

Swedish news, March 2013

Dressage

The 2012 competition season has been brought to an end and among the dressage ponies four purebred Connemaras finished among the 100 dressage ponies gaining the most competition points. Most successful of them all was the Blue Eyed Cream Tic Tac (out of Köhls Rapsodi). A son of Countach Campbell, Tic Tac competed and won at the highest national level and had the fifth most dressage points among ponies of all breeds.

As always the blood of Rory Ruadh was easy to find among the top dressage Connemaras. Backens Lotus (by the Elite stallion Rolls Royce out of Princess Jasmin) and the stallion Golden Garlic (by Juno Rory out of Ambrosia) are both grandsons of Rory Ruadh. They were placed second and fourth respectively among the Connemaras and 35th and 99th respectively among all breeds. The fourth Connemara on the top 100 was Köhls Evelina (by Shirley's Thunderbell out of Hagens Ellina) placed 76th overall. Evelina also has strong family ties with the other ponies sharing paternal grandsire with Tic Tac and maternal grandsire (Blue Chief) with Backens Lotus.

The competition season of 2013 has only just begun with a few competitions held, but a look into the pedigrees of the ponies gaining the most dressage points makes for some interesting reading. In 53rd place we have Hagalyckans Choice (out of Köhls Polka) by Blue Chief (maternal grandsire of Köhls Evelina and Backens Lotus) with Pommac, the



Figure 1: Tic Tac (by Countach Campbell out of Köhls Rapsodi), highest ranking dressage Connemara in 2012, and 5th overall. *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*



Figure 2: Glendun Lad (by Moyans Little Monkey out of Murphy Blue), third best Connemara in eventing 2012. *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*

maternal grandsire of Tic Tac as his maternal grandsire. In 59th place we have a son of Juno Rory, Lidens Cap Rory (out of Lidens Caprifol), who has Countach Campbell, the sire of Tic Tac as his maternal grandsire. Countach Campbell is also the sire of Carmen Belle (out of Amorosa) who is currently in place 56. The highest ranking Connemara so far in place 27 is Okay Cosmos (by Cannon out of Iowa).

Eventing

Four Connemaras took eventing points in 2012. At the age of 20 the stallion Nice-n'-Curly (by the Elite stallion Nice-n'-Easy out of Corinne II) was the Connemara with the most eventing points and he took a creditable 6th among all breeds. Second among the Connemaras was the Danish born Enghøjs Mac Neal (by Frederiksminde Hazy Marvel out of Enghøjs Queenie) and third another import, Glendun Lad coming here from Ireland. The fourth Connemara to take eventing points was Bränntomts Julius (by Aladdin) out of the 2005 national show supreme champion Juvelin. Two partbred Connemaras also took eventing points in 2012, Mareld (out of Milldred) and Casper (by Cannon), finishing fifth among all breeds and winning the silver at the Swedish championships.



Figure 3: Poetic Annie (by Poetic Justice out of Myrens Anitra), highest ranking show jumping Connemara in 2012. *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*

Show Jumping

No less than 12 purebred Connemaras and 6 partbreds could be found among the 100 ponies with the most showjumping points in 2012. Poetic Annie (by Poetic Justice out of Myrens Anitra) has for many years been a household name in pony showjumping. In 2012 she won the Swedish indoors Championships, she was third in the popular Ridsport Pony Cup and participated in the Nordic Championships. She was the Connemara taking the most show jumping points and fourth among all breeds. Two more Swedish bred purebred Connemaras made the top 100: Phalcon (by Öxenholm Marble Jr out of Gräns Lädý Stella) in place 68 and Holmtebo Our Winnie (by Hagens Zephyr out of Hagens Ultra) in place 79.

The Irish bred Connemaras show a range of bloodline. Highest placed among the Irish bred was Lexus Justice (by Westside Fred out of Dunamoney Lass) in 21st place who among other things was fourth at the Ridsport Pony Cup finals. Another household name on the Swedish pony circuit is Sceilig Siofra (by Deise Sam Maguire out of Gentle Jessie) who this year finished 42nd. Tullamore Dew (out of Heather Beauty) in 56th place is by Monaghanstown Fred, a son of Lexus Justice's sire Westside Fred. Some Man for One Man (by Ashfield Bobby Sparrow out of Misty Maiden) finished 2012 in 59th place with the new name Who's Aero (by Moy Hazy Cove out of Liathgan Ros) in place 69.

French Connemara ponies have had another successful year in 2012. Ix de l'Aulne (by Dexter Leam Pondi out of Castille de l'Aulne) has been among the Swedish pony elite for many years now, and in 2012 he was the Connemara winning the second most show jumping points finishing 8th among all breeds. During 2012 he won a bronze at the Swedish



Figure 4: Dale Smoggy (by Dale Haze out of Nancy Sinatra). *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*

Championships and participated in the European Championships. Ix's half brother Ice and Fire d'Albran (by Dexter Leam Pondi out of Underline of Laps) finished in 28th place. The new Class 1 stallion Idefix du Villon (by Quignon du Parc out of Hilda des Ludes) finished as number 39 and was very popular with the mare owners, being one of the Connemara stallions servicing most mares in 2012. The last Frenchman to make top 100 was Lover de Vauper (by Thunder du Blin out of Daphné de la Dive).

Looking at the first results from 2013 we find both familiar faces and a couple of new names among the ponies starting the season well. Poetic Annie is presently the Connemara with the most show jumping points and we also find Lover de Vauper, Ice and Fire d'Albran, Phalcon and Some Man for One Man among the 100 first. Westside Padraig (by Westside Fred out of Aran Suzy) did not make the top 100 last year, but has been a reliable show jumper at the highest level of many years. Among the Swedish bred are Dale Smoggy (out of Nancy Sinatra) by the Elite stallion Dale Haze and the interesting new name Lofty Rose of Tralee (by Coosheen Finbarr out of Lofty Rowallane Rose) who in 2012 won the Swedish Connemara Championships for her height category. From Ireland we have the nine-year-old Ceolan (by Loughlum Sadat out of Bonny) and the interesting new name Silver Shadow (by Cloonisle Cashel out of Poetic Moonlight) who was imported to Sweden last year.

Stallion Inspections

Even when held during a very cold March, stallion inspections are always a sure spring sign. This year nine stallions came forward for inspection, six three-year-olds and three older stallions, and two could be passed as Class 1 stallions. The three-year-old Aramos

Luxor (out of Rodbella) is a son of Clifden de l'Aulne who was leased to Sweden for the 2009 covering season. With his sires show jumping talent and a second dose of jumping genes from his great grandsire Ashfield Sparrow it is no surprise Luxor scored well on the loose jumping.

Also the second new class 1 stallion, Bränntomts Garfield has an interesting pedigree. He is by Garryhack Frederick, a stallion who has been used sparingly in Sweden, but who both has competed successfully himself and left at least three grade A jumpers among his offspring in Ireland. Dam of Garfield is Juvelin, the 2005 Supreme Champion at the national show making Garfield a half brother of the above mentioned Bränntomts Julius. Juvelin is in turn a half sister of the eventing stallion Nice-n'-Curly and Garfield's dam line is a succession of mares consistently breeding good performance ponies. True to his pedigree also Garfield scored well in his jumping.

The offspring of previous Class 1 stallions were also reviewed and two stallions could be given their premiums. Castleside JJ has offspring doing well both in Ireland and in Sweden and he was given an A premium for conformation and a B premium for performance. The above mentioned Silver Shadow came last year to Sweden from Italy and he could now receive an A premium for conformation. Silver Shadow is ridden by the same rider as Idefix du Villon. Hopefully both boys will be available to mare owners and together with the new Class 1 stallions of the year there should be no shortage of jumping genes to try if breeding Connemaras in 2013.

/Jenny Hagenblad



Figure 5: Castleside JJ (by Westside Mirah out of Errislannon Hollyhock), A premium for progeny conformation, B premium for progeny performance. *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*