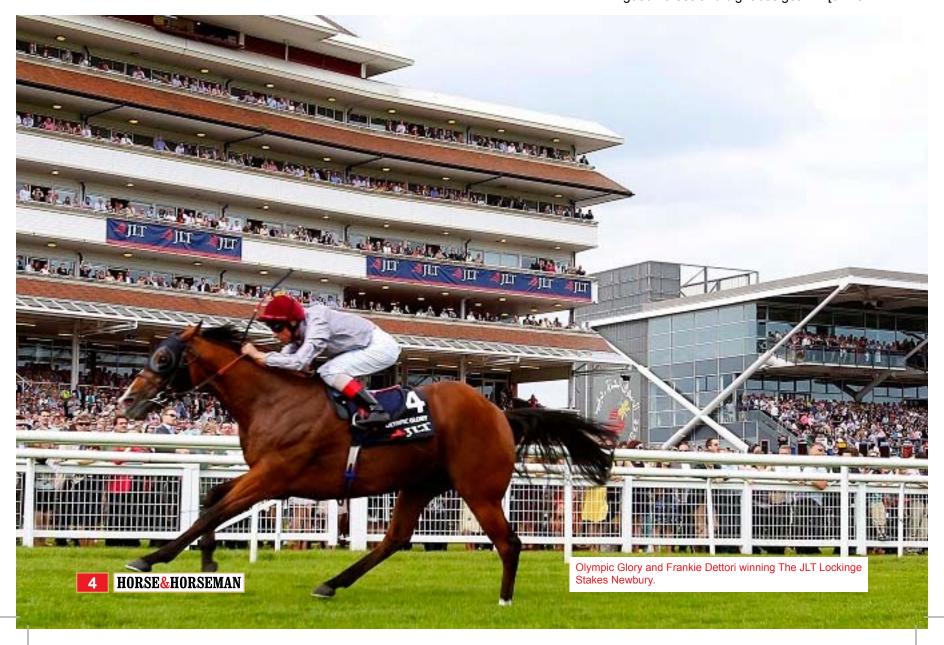
Al Shaqab Racing's representative Olympic Glory won on his first run back in the JLT Lockinge Stakes (Gr1), at Newbury on Saturday, 17 May 2014. Richard Hannon's charge had not been seen on the track since his defeat in the Breeders' Cup Mile (Gr1), when he did not handle the track at Santa Anita and finished seventh. He is in fact never better than when he runs on straight tracks. He had a good run here, sitting patiently in mid division before going on to win by an easy two lengths from Tulius. The Aidan O'Brien trained American import, Verrazano, took third place.

#### A Gr1 winner at 2, 3 and 4

Olympic Glory is a class horse but not everything was in his favour at Newbury. He prefers softer ground, while the going was deemed to be good for the Lockinge Stakes. In winning the Lockinge Stakes, Olympic Glory earned his third Gr1 victory having won the Qatar Prix Jean-Luc Lagardère (Gr1) at two, Queen Elizabeth II Stakes (Gr1) at three and the JLT Lockinge Stakes (Gr1) as a four-year-old. He follows in the footsteps of previous winners Farhh and Frankel. When he took the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes, Olympic Glory wore blinkers.

"The whole way I was thinking to myself, 'There is no pace, this is going to be complicated', but it was just as easy as riding work, "said Dettori, whose father Gianfranco was visiting Britain for the first time in two years in order to watch the victory. "He goes on any ground, he is uncomplicated, a jockeys' dream. I'll be surprised if he is not champion miler again."

Winning trainer Richard Hannon told Channel 4: "I just said to the Sheikh that I don't think I've enjoyed a day's racing less in my life! It's just the pressure. The blinkers have just rejuvenated him. These good horses and big races get him [owner

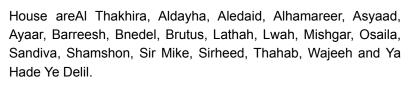




Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al-Thani] going - they get us all going. It's great to run these good horses as often as we can. He is in the Queen Anne and the mile and a quarter race, Toronado's in there as well so we'll have to see."

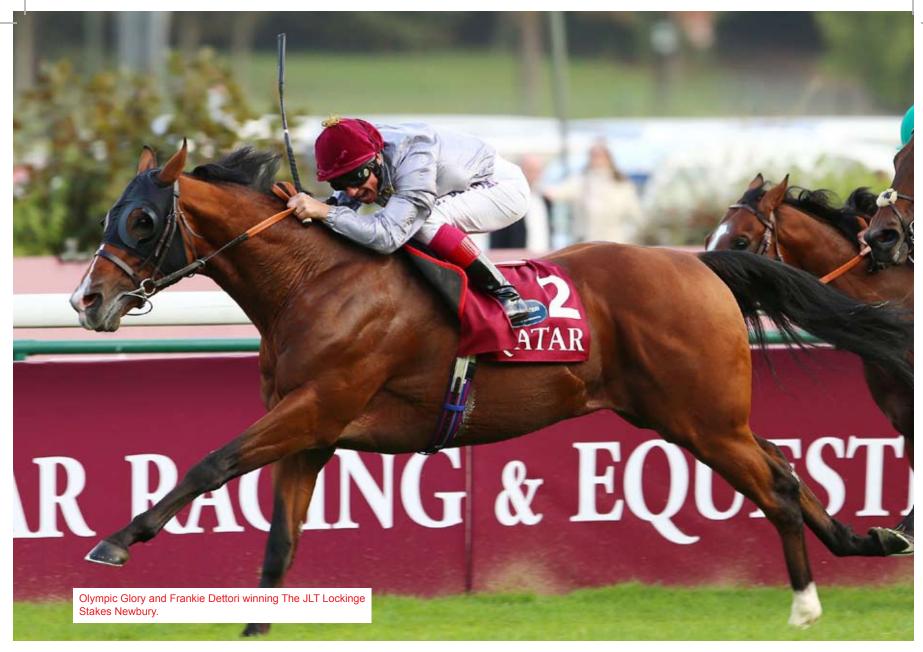
Olympic Glory's fantastic victory in JLT Lockinge Stakes ensured the perfect start to a new fundraising initiative by Al Shaqab Racing. Twenty of Al Shaqab Racing's horses will race this season to raise funds for Jack Berry House, the Injured Jockeys Fund's second rehabilitation centre, which is due to open in November this year. All UK win and place prize money will be donated by Al Shaqab Racing to Jack Berry House in order to help them achieve their project fundraising target of £3.1 million. The Al Shaqab Racing Super 20 horses raising money for Jack Berry







Harry Herbert, Racing Advisor to Al Shaqab Racing, commented: "Sheikh Joaan wants to support the fantastic work that Jack Berry and the Injured Jockeys Fund are doing all over the country and Jack Berry House is the perfect vehicle. We have created the Al Shaqab Racing Super 20 group of horses all of whose UK win and place prize money this season will be donated to Jack Berry House."



Olympic
Glory
makes it
a grand
double for
Al Shaqab
Racing

HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani's Olympic Glory was given a peach of a ride by jockey Frankie Dettori, while coming from the rear of the field and overhauling his 15 rivals to win the Qatar Prix de la Foret at the Longchamp racecourse in Paris yesterday. Incidentally, Olympic Glory had given Sheikh Joaan, his first Group I victory in the European circuit.

The Richard Hannon trained Olympic Glory was out the back for much of the seven furlong contest after being a little slow out the stalls, Dettori even had to shake him up to get him on terms in the very early stages.





The pace was set by Noozhoh Canarias with Gordon Lord Byron sitting handily behind the leader. As the field began to bunch up, Freddy Head's fancied runner Anodin looked to be going very well, with Olivier Peslier sitting motionless as other jockey's around him got to work on their mounts. But inside the final furlong Anodin found

nothing off the bridle and Gordon Lord Byron was responding well to Wayne Lordon's urgings and looked set to repeat his 2012 victory.

But Olympic Glory cut through the pack to land an impressive two length victory for Hannon and Al Shaqab Racing, who completed a glorious

doublke for the day. Gordon Lord Byron finished second and longtime leader Noozhoh Canarias was third.

Trainer Hannon said: "Olympic Glory is an amazing horse, who has won Group races and for four year olds. We will be really sad to see him leave the yard. The seven furlong trip is without doubt his best distance and it has always been a myth that he goes better on soft ground."

"My father trained this horse and it has been an honour for me to continue training him. Normally, he doesn't run the way he did today. But he won in phenomenal style. He was the first Group winner for Sheikh Joaan and he deserves to become a stallion, so it is understandable that his racing career could be at an end after today."

Dettori said: "I left him alone and when I looked at the wall of horses in front of me and I thought 'how I am going to get through this. But he's done it well. He didn't fluff the start he just takes a while to warm-up."



# Al Shaqab's Al Fahda dazzles in Paris with stunning victory





HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani's Al Fahda came up with a dazzling performance while clinching the Qatar Arabian Trophy for three-year-old Fillies, which featured the races at the Saint Cloud racecourse in Paris yesterday. Jockey Vincent Cheminaud brought the Thomas Fourcy trained Al Fahda into contention in the final furlong and came with devastating strides to overhaul the front runners and win the Euros 100,000 event in virtually the last stride of the race.

With her stablemate and favourite Bint Jakkarta unable to deliver, it was Al Fahda who came to the rescue with a sustained challenge even as Sylvine Al Maury had stolen a march. With the winning post fast approaching, Cheminaud got that extra bit from Al Fahda and edged out Sylvine Al Maury by the shortest of margins. Bint Jakkarta ran on to finish third ahead of another Qatari challenger Mindza.



"It is fantastic to start on a winning note. It is a great way to start a very important weekend for Al Shaqab. It is terrific to begin our campaign with a first and third finish here. Everybody is absolutely thrilled and though we have no runners tomorrow at Longchamp, Sunday is going to be a big day," Al Shaqab Racing Consultant Harry Herbert said.

"We are very pleased with the draw for all our three horses. It is better to be drawn low than too high as the ground quickens up pretty fast. Our horses are in great shape and Wow Signal and Olympic Glory are also ready for the other Group I races. They have been working very well coming into these races. I always thought personally





that Olympic Glory will be hard to beat in his favourite seven furlong trip. They will go at a furious pace and that will suit him too. Coming off from a strong pace is very much in his bag. Right now we are looking forward to it and we are hopeful that it will be a massive day for Al Shaqab," Herbert added.

Jockey Cheminaud had a word of praise for Al Fahda. "She is a good filly and Al Fahda seemed to like the soft going. She will be very good as a four year old will go on to achieve greater success."

Qatar Racing and Equestrian

Club general manager Sami Jassim al-Boenain was ecstatic with the performance of Al Fahda. "It is a good win for Al Shaqab Racing. My congratulations to HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani and his team. It has been good start for Qatar and it is nice to see our horses doing well everywhere. I wish them all the best for two more days of exciting races at Longchamp."

The Thomas Fourcy saddled Al Mouwaffak effectively tackled the opposition to lift the Group I Qatar Total Arabian Trophy for three-year-old colts, which was the other main event of the day. Lady Wish took the second place ahead of Al Shahania Stud's Wathah.



## Djainka Des Forges regains Qatar Arabian World Cup for Qatar

HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani owned Djainka Des Forges overhauled the challenge of Al Tair to win the Qatar Arabian World Cup at the Longchamp racecourse on Sunday. This win enabled Qatar to regain the title which they won on previous four occasions. Al Shaqab Racing's Dahor De Brugere and Farh completed the frame.

Qatar's dominance in the World Cup was halted by UAE's Mushrae last year with a narrow win over Umm Qarn's Muntasar. This was Qatar's fifth success and third for trainer Julian Smart in this premier event for Pure Arabians.

HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa al-Thani's General started the winning trend for Qatar with fluent victories in 2009 and 2010. This was followed by Al Shahania Stud's dual success with Areej (2011) and Mkeefa (2012).

Trainer Smart was delighted with his third success in the world cup. "I guess





we are toppers now with three victories. Djainka Des Forges is a super filly who deserved this victory. She is a real athlete and without a doubt the best horse in the world. I have a good rapport with fillies, I guess they like me. Training Arabians is very different to training Thoroughbreds. They stay in training for much longer and a race like this takes a lot out of them."

"She will go back to Qatar. I would like

Djenka Des Forges

12 HORSE&HORSEMAN

to run her next in the Kahayla Classic in Dubai. A lot of winners of Qatar Arabian World Cup give everything in the race and take a while to come back. It's up to me to see that she comes back in the best form possible," Smart added.

"It was a very exciting race and my congratulations to HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Khalifa al-Thani for this tremendous victory. Qatar has once again proved their caliber when it comes to breeding top class Pure Arabians. This is great news for

us and we hope to do well in the following years as well, QREC general manager Sami Jassim al-Boenain said.

"This has been a glorious weekend for Qatar. Treve was simply amazing today. To come back and win an event of this status is not easy. She came with a similar run like last year and won very well. Al Shaqab Racing has made every Qatari proud and my congratulation to HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani and his team for winning the Arc once again," Sami added.



#### HH the Emir 23rd International Equestrian Sword Festival

THREE days of exciting racing at the HH the Emir 23rd International Equestrian Sword Festival reached an amazing climax in the two most prestigious races at the Qatar Racing & Equestrian Club on 27 February 2014, when Assy became the first local-bred to win the Group 1 HH the Emir's Sword for Purebred Arabians, and Al Shaqab Racing's new colours

were carried to victory by Frankie Dettori on Dubday in the Group 1 HH the Emir's Trophy for thoroughbreds.

The large crowd, including a strong contingent from Europe and the USA, had only just recovered from the thrilling display by Dubday, the first thoroughbred to carry the new Al Shaqab Racing silks

of grey with gold braid, when Assy made history and led home a one-two-three for owner HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani and trainer Juian Smart.

Rathowan, who made the running under Brett Doyle, looked as if he might hold on entering the final 200m, but Al Anga, ridden by Dubday's former jockey Harry



Bentley, forged to the front, only to be caught in the last few strides by Assy, whom Christophe Lemaire brought with a sustained run on the outside.

Assy, whose record of seven consecutive wins from eight previous outings had included the HH the Emir's Trophy at the meeting last year, stepped up a grade to claim the 1.8 million riyals first prize by a short head from Al Anga, who had been undefeated in her previous five starts.

Rathowan was beaten a length and a quarter into third place, half a length clear of Nashmi, who did best of the Umm Qarnowned runners.

Smart, who won the race in 2011 and 2012, was overcome with delight as he raced on to the track to greet his team while they gathered round their horses for an historic photograph.

The cameras had already worked overtime after the equivalent race for thoroughbreds, the Emir's Trophy, worth 1.14 million riyals and also over 2,400m, where Dubday continued his remarkable rise to the top and Dettori gained his most important success since he was appointed retained rider for HH Sheikh Joann Bin



Hamad Al Thani.

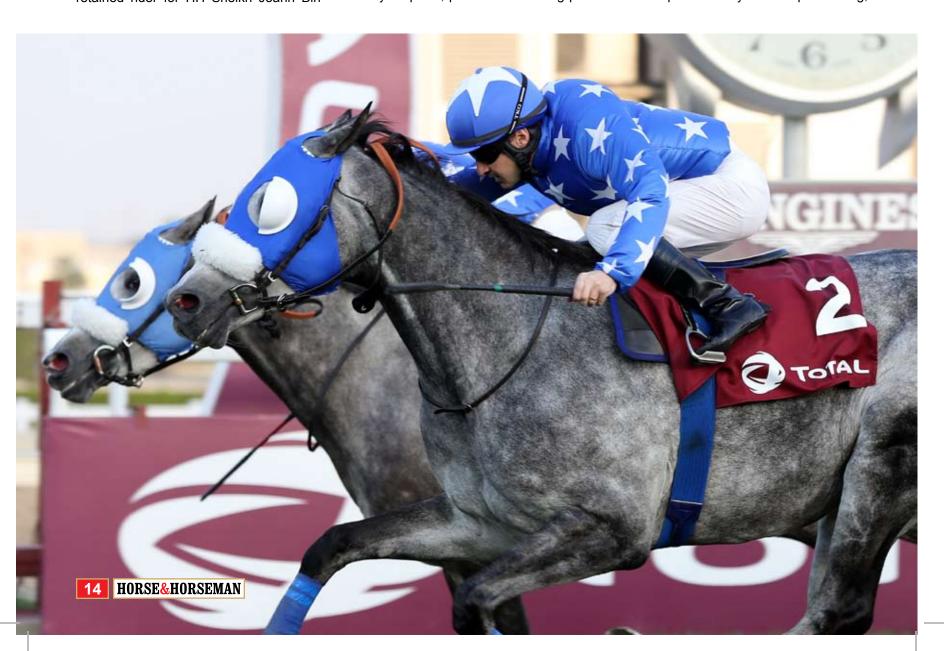
Dettori plotted the perfect path for Dubday, who was never worse than sixth and came with a sustained run on the outside in the straight, leading in the last 50m to win by three quarters of a length from the always-prominent Peter Anders and Adrie de Vries.

In a remarkable finish the next 12 horses, led by Polperro, passed the winning post

within about three lengths of each other.

The remaining runner, last year's winner Very Nice Name, bled from both nostrils some way from the finish, according to jockey Olivier Peslier.

Dubday is now unbeaten in three runs in Qatar, having won the Qatar Derby and Qatar Gold Trophy for owner Sheail Bin Khalifa Al Kuwari last October, before his recent purchase by Al Shaqab Racing,





whose recently appointed racing advisor Harry Herbert joined in the celebrations.

Dettori treated the crowd to his trademark flying dismount, despite having been handed a health warning by his doctor after breaking his ankle last October in a fall that prevented him from taking the ride on HE Sheikh Joann's Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe winner Treve.

Dettori said: "That was great, and fantastic to do it in my new home. I'm so pleased for Sheikh Joann, because this was important for him, and for me."

Originally trained by Sir Michael Stoute, who was on hand to see the race, Dubday never made the racecourse as a twoyear-old and was sold to a German owner for 11,000gns at Tattersalls sales in 2012.

He reached Listed class in Germany and France before going to the pre-Arc Arqana sale in October, where Jassim Ghazili bought him for €200,000.

Now Dubday could be on his way to Dubai, following in the footsteps of Very Nice Name, who went on to run third to St Nicholas Abbey in the Sheema Classic

before embarking on a European summer campaign.

Dettori added: "When Dubday put his head down and ran on for me, I knew he would catch the leader. He is a decent stayer and if he goes to Dubai, he will not be disgraced."

Ghazali, who recorded four wins on the day to take his total at the Festival to 12, and Dettori earlier teamed up to win the fillies' and mares' conditions race over 1,600m with Momalorka, from whom the jockey conjured a brilliantly timed run on the outside to lead in the last couple of strides

Similar tactics were less successful when Dettori rode Roman Legend, winner of his three previous races, in the HH Emir's Shalfa Trophy for thoroughbreds over 1,850m, but the stable still supplied the winner in City Zen, on whom Stephan Ladjadj made all the running to beat Rosso Corsa by a length and a quarter, with Roman Legend getting going too late and being beaten a further neck into third

Roman Legend had beaten City Zen and

Rosso Corsa in the Qatar Silver Trophy earlier in the month.

There was a similar story of tables being turned in the HH the Emir's Silver Sword for Purebred Arabians over 1,850m, where Majd Al Uraig, who had laid claim to being one of Qatar's top four-year-olds, had his winning run ended by Tajarub, who had been second to Majd Al Uraig in the recent Qatar Silver Sword.

Harry Bentley produced Ghazali-trained Tajarub with a perfect run to lead 200m from the finish and they held on to win by a head from Majd Al Uraiq, whom Pier Convertino brought wide with a strong run on the outside, after being sixth into the straight.

On a day of exciting finishes, Olivier Peslier made all the running on Khabbab, trained by Alab de Mieulle for Umm Qarn, in the HH the Emir Trophy for local Purebred Arabians over 2,400m, and conserved sufficient energy to withstand the late challenge of Taraf and jockey Bentley by a neck.

# Al Shaqab Racing's Farh inaugurates Qatar's victory season in Europe and wins the Prix Nefta (Gr2 PA) in France

A close third in this race last year, Farh FR (Nizam) once again gave her all on the track to win the Prix Nefta (Gr2 PA) title at Bordeaux Le Bouscat racecourse on 12 May 2014. The mare held off the final thrust of Ghazwa FR (Zawam) down the outside to win. MyraPrix Nefta (Gr2 PA) de Monlau FR(Munjiz) finished back in third.

Farh had not been seen on the track

since her success in the French Arabian Breeders' Challenge Classic (Listed PA) on October 30th in Toulouse. She was entered in the Emir's Sword (Gr1 PA) in Doha this winter but did not take part in the race. Her trainer Jean-François Bernard, who holds her in high regard, knew to be patient in order to have her at her best for this Prix Nefta (Gr2 PA) which she won impressively. Out of Fifth FR (Tidjani), she comes from the Watrigant

family's breeding operation and is from the top maternal family of Dormane FR (Manganate).

This mare is exceptional as she always has something left in the tank for the finish even if this race wasn't run fast enough for her, as she was very keen on her return", commented Jean-François Bernard.

Running in the colours of Al Shaqab





Racing, the daughter of stallion Nizam GB (Amer) has high ambition this season. "I promised Sheikh Joaan that I would have her at her best to take on the colts on Arc day, in the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1 PA), as there is no programme for five-year-old females. That is our objective and we will see what races she will run before then as she is very delicate! The heavier the ground is on Arc day, the better her chances against the colts will be. She can be keen but when she is calm she is capable of coming from behind to take on her rivals", he added.

Jean-François Bernard also wanted to thank H.E. Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani "to have let me make the decision to not run her in the Emir's Sword as we would have ruined her if we ran her in the state she arrived in Doha in. That is the sign of an owner who listens to their trainers."



#### Kahayla Classic

It was a great day for Qatar at the Dubai World Cup night on Saturday, March 31, 2012. as

H.E Sheikh Hamad Bin Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani owned TM Fred Texas came up with a brilliant run at the Meydan racecourse to win the US \$ 250,000 Kahayla Classic (Group I race for Pure Arabians).

This was the second time a Qatar's horse had won this prestigious race in Dubai. It was Jaafer that had won this contest in 2010. Now the Cup has come back to Qatar. This is a big achievement for Qatar.

TM Fred Texas, trained by Ronald Martino, was taken to a one and three quarter lengths victory by Dutch jockey Adrie de Vries. It was for the second time that De Vries had won this race, after having also piloted Jaafer.

The 2,000-metre contest saw TM Fred Texas having established a firm grip before defending champion Seraphin Du Paon could put pressure on him.

Earlier this month, TM Fred Texas had won the Losail Cup in Doha. He has been

in roaring form and he continues to prove his class.

TM Fred Texas, the five-year-old son of Burning Sand, had won the Horse Of The Year award in the US.

Nieshan and Fryvolous set the pace while TM Fred Texas was held back in about the eighth position. TM Fred Texas came on the outside to leave the field far behind to succeed much to the delight of his connections.

Trainer Ronald Martino described TM Fred Texas as a classy horse and added whenever he goes out he gives 110 per cent.

"He is simply such a classy horse and each time he goes out there he gives it 110 per cent. We always thought he was good enough to take on the best and today he is gone way past in proving this. What makes this animal special is his willingness to work and show his class each time he goes on to the race track. Hats off to my assistant, Hector Castellano, he has been here six weeks with the horse in his hands," Martino said.

"It is a dream which has been fulfilled. It

was our ambition to race Fred Texas in the Kahayla Classic and what a performance he gave us tonight. I must thank Sheikh Joaan for giving me the opportunity to be here on this glorious day for Qatar," assistant trainer Hector Castellano said.

De Vries said it was amazing to win this race twice.

"He is a straight forward horse and I could sit anywhere with him. It has been really amazing to win this race on two occasions," De Vries said.

H.E Sheikh Joaan Bin Hamad Al Thani's Manager, Khalfan Al Suwaidi was elated with the success of TM Fred Texas.

"I am lost for words. I am so nervous at the moment and that I am shaking. He has been a great horse and today he has proved he is the best," Al Suwaidi said.

Qatar has once again proved it has class horses to excel at the international stage and there are many more laurels to come to Doha in the near future. Now, it is time to celebrate this success.





#### AL SHAQAB RACING'S SANDIVA WINS LANWADES STUD NELL GWYN STAKES

Al Shaqab Racing owned Sandiva came with a courageous performance while annexing the(Gr3)Lanwades Stud Nell Gwyn Stakes with a half-length victory over Euro Charlineat Newmarket on Wednesday, 16 April 2014. Sandiva has now booked a place in the QIPCO 1000 Guineas.

The Richard Fahey-trained daughter of Footstepsinthesand raced in the midfield for the bulk of the seven-furlong contest

before being asked to quicken by jockey Frankie Dettori and fought well to secure a well-deserved win.

s a two-year-old, Sandiva won three of her first four starts and finished second in other races up to seven furlongs, before finishing seventh at her first attempt at a mile at Longchamp in October.

Yet trainer and jockey believe she will stay the mile distance of the 1000 Guineas on

May 4 and has a good chance of victory in the fillies' classic.

"Where she was drawn was a one or two length disadvantage and there was no cover, so it was a good performance. She is entitled to go for the Guineas with a good chance." Dettori said.

Trainer Fahey added "Frankie is sure she will stay a mile and he spent half the race trying to switch her off and get her in."

### Al Shaqab's Treve does it again in the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe

HE Sheikh Joaan bin Hamad al-Thani owned Treve bounced back to be her brilliant best to retain the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at the Longchamp racecourse in Paris on October 5, 2014. Sporting the colours of Al Shaqab, the champion filly also erased the 36-year old record of Alleged, which had won Europe's premier event in 1977/78. None had done it until Treve displayed her patended burst of speed in the straight and go sailing clear to win as she pleased.

The Criquette Head-Maarek trained Treve was a stunning winner of world's best middle-distance contest 12 months ago, but had endured a largely forgettable four-year-old campaign prior to her return

to Paris.

However, with Thierry Jarnet in the saddle once again, Treve looked much more like her old self, travelling powerfully into the straight towards the far rail.

The field were spread right across the track, but once Jarnet pushed the button as the gap came, Treve showed her stunning acceleration to seal a fantastic victory.

Andre Fabre's Flintshire was best of the rest in second, ahead of Oaks and King George heroine Taghrooda and St Leger winner Kingston Hill.

John Gosden's Taghrooda and the Roger

Varian-trained Kingston Hill both emerged with plenty of credit having been drawn very wide.

Harry Herbert, racing advisor to Sheikh Joaan's Al Shaqab operation that sponsored the race, confirmed Treve would now be retired.

He said: "Her work earlier this week gave Criquette confidence that she might just do this, but to do it how she's done it against a top-class field, to spreadeagle them two years running - it's absolutely phenomenal.

"It's one of the great training performances. We all know it's not easy to bring a filly









back in her four-year-old year and to have the knocks along the way, there's been issues along the way.

"And for Qatar - she carries the flag of a nation with her. It was a remarkable performance, a brilliant ride and we don't see animals like this very often.

"To be involved with something like this is fantastic, especially as she has come back from adversity. I don't think we can quite believe what we have just seen."

Criquette Head-Maarek "When I saw her going into the false straight, I said 'we're going to win'. She's was going so easily. We had a fantastic race. We were along the rail and everything was open in front of her. She's got that fantastic turn of foot and that's what she's shown again."

"When you bring your horse to the racecourse it's because you think you're going to win, but with all the problems that we've had, everyone was saying she shouldn't run, she should go to stud, she's cooked. I've had so many things, but today she proved she's come back to her best.

"Last year I felt she was going to win. This year I was bringing a horse that was not 100 per cent. When I saw her going into the false straight, I said 'we're going to win'. She's was going so easily.

"She's got that fantastic turn of foot and that's what she's shown again. For me, she's a very special horse and Sheikh Joaan was so nice with me because he could have lost faith. After the Vermeille I told him 'please don't rule her out. Let's run in the Arc and see what happens. She's proved it. She is a dream for a trainer."



#### **20th World Arabian Horse Organisation (WAHO) Conference**



Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club's (REC) Chairman HE Sheikh Mohammed Bin Faleh Al Thani officially declared the 20th World Arabian Horse Organisation (WAHO) Conference open here at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Doha on November 2, 2011.

The WAHO Conference has come to Qatar for the first time and is being held under the patronage of HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Special Advisor to the

Making his opening speech in the presence of dignitaries from various member countries, Sheikh Mohammed appreciated the work done by WAHO and also paid tribute to the late Mr. Jay Stream who established WAHO.

"WAHO is a global organisation that transcends national, regional or even individual interests. Over the years, WAHO has been successful in preserving the Arabian horse breed and here we remember and pay tribute to the late Mr Jay Stream for establishing this organisation, said Sheikh Mohammed.

WAHO was established in 1970. It is an umbrella organisation for all Arabian stud books. A WAHO Conference is a very special and unique meeting. It includes

Organisation's business durina the General Assembly sessions, but perhaps equally important are the social functions and tours. These have always been included ever since the first WAHO Conference in Seville, Spain, way back in

The REC Chairman welcomed all the delegates and thanked HH The Emir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani. HH The Heir Apparent Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and also HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Special Advisor to The Emir.

"On behalf of HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Special Advisor to the Emir, I take pleasure in welcoming you all to Qatar and I seize this opportunity to thank HH the Emir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani and HH the Heir Apparent Sheikh Tamin Bin Hamad Al Thani for their unlimited support to the equestrian sport in general and the Arabian breed in particular," Sheikh Mohammed said.

Sheikh Mohammed also spoke about WAHO's tremendous work in promoting Arabian horse breed.

He explained: "The registration of Arabian horses is something that not many people outside WAHO may know much about,

but it certainly involves a fair amount of regulations and the enforcement thereof. After all, to safeguard the purity of the Arabian horse breed and to guarantee its accurate documentation is no mean feats. For so many countries to work in such close harmony there must be a willingness to give and to compromise and to respect and obey rules.'

He continued: "As the Conference involves continued hard work and productive discussions, the organisers have been keen to provide the opportunity to explore Qatar and the thorough progress taking place in all fields through a diverse and fascinating programme, especially developed for you to see my country and its Arabian horses."

He wished all those attending the Conference great success and also called upon the officials visiting Qatar to enjoy

"For the coming days I wish you all the best in your efforts to enhance the future of the ancient breed of the Arabian horse, which is a great responsibility. It is in your hands. Mr President, members of the Executive Committee, ladies and gentlemen, thank you all very much for coming to Qatar. Enjoy your time here with us. And I officially announce the opening of the 20th WAHO Conference," he concluded.

On November 3, Thursday, the day will begin with Professor Matthew Binns talking on "Advances in Equine Genetic Research and how new information can help breeders."

This will be followed by Michael Bowling's presentation on "The Paradigm has Shifted, genetic testing as a positive tool for breeders."

There will also be a special presentation on "A Tribute to Living Art" by the Qatar Museums Authority and Al Shaqab, Member of Qatar Foundation.

Karen Kasper will speak on "An artist's perspective on portraying the Arabian horse from life-study, illustrating the ancient process of creating and casting bronze sculptures."

Thursday will also witness the unveiling of bronze sculpture portraits of three World Champion Stallions bred and owned by Al Shaqab Stud.

Al Adeed Al Shagab, Gazal Al Shagab and Marwan Al Shaqab are the World Champion Stallions which will be unveiled

The delegates will be taken for a tour of Al Shaqab Stud, member of Qatar Foundation, on Thursday.

WAHO Conference will conclude on November 8,2011.

# AL SHAQAB RACING'S ECTOT WINS THE QATAR PRIX NIEL

The new representative of Al Shaqab Racing, **Ectot** made a big impression in the Qatar Prix Niel (Gr2). Sat out the back, he then left his rivals in his wake when turning into the straight. His first start over 2,400m was a success and Ectot will be a serious candidate for the upcoming Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe.

The winner had not run for 154 days since his win in the Prix de Fontainebleau (Gr3). He will be fresh for his objective which is a clear bonus. His trainer Elie Lellouche explained after this Qatar Prix Niel: "Ectot had to show something today ahead of the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and he did not disappoint. I think he will improve for the run. He had to make his move early as he had no leader in the straight. He eased up a little in the finish but that is because he lacks experience. He wanted to run and I always thought he would stay the trip."









#### UMM QARN'S CHARM SPIRIT BEATS TORONADO IN THE QATAR PRIX DU MOULIN DE LONGCHAMP







## QATAR ARC TRIALS

FRA



Hot favourite for the Qatar Prix du Moulin de Longchamp, Al Shaqab Racing's four-year-old **Toronado** could not beat the three-year-old of H.H. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani, **Charm Spirit**, in the finish of the Prix du Moulin de Longchamp (Gr1). After a good run on the rail, Charm Spirit showed bravery in the finish. He already won the Prix Jean Prat this summer and took the second Group 1 of his career here and is due to stay in training next year.

Charm Spirit is trained by Freddy Head who said: "He is a very balanced colt both physically and mentally, an amazing horse! Toronado and my horse put up a good fight in the straight. He has improved a lot throughout the year and has strengthened physically. He has been working very well and I was confident even if he had to bet a horse Toronado. Ascot and the Queen Elizabeth II Stakes is a possibility. It is also possible that we will leave him be as he should stay in training next year." As for Toronado, Harry Herbert of Al Shaqab Racing, explained: He is a super racehorse. We don't yet know where he will run next. There is the Breeders' Cup Mile, as well as the Qatar Prix de la Forêt... We will have to talk about it."





## **AL SHAQAB** RACING'S RULER OF THE WORLD **RETURNS INFORM** IN QATAR PRIX FOY

Running in the colours of Al Shaqab Racing - who own the horse in partnership with Coolmore - Ruler of The World made a winning return in the Qatar Prix Foy (Gr2). Quickly to the front under Frankie Dettori, Ruler of the World held off Group winners Flintshire and Spiritjim in the straight.

Ruler of the World had been absent from the track since the Dubai World Cup (Gr1) at the end of March. He had the quality to win the Epsom Derby (Gr1) in 2013 and now looks a candidate for the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe. Harry Herbert, manager





of Al Shaqab Racing, declared: "It is real teamwork. The horse had not run since Dubai and Frankie rode him very well. Ruler of the World has earned his place in the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe." Ruler of the World beat the record for the Prix Foy in 2'26"93.

Al Shaqab Racing won three Group races on Sunday at Longchamp and Harry Herbert commented: "It is an amazing day for Sheikh Joaan and his team. Winning three Group races on an important day like Arc Trials day is really fantastic."



#### AL SHAQAB RACING'S DAHOR DE BRUGÈRE IS BACK

The Qatar Cup - Prix Dragon (Gr2 PA), a trial race for the Qatar Arabian World Cup (Gr1), was dominated by **Dahor de Brugère**. Quickly to the head of affairs, he held off all attacks in the straight, notably from **Aden**. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani's representative challenged Al Shaqab Racing's Dahor de Brugère in vain.

Absent from the track from August 2012 to July 2014, Dahor de Brugère remains unbeaten in six starts. The victory was an emotional one for trainer Jean-François Bernard who explained: "He is an extraordinary horse. We will see about a Group 1... It wasn't difficult to get him back to his best but we took our time. We check his tendons ten times a day. A champion is a champion!"

The jockey of Dahor de Brugère, Jean-Bernard Eyquem added: "He is a champion! It is a real pleasure to win with him and to see how emotional his lad was who has worked very hard with him. When I saw the pace of the race I decided to go on and my horse pricked his ears and was relaxed and we won. He is amazing!"









#### **WAHO** Conference in Amazing **Doha/Qatar**





Under the patronage of HH Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al Thani, special advisor to the Emir the WAHO conference took place in the stunning city of Doha/capital of Qatar.

Qatar Racing and Equestrian Club (QREC) was the host of the conference with its Manager, Sami Jassim Al Boenain and his endless care for each and everything.

The members enjoyed the excellence of an outstanding programme including special hospitality in the fastest growingh city of the world. Architectural wonders, different styles and materials make this town so special and fascinating.

The conference started at November 2<sup>nd</sup> with the opening address by WAHO President Dr. Hans-J Nagel from Germany and the executive committee consisting of Dr. Nagel, President, Peter Pond, Vice President, Ing. Federico Garcia Brum, Secretary, David Angold, Treasurer, Sami Suleiman Al Nohait, Valerie Bunting, Claudia Caraballo de Quentin, Robert J. Fauls Jr., Xavier Guibert, Basil Jadaan, Izabella Pawelek-Zawadzka, Dr. Marek Trela, Howard Pike.

There was the vote

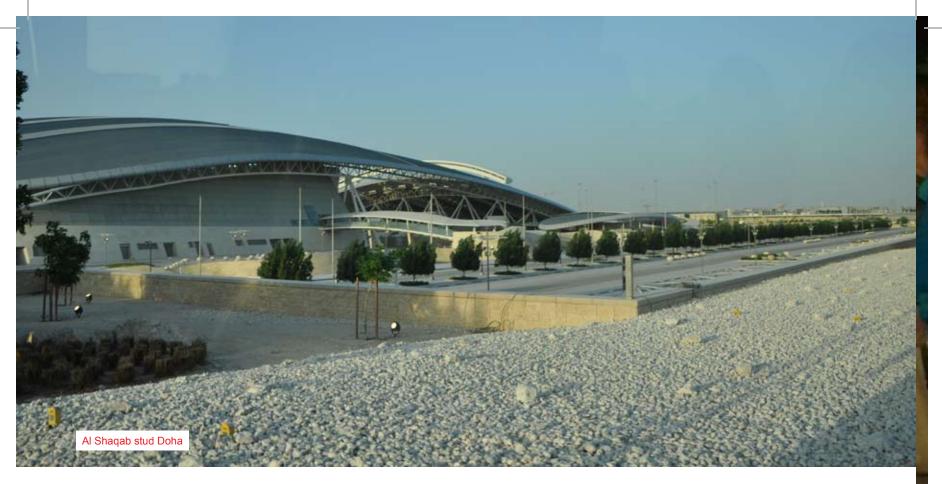
- to confirm Japan as a full Registering Authority Member of



WAHO, following acceptance, printing and distribution of their first studbook volumes

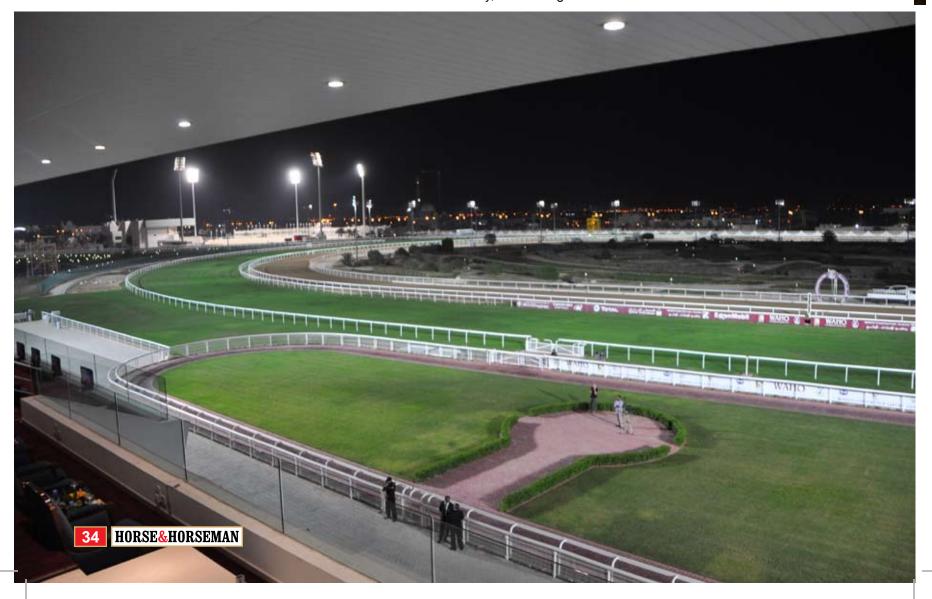
- to allow Australia to register Arabian horses in India, South Korea and Taiwan, should the need arise.
- Then the Treasurer's report for the years 2009 and 2010
- The vote to reappoint PKF (UK) as Accountants and Independent Examiners of the Organisation.
- Then reports were received from voting Delegates
- After a day of hard work for the Executive Committee member there was an invitation for an evening of Arabian Racing at Al Rayyan Park with a lovely Buffet Dinner. The races under floodlight were magical, a very special atmosphere lay over the green grass of the race track, the noble horses competing and the proud owners of the winners. The races highlighted in the WAHO Cup.
- Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> was mainly on the World Registrars' Meeting and two very interesting lectures:





- Prof Matthew Binns on:
- Advances in Equine Genetic Research and how new information can help breeders.
- This was a fascinating lecture, especially so since also the non scientist could perfectly well understand.
- Michael Bowling:

- The Paradigm has shifted, genetic testing as a positive tool for breeders.
- And last but not least there was a special presentation on "A Tribute to Living Art" by the Qatar Museum Authority and Al Shaqab, member of Qatar Foundation.
- Karen Kasper spoke on "An artist's perspective on portraying the Arabian horse from life/study, illustrating the
- ancient process of creating and casting bronze sculptures.
- Thursday also witnessed the unveiling of three bronzes of World Champion Stallions, bred and owned by Al Shaqab Stud
- Al Adeed Al Shaqab Gazal Al Shaqab
   Marwan Al Shaqab.





There were also several subjects related to scientific questions. The main topic was the genetic issue.

Afterwards the WAHO members were taken for a tour of Al Shaqab Stud.

**Friday, 4**th, had some more work for the delegates concerning the "Requirements for Establishing and Keeping a Stud Book"

Then there was HRH Princess Alia Al Hussein Al Saleh's speech on

"Relationship between Humans and Equines in Today's World"

A wonderful presentation which left many members with tears in their eyes. A Princess as an Advocate of suffering animals and poor human beings.

Then after Frances Gillespie and Mark Stickson threw light on the

#### "Natural History of Qatar"

Dr. Abdi Arif of Al Wabra Wildlife Preservation spoke on:

"The Wildlife of Qatar, preservation of desert animals"















After the Lunchbreak there were some more interesting lectures:

Dr. Samantha Brooks on: "Tips and tolls for breeders"

Cynthia Culbertson on:

"The Arabian Horse in Islamic and Orientalist Art"

Dr. Christina Hebel on:

"Conservation of desert animals and the work of the Al Wabra Wildlife Preservation' Breeding and Research Center"

This day endet in style with a Gala Dinner at the Diplomatic Club Doha where the guests were received by HH Sheikh Mohammed binFaleh Al Thani.

Saturday' 5th Nov. saw the big WAHO family following the invitation of HH Sheikh Feisal Bin Qasssim Al Thani to a wonderful Museum full with unique antiques from all over the world, from an old Damascus Town House, to American vintage and race cars, from invaluable letters from the past to modern Arabian paintings.

There was also a presentation of HH Sheikh Faisal's horses from Al Samariya



Stud, followed by a n opulent lunch.

In the afternoon there were camel races and a visit to Al Maha Stud with a dinner hosted by Sheikh Saoud bin Mohammed bin Ali Al Thani.

#### Next day, Nov. 6th

Was the holiday Eidh Al Adha with the option to go on a morning Dhow cruise and afternoon visit to Al Naif Stud with horse presentation.

On Monday, 7<sup>th</sup>, the big rain came and saw all members at the lovely Al Nasser Stud of HH Sheikh Nawaf Bin Nasser Al Thani – trying their umbrellas and raincoats. And yet, the lunch in the tent was perfect and all enjoyed it very much, thanks to the wonderful host.

Late in the afternoon the busses took the members to the next highlight : Al Shahania Stud.

1001 nichts came true, falcons and salukis saluted the guests, the ladies got the welcome henna painted on their hands and the whole ambiance was so wonderful when the horses were shown in the courtyard, successful horses each of them.





This all was topped by a special dinner on a huge lawn with "light and sound" percussionist and singers from Lebanon made many feet tapping on the ground, but no dancing!

A wonderful evening under the Qatari stars thanks to the special host, HH Sheikh Mohammed Bin Khalifa Al Thani.

Nov. 8th saw the members go to the Racing and Equestrian Club for a dressage show on Arabian horses and interesting lecture on horses "inside out", how muscles work

After this demonstration all were invited to a lunch at the QREC.

Again late afternoon the busses left for Umm Qarn Farm, a full moon was right over the owner's residence, HH Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani.

The members walked around the stables, enjozxed the lovely horses, the bedding was newspaper pieces, and went then to an exquisite dinner, flowers overall, at the entrance, on the tables. A beautiful and warm good/bye to many members.

About 48 countries participated in this more than a week/long event. It was an opportunity for all members of WAHO to

come and enjoy Qatar, which has got a rich tradition of Arabian horses.

WAHO was established in 1970. It is an umbrella organization for all Arabian stud books. A WAHO conference is a very special and unique meeting. It includes the

organizations business during the General Assembly sessions, but perhaps equally important are the social functions and tours. These have always been included ever since the first WAHO conference in Seville, Spain, back in 1972.



## **Glimpses of Equine Activities**

































# Breeding Strategies for improving Fertility in Mares

Dr. Muhammad Usman Mehmood, Fayzan Sultan Awan, Prof. Dr. Nasim Ahmad Department of Theriogenology, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan.

Agriculture and livestock play a key role in uplifting Pakistan's economy. At present, the contribution of livestock sector to the agriculture sector, 55.4% and to national GDP 11.9%. Livestock is supposed to be a source of employment generation at rural level, helping to reduce income variability. It is vital to the livelihood of the rural poor in the country. It can play a significant role in poverty alleviation and socio-economic conditions of our rural masses. About thirty five million people of the rural areas depend upon livestock for their livelihood. Equines are an important segment of our livestock.

The total equine population in Pakistan is approximately 5.5 million of which mules are about 0.2 million, horses 0.4 million and asses 4.9 million. However, the population of equines in the country is increasing day by day in view of their utility and service to humankind. Horses are used in a variety of recreational activities ranging from shows, riding and racing for those more economically driven like load pulling and mule production. Hence, these valuable animals need special attention and concern with respect to reproduction, management, wellbeing and diseases prevention and control, to ensure their soundness and usefulness.

Mares are considered to be seasonally polyestrous animals. The breeding season of mare ranges from February to April in Pakistan. However, fertility problems of mares have been niggling the horse breeders and stud-owners since long, and it comes out that the fertility status of mares in Pakistan is relatively lower than the world average. There are more than 50 breeding stud farms which have been registered under the umbrella of the Jockey Club of Pakistan (JCP). The President of Pakistan Horse Breeders Equestrian & Racing Foundation, Adil Shah observed that the quality of breeding needs to be improved in Pakistan to meet the international standards, not merely to increase the number of horses, but to also improve the breed. Now a days breeders demand for good bloodlines and pedigreed horses







Breeding mares have always been challenging. There are many factors that can reduce a mare's chances of becoming pregnant. These "mare fertility factors" are most commonly related to breeding soundness, hormonal dysfunction, season, shape, age, breed, conformation, and stress. Awareness of problems related to mare fertility has a central role in breeding management. The most common problem which needs to be rectified is the mating of mares at exact time. This can be greatly facilitated by giving hormonal treatment in order to induce ovulation. This can narrow down the window of breeding time and hence can improve the fertility. Furthermore, in some mares, because of the occurrence of early Leutinizing Hormone surges, ovulation can occur even before natural mating, causing loss of cycles. Therefore, optimization of hormonal treatments used to induce ovulation provides flexibility in time of breeding. Many veterinarians are trusting on pharmacological agents to induce ovulation at a predictable time to increase the pregnancy rates in mares.



Dr. Muhammad Usman Mehmood, lecturer, team member of UVAS 24/7 extension service

One of the most common measures for breeding management of mares involves luteolysis (lysis of corpus luteum present on the ovary that secretes progesterone) and induction of ovulation. Prostaglandin (PGF2α) or PGF analogue is being used for luteolysis. Human chorionic gonadotropin (hCG), and various Gonadotropin releasing hormone (GnRH) analogues are commercially available and are being used for ovulation induction. Effectiveness of each hormone depends upon the status of their target tissue. For example PGF2a affects only when the ovary has a functional Corpus Luteum, which can only be observed by ultrasound. These ovulation inducing hormones are extremely operational when administered to mares with a follicle size ≥ 35 mm, a relaxed cervix and with the presence of endometrial edema. The size of the Graffian follicle can be measured

and endometrial edema can be found by ultrasound, is a key tool to get maximum conception rates. This should be useful in the reproductive management of mares of high values during the breeding season. The main advantages of having ovulation at a predictable time include: one service per cycle for high demand stallions, scheduled breeding's for mares



University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences formely known as College of Veterinary Sciences, Lahore was established in 1882 as a premier Veterinary education institution in Asia

transported to stallions, fewer breeding and reduced uterine contamination, breeding/insemination close to ovulation with low fertile stallion and reduced labor

Modern techniques can help to combat reproductive and breeding issues. Use of ultrasonography in veterinary practice becomes more common after the need for early diagnosis of twin pregnancies in mares. Through reproductive tract examinationofthemarebyusingultrasound has become a standard procedure in breeding management. In addition, there are some other use of ultrasonography in equine reproduction. This includes monitoring and determining the level of the estrus cycle, early pregnancy diagnosis and diagnosis of twining, diagnosis of reproductive pathological conditions. and monitoring response to uterine therapies. Research is being conducted in Department of Theriogenology, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore on "Enhancing fertility through induction of estrus and ovulation in mares". Fall season trial of the project was done during November 2013 at Remount Stable, Renala Khurd. These mares were bred by using ovulation inducing agents, daily ultrasound examination and fix timed covering (FTC). Four out of six mares got pregnant.

Department of Theriogenology (Animal Reproduction) of the University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore is delivering the service round the province via extension service 'UVAS 24/7'. Breeders avail these services for early pregnancy testing, diagnosis of acyclicity in breeding season, and various pathological conditions that affect reproduction.



