

MARCHADOR NEWS

USMMA, Mangalarga Marchador Association for North America



Caminho do Marchador, Rancho Sr Jua, NJ

THE USMMA MISSION

The vision of USMMA is to provide leadership for establishing and promoting the Mangalarga Marchador horse breed in North America, encouraging the pursuit of excellence in bloodlines, and the welfare of its human and equine participants.

Our mission is to:

- *Inspire and encourage interest in the Mangalarga Marchador breed.*
- *Provide a registration body to insure the purity of the breed.*
- *Publish a breed standard consistent with the Brazilian standard of the ABCCMM.*
- *Encourage participation and cooperation among breeders, owners, trainers and other equine professionals in support of the Mangalarga Marchador and the USMMA goals.*
- *Affiliate and coordinate with other organizations and associations in support of the vision and mission of the USMMA.*

Join us to learn more about the Marchador breed!

Join us to promote the Marchador breed!

Join us to register your horse!

Join us to connect with other Marchador owners!

Ideas, Suggestions or Questions: The USMMA Board Members and Committee Chairs are here for you.
Contact us through our website

<http://www.namarchador.org/contact-us/>

or via email to usmmarchador@gmail.com to the President Tia Nelson, drtiadvn@aol.com

The USMMA is the recognized
affiliate of the Brazilian
Mangalarga Marchador
Association, the ABCCMM.



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USMMA NEWS

President's Letter *by Tia Nelson, DVM*

Thanksgiving. A Season of Gratitude. I have so much for which to be grateful this year!

When I decided to evacuate the Marchador herd in July due to heavy smoke from a nearby forest fire, I posted on Facebook that I was going dark for the day; that I was moving 33 Marchadors to town to escape the <500 AQI. The smoke was so thick from a far-too-close wildfire that we could see about 200 yards. Someone commented on my post asking if we needed help.

It is very hard for us to ask for help, but a quick factoring in my head of how many trips it was going to take to move all those horses made me reply, "Yes, please, if you're not busy." I got into the project of bringing the horses up to the corrals and sorting out which horses could be in a trailer with which other horses. We gathered the mares and foals in one group, the yearlings and two year olds into another, the three & four year olds into yet another, and the adults, not counting the stallions into the last group. The two stallions would stay home for the time being until I had a secure place for them.

By the time I was ready to start loading some horses, people with horse trailers started showing up. So many people with horse trailers arrived to help move the horses to safety that three trailers went home empty! I still get a little teary when I remember all those people who just dropped everything and came to help us.

As Marchador owners, we have the privilege to share our awesome breed with other horse lovers and with people who haven't ever even met a horse in real life. By helping us, a whole bunch of people had the opportunity to see what great horses these are! So many people said things like, "Wow! These horses are so calm!" "Can you believe how those foals loaded up??" "I can't wait to learn more about the Marchadors! I'm so IMPRESSED by how nice they are under stress!"

It was harrowing and crazy to have to move all those horses and they were away from the ranch for almost a week. The wildfire threatened us, but ultimately the incredible firefighters beat it. There were many, many times this year that I was overwhelmed with gratitude and most of those times were around these horses.

Take a moment from your busy day and stroke your Marchador's soft coat. Give thanks that we get to share our world with these magnificent beings.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tia Nelson, DVM, USMMA President

USMMA EVENT FUND

The USMMA is creating a separate fund earmarked for Marchador **EVENTS**. We are committed to holding more events and in different areas of the country where there are enough Marchadors to make the competition both fun and meaningful. In addition to the membership, events draw in others interested in the Mangalarga Marchador breed.

Do you have an interest in becoming a sponsor to these events and building our event fund?

MM events are happily in the works for 2025 in different locations. So far, AZ, FL, MT, NJ and TN have expressed an interest in hosting Mangalarga Marchador events. The host of the event contributes a significant effort in time and money and also works to obtain local sponsors. Our fund will provide more support where needed to the event host and also for USMMA members traveling there to compete in the event. Any contribution will be welcomed. Think of it as a GOFUNDME. \$5 is appreciated.

We will offer opportunities for the sponsors at these levels:

\$1,000 Gold Sponsor

\$ 500 Silver Sponsor

\$ 250 Bronze Sponsor

Gold Sponsor: \$1,000

Gold Sponsor: \$1,000

- Recognition of your sponsorship and link to your website on the USMMA website.
- invitation to hang a banner in the main arena and display your business cards, brochures and/or products at the MM information booth at all events. (Option to have your own booth setup)
- 2-5 free tickets to a MM event (based on pricing and what's included) Valued at \$400
- Announced as a gold **sponsor** in the opening ceremony and throughout the Caminhos do Marchador and in all 2025 planned events.
- Recognition in social media and any articles, flyers, or other publications written about the Caminhos do Marchador in NJ and in future events.

Silver Sponsor level: \$500

- Recognition of your sponsorship and link to your website on the USMMA website.
- Invitation to hang a banner in the main arena and display your business cards, brochures and/or products at the MM information booth. (Option to have your own booth setup)
- 1-3 free tickets (based on pricing and what's included). Valued at \$200.
- Announced as a silver **sponsor** in the opening ceremony and throughout the event
- Recognition in social media and any articles, flyers, or other publications written about the Caminhos do Marchador in NJ and in future events.

Bronze level: \$250

- Recognition of your sponsorship and link to your website on the USMMA website.
- Invitation to hang one banner in the main arena and display your business cards at the information booth.
- Announced as a bronze **sponsor** in the opening ceremony and throughout the event
- 1 free ticket to a MM event. Valued at \$100.
- Recognition in social media and any articles, flyers, or other publications written about the Caminhos do Marchador in NJ and in future events.

Any amount – appreciated!

- Recognition in a banner or poster to be displayed at all events – unless you wish to remain anonymous.
- Recognition of your contribution posted on the website and social media once a year, unless you wish to remain anonymous.

In-kind product or service

Sponsorship level equals the value of the item or service donated.

USMMA Annual Meeting 2024

December 15 - ZOOM MEETING with President Tia Nelson. All members are welcome to join.

The meeting agenda and announcement will be emailed to to all members and posted on social media November 1.

The ZOOM invitation will be sent to all members a few days before the meeting.

USMMA Regional Director Elections 2025-2029

We hope that many of you will volunteer to run for this important USMMA position.

This election email and details will be be out in early November with more information about the regions and the responsibilities of the Regional Directors. The Regional Directors sit on the USMMA Board of Directors. However, if you click on this link, you will get a sneak peak.

After collecting the applicants' names who would like to serve, we will have a special election edition for you to get to know them. The election will be run via electronic ballots. The members elected will be in office starting January 1, 2025.

Regional Director - more info on namarchador.org

USMMA Regional Director - more info

Preparing for 2025!

3-7 Regional Directors representing different sections of the U.S. and Canada. The regions are: Pacific, Northwest, Southwest, Midwest, Northeast, Southeast and Canada. The region are selected based on numbers of members and Marchador horses in that area. The states included in each region will be re-assessed based on number of members and numbers of Marchadors at every election year. Not every regional position needs to be filled if there are no qualified candidates or interest in that region.

To be considered for Regional Director, the individual must be an active FULL member or LIFE member for at least 60 days before the election, and be a USMMA-registered Marchador owner at the time of the election. Each Regional Director must remain an active voting member of the USMMA for the duration of their responsibility. A term will span 4 years. There are no term limits as long as the individual is willing to volunteer and is deemed capable to fill the position. Each Regional Director must submit their name to the Election Committee to be placed on the ballot and be elected by the members every four years. The first election was held in 2020.

The USMMA Regional Director elections will be staggered elections with the USMMA Officer elections so that elections are held every 2 years beginning in 2020. Regional Directors shall be full members of the Board and required to cast their vote on USMMA budgets, bylaw changes and other motions requiring a vote of the board. They are required to attend at least two Board meetings a year. The USMMA President will request resignation of the Regional Board Member should they not make the required meetings.

Regional Directors are responsible to encourage participation and cooperation among breeders, owners, trainers and other equine professionals in support of the Mangalarga Marchador and the USMMA goals within their region and to affiliate and coordinate with other local organizations and associations in support of the vision and mission of the USMMA. They are expected to try to get to know all of the USMMA members in their region and hold one Marchador or member event at least every 4 years. When a regional event is planned, the Regional Director needs to submit a plan and budget for the event to the USMMA if they are requesting funding for the event.

	States	Members (rounded)
Pacific	California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada	30
Northwest	Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska	20
Southwest	Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Texas, Colorado	50
Midwest	Oklahoma, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, Missouri, Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Louisiana, Kansas, Arkansas	10
Northeast	New England, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia	20
Southeast	Florida, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi	20
Canada/Intl	Canada (11) plus other countries (8)	20

MM Brand T-shirts - for sale

Only a few left! Order yours today before this promotion is gone.

Here are the sizes we have: 2 M, 2 L, 5 XL, 3 XXL

Order online on namarchador.org.

USMMA EVENTS

Caminhos do Marchador - The paths of the Marchador

August 30, 31, and September 1st – this became a reality at Rancho Sr. Jua, Bridgeton, NJ. It happened! Lots of planning, lots of participation and they did it!

This ABCCMM Competition is designed to show off some of the best attributes of the Marchador breed with 4 separate events:

- a distance ride similar to endurance with vet checks for soundness at the start and finish
- an arena course with obstacles similar to Working Equitation
- gaiting competition in the arena
- trail ride, this time where the judge tries each horse for comfort & training

Here are the top results of the Caminhos do Marchador! Congratulations! For the official class list and all rankings that includes scores and points, please contact us.

Calvagada – Women

- 1 YASMIM ANJO SOARES SILVA – DEUSA DO SAINT HORSE
- 2 ELIZABETH SIMS – LEALDADE FOUR SEASONS
- 3 BRISA CELESTE GREENE – TERRA I DO SAINT HORSE – DQ

Calvagada – Open (top 3)

- 1 DIOGO ALVES – FERNANDO VISTA DA SERRA
- 2 LUCAS MARTINS DE OLIVEIRA – CHEROKEE IMPERIO AMARELO
- 3 WALLACE FERREIRA SOUZA – ESPERANÇA DO ZEL

Calvagada – Men (top 3)

- 1 JEFFERSON COTA DE ALMEIDA – DESAFIO VISTA DA SERRA
- 2 RILION GRACE – CERVANTES VISTA DA SERRA

- 3 ELTON JHONY RIBEIRO – ECHO VISTA DA SERRA

Obstacles – Women

- 1 ELIZABETH SIMS – LEADALDE FOUR SEASONS 00:02:41
- 2 YASMIM ANJO SOARES SILVA – DEUSA DO SAINT HORSE 23:59:59.599

Obstacles – Open

- 1 MARCIO DA SILVA TEIXEIRA – FAVORITA DO MINEIRÃO 0 00:01:48
- 2 GUSTAVO MATIAS DE SOUZA – HÚNGARO DO PORTO PALMEIRA 0 00:01:57
- 3 DIOGO ALVES – FERNANDO VISTA DA SERRA 00:01:49

Obstacles – Men

- 1 RILION GRACE – CERVANTES VISTA DA SERRA 00:02:02 00:00:00
- 2 RONALDO SABINO DOS SANTOS – ECLIPSE VISTA DA SERRA 00:02:29
- 3 JEFFERSON COTA DE ALMEIDA – DESAFIO VISTA DA SERRA 00:02:30

Marcha Batida – Stallions

- 1 DIOGO ALVES – FERNANDO VISTA DA SERRA OPEN
- 2 SAMUEL FERNANDES PEREIRA – NAIRE DAS ÁGUAS JM MEN

Marcha Batida – Mares

- 1 MARCIO DA SILVA TEIXEIRA – FAVORITA DO MINEIRÃO OPEN
- 2 WALLACE FERREIRA SOUZA – ESPERANÇA DO ZEL OPEN
- 3 ALAN REZENDE VILAÇA – IZABELLA DA MORADA NOVA OPEN

Marcha Batida – Geldings

- 1 GUSTAVO MATIAS DE SOUZA – HÚNGARO DO PORTO PALMEIRA OPEN
- 2 ELTON JHONY RIBEIRO – ECHO VISTA DA SERRA MEN
- 3 RONALDO SABINO DOS SANTOS – ECLIPSE VISTA DA SERRA MEN

Marcha Picada – Stallions

- 1 RILION GRACE – CERVANTES VISTA DA SERRA MEN
- 2 SHINAYDER GOMES DA SILVA – FRISCO VISTA DA SERRA MEN

Marcha Picada – Mares

- 1 ELIZABETH SIMS – LEALDADE FOUR SEASONS
- 2 YASMIM ANJO SOARES SILVA – DEUSA DO SAINT HORSE

Marcha Picada – Geldings

- 1 JEFFERSON COTA DE ALMEIDA – DESAFIO VISTA DA SERRA MEN
- 2 GLEIDSON BATISTA COELHO DE LANA – DOMINIO VISTA DA SERRA MEN

Why is it the first OFFICIAL ABCCMM Competition?

The USMMA has held many competitions based on ABCCMM competitions – 2012 in Ocala FL, 2014 in Helena MT, 2021 in Scottsdale AZ. This August is our FIRST OFFICIAL ABCCMM competition.

First, it is because the USMMA was recognized as an ABCCMM nucleo – a chapter that can host official events.

Second, we had a breeder willing to put in the extra work required to qualify – notifying the ABCCMM to place the dates on the ABCCMM calendar, getting their Board to vote to support the event and getting enough riders and horses to meet the requirement for number of participants.

Third, there is a combined effort from ABCCMM, USMMA organizers and show sponsors

What does OFFICIAL mean?

In short, it means that the ABCCMM is giving us support. They are paying to fly 3 judges to the US to judge the events. They provide the vests for participants and have given us all of the ribbons and awards for the top contestants. In addition they are providing equipment for precision timing and GPS devices for every rider during the distance ride.

The USMMA is also providing support, but in the past, we were responsible for funding everything. It is great to have the ABCCMM support as we move ahead. There are more rules to follow and boxes to check to confirm that the event and the horses are being handled correctly to the ABCCMM.

What can we expect in the future?

More events!

We will probably continue to have the mix – USMMA events that are not official ABCCMM events and official ABCCMM events. The ABCCMM events require much more planning, scheduling and safety precautions. And a minimum number of 20 horses in the event. There are only certain states that have enough Mangalarga Marchadors in the state or in states nearby for the event to be official. There are many ABCCMM events to choose from, not just the Caminhos do Marchador.

Already, we have interest in trying from Florida, Tennessee and Arizona. Arizona's event is in planning for February 2025.

This Rancho Sr Jua show/event is a great addition to the ways that we are getting out with our Marchadors, whether that be a sport or pleasure. We know Marchadors in mounted archery, endurance riding, working equitation, jumping or liberty training. Our competitions will be just another venue to show the world the versatility, beauty and comfortable movements of the Mangalarga Marchador.

We want to reach as many people as possible to grow and expand the breed by expanding the number of markets and interest groups. Recently, we have been seeing new ones being added. The new Brazilian breeders have contributed greatly to the number of Marchadors here and in new states and in most cases, adding to the genetic diversity of the breed here with new imports, sometimes from their breeding program in Brazil. There has been more activity on an international level with Europe and other countries with some breeders. We are starting to see younger riders and owners who we need for the future.

Let's go!













ABCCMM Inspection and Official Event - Themed Calvagada

Early 2025, we are in Phoenix, Arizona and Corpus Christi, Texas with Dr. George Vilar. Planning for January 29-February 3. More states and farms may be added too. This event is often open to the public.

There will be a foal inspection - PROVISIONAL. This inspection visit will be for Kadencia's foal Steele do Summerwind. There will also be a riding inspection - DEFINITIVE. Measurements, angles and riding take place for 2 stallions and 4 mares: Padawan do Summerwind, AZ; Paloma do Summerwind; Qupid do Summerwind, AZ, Olivia do Summerwind, TX and Paris do Summerwind, TX. Qyra do Summerwind is tentative, but will probably not be ready for this visit.

In Arizona, we will have some additional events the weekend of February 1-2. The long ride (cavalgada) is a themed ride, which means a ride made special by the theme - the date, the place, full moon or some cause.

We would like this to be an official ABCCMM event.. Part of that is following their regulations, one of which is to have an official judge and the required number of horses participating.

More details about the ride in the next newsletter as plans are finalized.

SAVE THE DATES!!!

MEMBER NEWS

In Memory - Elba Cruzalta 1997-2024 by Lynn Kelley

We lost Elba Cruzalta in March. One of the original imported horses from Brazil, she was a special girl. Many people rode her to feel the great picada gait that felt like floating above the ground. She was healthy until the very end. It was a very sad day for everyone who had known her - or her offspring. Please take a moment to honor her and read her memorial - with her story and more photos!

Contributions from Jeff and Michelle Bosley, Carolina Peterson and Lynn Kelley.

PDF FILE ATTACHED SEPARATELY.

Go Leo!! by Connie Claire

A Marchador made it into the record books Mounted Archery in the US! Connie Claire competing with her Marchador gelding Leo (aka DaVinci do Summerwind) is ranked 7th in the U.S.

On the Hunt course, they excel – just seconds behind Elizabeth Tinnan, the US #1. Connie's time is the third fastest ever recorded in this event!

“The coolest thing to me is we make the record book!!!! You know how I told you Leo is super good at the hunt? Well, we have the 3rd highest score ever in the US!!! I'm serious, he is so smart. He's like, “I got this mom” and he does all the work and takes me around exactly where I asked when we did our walkthrough!!! He is AMAZING!!! He truly is a team player!!!! “

Connie has worked hard to achieve her goals and she always credits Leo and the partnership they have. In past years rankings they were ranked #34, but have steadily moved up. In 2023, Connie was named to the US team to compete in Mongolia (using a borrowed horse, not Leo).

Connie and her husband Doren own, operate, teach and run events at their facility [Archer's Point](#), Dunellon, Florida. Connie owns 2 other MMs, Dragao Vista da Serra and Hallelujah do Saint Horse, both younger and hopefuls to follow in Leo's footsteps.

Ranking: United States National Ranking - short

Category: mixed

Open: 1/1/16

click on header to sort

type something to search

Place	Name	Surname	Country	Horses	Raid	Tower Hunt	Total
1	Elizabeth	Tinnan	United States	CHA Baby, CHA Chilled Gold, Cash (Winner), Copy (HCR), DHMA Apollo, Devil de hola, Manek (Tele), Noitar Khoro Aag, Stella (HCR)	150.13	585.00	1:09.74 520.87
2	Bethany	Rick	United States	CHA Baby, Cash (Winner), DHMA Gatsby, DHMA Poet, DHMA Sally Shubie, Haxmat, Khonger Khazon, Khonger Khazan, Mikkekhan, Stark	154.40	300.00	1:44.54 505.04
3	Greg	Ogburn	United States	Tiku	120.81	872.84	1:07.17 520.84
4	Chris	Hoffman	United States	Hymer (BCMA), Clifton, DHMA Sally Shubie, Cumby, Luka, Ponche (GF), Rony, Zav Kharon Aag	153.71	354.88	1:51.56 500.22
5	Heather	Lorne	United States	Bruno de Gousseux, CHA Baby, DHMA Gatsby, DHMA Sally Shubie, Oupplea (HCR), Dawn, Sari Zwaard, Stark, Stella (HCR), Tiku	175.59	362.42	1:21.50 459.61
6	Frank	Oliver	United States	Isabel, Mr. Independence, Northerly Magdalena	150.14	345.54	1:05.10 490.84
7	Connie	Caine	United States	Chocolate (Mongrel), L'Amour De Summerland, L'Amour de Summerland, Leo	151.67	872.10	1:05.10 410.67
8	Tu	Marshall	United States	DHMA JJ, Igoi Khoro Aag, Molokanah	152.27	335.18	1:29.55 404.71
9	Darin	Caine	United States	AP Scooby, DHMA Poet	153.40	324.14	1:14.90 407.44
10	Joey	Ogburn	United States	, Hani	140.13	150.80	83.75 363.82
11	Anwar	Adams	United States	DHMA Clous, DHMA JJ, HCRN Prince	140.85	362.90	74.10 377.85
12	Wyatt	Jennings	United States	Bridy, Zandar Jennings	152.70	315.90	1:07.33 369.42
13	Dan	Hansen	United States	DHMA Clous, Midnight	130.83	93.34	143.39 363.18
14	Carmen	Frederick	United States	DHMA Clous, DHMA Poet, Remington's Gold, Uter, Uter (BCMA)	143.93	94.25	112.21 350.39
15	Connor	Vukelich	United States	DHMA Clay, Remington's Gold, Sharge Khazon	158.49	320.68	83.08 344.25
16	Morgan	Chapman	United States	CHA Baby, CHA Chilled Gold, Stark	151.21	302.80	81.70 334.81
17	Nadine	Evans	United States	DHMA Jack, Gypsy, I Vado (LJ), Petenoch, Stark	130.54	320.46	84.74 331.74
18	Cameron	Montez	United States	Ender, Yoda	117.06	315.21	103.58 337.05
19	Judy	Ogburn	United States	CHA Baby, DHMA Poet, Gracie (PHA), Rony, Stella, Stella (HCR), Whiskey (Winner)	154.35	314.19	74.87 329.32
20	Esti	Ericsson	United States	Briches 13, CHA Chilled Gold, DHMA Brody, DHMA Clous, DHMA JJ, DHMA Sally Shubie, Cumby	151.47	87.50	94.94 313.70
21	Emma	Stammen	United States	Iber	130.14	82.57	94.82 313.34
22	Barry	Green-Alley	United States	CHA Baby, Baby (Baby), Taka, Haxmat, Stark, Stella (HCR)	150.20	320.75	97.52 317.85
23	Addie	Sowell	United States	Cash (Winner), Emily	114.51	98.08	140.42 311.01
24	Caleb	Wills	United States	Brody, DHMA Grimm	116.50	88.21	104.82 309.73
25	Carol	Queen	United States	DeltaSecret(Treasure (Sparkle), Evil Queen, Treasure(SugarGlaze (Sugar)	119.68	86.47	98.17 304.31
26	John	Nant	United States	DHMA Clous, DHMA Jack, DHMA Poet, DHMA Sally Shubie	153.75	88.52	85.60 304.87
27	Jennifer	Lawson	United States	Er Trumpet	141.89	71.21	91.52 304.60
28	Tina	Ring	United States	CHA Baby, DHMA Clous, DHMA Coffee, Conall	122.40	308.86	83.73 303.03
29	Amy	Hays	United States	JLO	110.40	301.17	83.63 300.03
30	Diana	Tracy	United States	Midnight, Outlaw	74.18	300.82	123.50 298.78
31	Chris	Palton	United States	Bella, Bella (Palton)	100.09	71.22	90.50 291.80
32	Eric	Green	United States	Eric Green (Eric Green)	80.00	300.00	100.00 280.00



US National Ranking Hunt 2*

1. Elizabeth Tinnan - 10/22 - 86.725
2. Chris Heffernan - 6/23 - 84.115
3. Connie Claire - 6/23 - 84.085
4. Kent Battenfield - 5/21 - 83.14
5. Greg Ogburn-10/23-80.76

Breed to the Best *submitted by Ronald Knaack*

I met Lynn Kelley in 2015 at the PBR Finals in Las Vegas. She was showing some Mangalarga Marchadors to the public. I could tell from my first look they were a beautiful gaited breed and the rest is history. I became a breeder.

I searched America for the best mares I could find and purchase. I started with Crensa and Sabela. I then purchased some frozen semen from a champion stallion in Brazil from Lynn.



Jaguar da Boa Terra





Bandit do High Country



Apache do High Country



Apache and Cheyenne do High Country.



Talisma Kafe

Talisma Kafe was my choice of stallions because I always believed “breed to the best and forget the rest.” My first colt was Apache do High Country and he was born in my lap. He grew up to be a good looking stallion, so I started showing him in California. He ended up winning a couple of grand championships which got the attention of a Marchador breeder in Germany. Apache made history the day his frozen semen was approved and shipped to the breeder in Germany. It had never been done before.

Just recently, the same German breeder decided to take another High Country Marchador yearling stud colt. We sent Bandit do High Country to Texas to be tested and shipped by plane to Germany. The Germans like my breeding program and are going to spread the word in Europe about the High Country Marchadors and their breeding program.

In 2024 we continued our breeding program by importing new frozen semen from Brazil, Jaguar Da Boa Terra. We will be hand-picking some of our mares for Jaguar and we have a small supply available for sale to anyone interested in improving their Marchadors with new lines.

Always remember when creating a new product, do the best so the next generation is better than the last. I consider us still in infancy of breeding Marchadors in North America. Now is the time to breed the basic products for an outstanding future product.

Again, breed to the best and forget the rest.

Ronald and Nancy Knaack own and operate High Country Marchadors in Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

Working Equitation Invite! *by Randy Gassett*

My Marchador Nobre do Summerwind and I will be competing at this Arizona event. If anyone wants to come watch to learn more about a Marchador or about Working Equitation, this would be a great place to start.

It's the Arizona Working Equitation finals (AZWEC)!

AZWEC finals will be held December 6th through the 8th at Chaparrosa Ranch, 31316 N 152nd Street in Scottsdale AZ.

This is a multi -day show.



Tentative Schedule:

Friday December 6th

8am to 1pm - Competitor move in and set up

2pm to 6pm - Dressage Trial All Levels

Saturday December 7th

8am to 5pm Dressage continued

Ease of Handling (obstacles) all Levels

4:30 to 6:30 Social and Level 1 awards

Sunday December 8th

8am to 3pm Speed Competition (obstacles)

3:30 to 4pm Awards

4pm to 6pm - Move out and clean up

Working equitation is a competitive equestrian sport that combines traditional riding techniques with modern elements to test the skills of horse and rider:

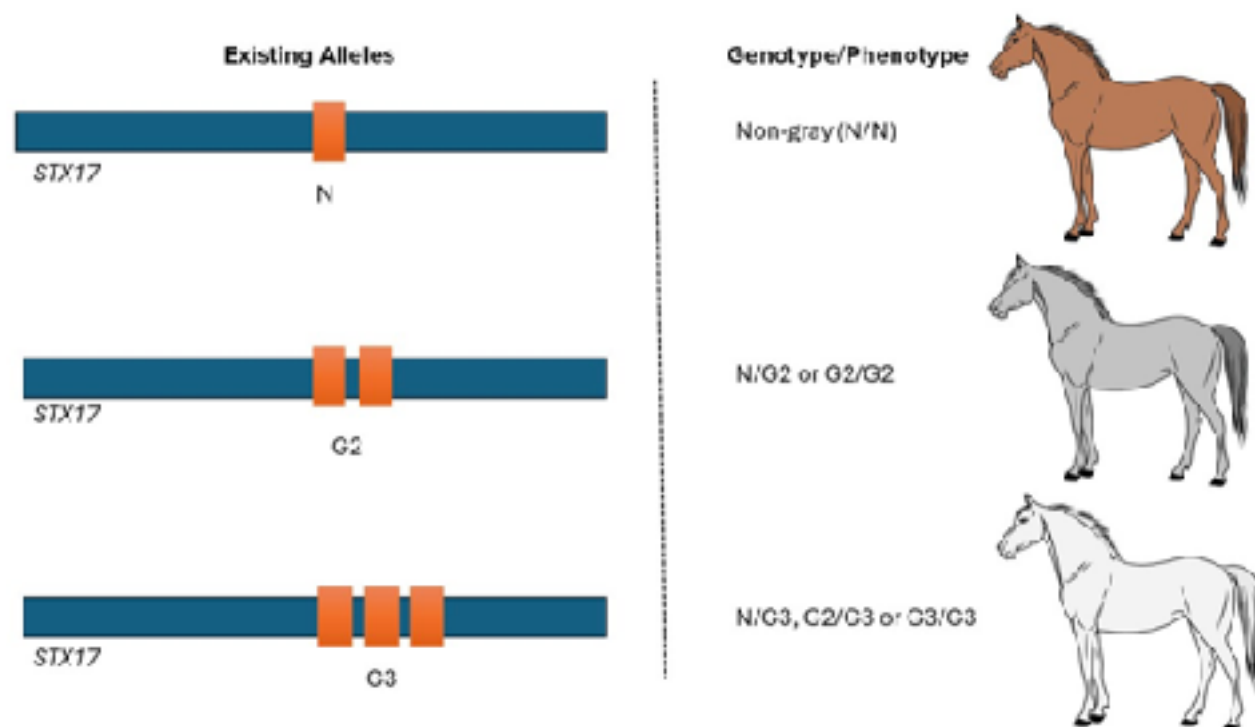
- What it is. A challenging sport that evaluates the horse's temperament and training, the rider's skill, and the relationship between the two. It also showcases traditional riding styles,

costumes, and equipment from different countries.

- How it's judged. Judges use a scoring rubric similar to dressage, with each maneuver scored on a scale of 0–10. Judges also provide collective marks at the end of each phase.
- What it involves. The competition has four sections: dressage, ease of handling, speed, and cattle trials. Some obstacles include a slalom with parallel poles, and a cattle trial where riders work in teams to move a specific cow to a pen.
- Where it originated Working equitation originated in Europe, with the first European Championship in 1996. The World Association for Working Equitation (WAVE) was established in 2004. The United States has its own national organization, the USAWE, which was formed in 2020.
- Who it's for. Working equitation is inclusive, welcoming riders from all disciplines and horses of all breeds.

SPECIAL FEATURES

Horse Genetics, the Grey Gene - from UC Davis



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Figure 1: Figure showing the different alleles reported in the new Gray Copy Number test.

There is new knowledge about the gray coat color based on the latest research. We will be updating our testing to reflect this knowledge.

As you likely know, the initial cause of graying in horses was reported as a 4.6 kilobase duplication in intron 6 of the Syntaxin 17 (STX17) gene. The new research study that we were involved in determined that in some horse's gray is caused by the duplication (two copies), as previously published, but in other cases it is caused by a triplication (three copies). The triplication is the most common allele across horse breeds.

You can find more information about this study [here](#) and we will have more information on our website when the test is launched.

The previous gray test reported alleles as N (non-gray) or G (gray). The new alleles are defined as G2 (duplication) or G3 (triplication), see Figure 1. Because horses have two copies of every chromosome, they can technically have two, three, four, five, or six copies of this DNA region. Horses with the G3 allele gray at a faster rate and have a higher incidence of melanoma than those with the G2 allele.

To keep our testing consistent with the science we will soon be discontinuing our previous Gray test and will be replacing it our Gray Copy Number test to report the copy number detected and when resolvable which alleles are present. What I mean by when resolvable, horses with 4 copies could be N/G3 or G2/G2 and at this time the technology doesn't allow us to determine this for every case.

Your contract price for the Grey Copy Number test will be \$45 if you choose to add it to your contract.

New results will be:

N/N = "Does not have the duplication or triplication that causes gray. The horse will not gray. The N allele is also known as G1."

N/G2 = "One copy of the duplication (G2) associated with slow graying and low incidence of melanoma. Horse will gray."

G2/G3 = "One copy of the triplication (G3) and one copy of the duplication (G2). G3 is associated with fast graying and high incidence of melanoma. Horse will gray."

G3/G3 = "Two copies of the triplication (G3). G3 is associated with fast graying and high incidence of melanoma. Horse will gray."

4 copies = (N/G3 or G2/G2)= "Unresolvable-four copies detected. The horse either has one copy of the triplication (G3) OR two copies of the duplication (G2). Horse will gray."

This new test will be available as an additional test for the same price (\$45) for samples on file, including those that were previously tested for the gray test that will be discontinued.

The gray test that is now a part of our coat color panels will still remain as a presence/absence test and this test will also be available to order on it is own for a contracted rate of \$40

- present which means a grey allele was detected and horse will turn gray or
- absent in which neither of the gray alleles were detected and therefore the horse will not turn gray.

Our target date to launch the test is November 7th.

Rebecca Bellone, Ph.D.

Director, Veterinary Genetics Laboratory

Professor, Department of Population Health and Reproduction

UC Davis School of Veterinary Medicine