

Swedish news, October 2013

Dressage

The days are getting shorter and colder and we're seeing the end of the outdoor seasons and most intense part of competing for the ponies. Two purebred Connemaras have done particularly well in dressage this year and are currently among the top 100 dressage ponies. Highest ranking of the two is Okay Cosmos (by Cannon out of Iowa) who is taking dressage points for his fourth year, progressively getting better and currently ranking number 38. In place 70 is the Blue Eyed Cream Tic Tac (by Countach Campbell out of Köhls Rapsodi), who was last year's highest ranking Connemara. Also among the 100 highest ranking dressage ponies, currently in place 94, is the part bred Poetic Poetry, sired by Poetic Justice who is best known for his offsprings' ability to jump. At the Swedish Connemara championships the Danish import Pilgaards Jason (by Hesselholts Leeroy out of Kaervangs Candie) was the one to go home with the championship title.

Eventing

There are presently three purebred Connemaras with eventing points this year. The most successful so far is the Danish import Camelia (by Öxenholm Godot out of Elmely's Sweet Caroline) who is ranking 33rd. Just behind her is another new eventing name, Hagens Earl (by Hagens Ryan out of Hagens Amy) who was the Swedish Connemara show jumping



Figure 1: Poetic Poetry (by Poetic Justice), highest ranking partbred Connemara in dressage. *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*



Figure 2: Lidens Cap Bell Amoure (by Uranus out of Lidens Caprifol) Swedish Connemara champion in eventing 2013. *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*

champion last year. The third Connemara with eventing points is Moon Struck (u Moon Light). This ten-year-old mare has inherited the eventing gene from her sire, Uranus who had a long successful eventing career in his days crowned with gold medals at Swedish and Nordic eventing Championships. Moon Struck's half brother Lidens Cap Bell Amoure (u Lidens Caprifol) is also eventing and took the title Swedish Connemara Champion in eventing earlier this year. Two part bred Connemaras with eventing points are Mareld (out of Mildred) and the grand old gentleman Casper (by Cannon) who at the age of 20 is not yet ready to call his career over. In the eventing ranking he is currently at place 28.

Show Jumping

Two Connemara ponies represented Sweden in the European show jumping championships this year. Some Man for One Man (u Misty Maiden) is an Irish bred pony by the renowned show jumping sire Ashfield Bobby Sparrow. Ix de l'Aulne (by Dexter Leam Pondi out of Castille de l'Aulne) represented Sweden for an amazing 7th time and finished 18th in the individual final.

Ix is also presently the highest ranking jumping Connemara in 7th place. Just behind him in 8th place is Poetic Annie (by Poetic Justice out of Myrens Anitra) still going strong at the age of 19. This year she yet again participated in the Swedish show jumping championship. Poetic Justice is also the sire of the part bred Poetic Superman in 97th

place and the grandsire of another part bred, Brad Pitt (out of Poetics Bride) in 56th place.

Three Irish bred Connemaras are currently among the 100 highest ranking show jumping ponies. Birchgrove Diamond (by Kilmore Diamond out of Daisy Hollow) is presently in place 51, Tullamore Dew (by Monaghanstown Fred out of Heather Beauty) is in place 80 and Westside Padraig (by Westside Fred out of Aran Suzy), at the age of 20 is in 86th place. There are also three more Swedish-bred part bred Connemaras on the top 100; Hip Hop (by Pommac) in place 56, Jamilia (out of Grytåsa Ketty) in place 68 and Arienzo (by Kamillo af Haga) in place 75. As in the dressage and eventing a range of bloodlines are represented among the top performance ponies this year.

Driving

Dale Haze is perhaps best known as the sire of Hazy Dawn and thus the root of the Hazy ponies. He was, however, in his days a successful eventer and has sired many good performance ponies in eventing, dressage and show jumping. He can now add another feather to his cap as his son Lovöns Diezel (by Dale Haze out of Lindens Metina) has been competing successfully in harness this year.



Figure 3: Some Man for One Man (by Ashfield Bobby Sparrow out of Misty Maiden), European championship participant. *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*



Figure 4: Kulan Kavát (by Countach Campbell out of Carnaby Kajsa Kavát), Allround champion at 2013 national show. *Photo: Jenny Hagenblad*

National show

This year's national Connemara show was held in southern Sweden at what has been called Sweden's most beautiful show grounds. The numbers were down this year, most likely because the Swedish Connemara championships were held at separate venues, but there were some good ponies coming forward. Saturday saw the classes for geldings, ridden and WHP classes. Champion gelding was Kárringkulla Jaymes (by Coosheen Finbarr out of Jaynie) and the stallion Kulan Kavát (by Countach Campbell out of Carnaby Kajsa Kavát) won both the open ridden class and the open WHP and was subsequently crowned allround champion of the show.

During Sunday the remainder of the in-hand classes were being judged. Arda's Cor Caroli (by Hagens O'Chief out of Arda's Bailey) took the youngstock championship with Big's Cha Cha Cha (by Clifden de l'Aulne) as reserve, both three-year-old fillies. Cha Cha Cha's dam Lofty Abigail was awarded a gold for her progeny group consisting of three young offspring out of three different stallions. The mare classes saw some strong contestants and the best veteran and grand old lady of the day, Baronesse (by Öxenholm Marble Jr out of Brigitte) took the Supreme Championship at the age of 20. Reserve Supreme Champion was Lofty Deirdre (by Dexter Leam Pondi out of Beezies Bounty) with the winner of the foal class, Lofty Design (by Idefix du Villon) at her side.

Young pony activities

During the spring and summer young Connemaras have participated in various young pony activities. In the three-year-old tests Clifden de l'Aulne (by Gold Fort out of Payse de l'Aulne), leased from France for the 2009 breeding season, has two daughters with awards for both gaits and jumping - the above mentioned Big's Cha Cha Cha and Lofty Hopsy Daisy, out of Beezies Bounty and thus a half sister to Lofty Deirdre, the reserve supreme champion at the national show. The progeny of Hagens D'Arcy (by Hagens O'Chief out of Hagens Morning) continue to do well at the three year-old-tests and this year one of his offspring was given a gaits award and one double awards. The remaining Connemaras with three-year-old awards this year were sired by D'Arcy's sire Hagens O'Chief (by Blue Chief out of Ashfield Fancy), the old dressage star Juno Rory (by Rory Ruadh out of Brantshammar Julie) and Sjödalens Magnet (by Aladdin out of Sjödalens Magnolia).

At the quality tests, which is primarily aimed at four-year-olds, Hagens Zephyr (by Hagens Ryan out of Ashfield Fancy) had a good year with two of his sons winning awards, one for jumping and one for gaits. Hagens D'Arcy, Starrhult Bossanova (by Spinway Corona out of Hagens Paloma) and another old dressage stallion, Brolötens Grafit (by Lambay Inver out of Brolötens Chanel) each had a progeny given a gaits award while Grange Flynn Sparrow (by Ashfield Festy out of Grange Agnes Sparrow) had sired the second Connemara earning a jumping award.

For the young ponies the year finishes with the national young pony finals where the best young ponies of all breeds compete against each other. Among the four-year-olds Holmtebo Noula (by Starrhult Bossanova out of Holmtebo Nimble) took a creditable third place in the dressage for the largest ponies. The biggest Connemara successes came, however, in the young pony championships in show jumping. Among the largest six-year-olds the winner was the part bred Poetics Irish Cream (by Poetic Justice). Poetic Justice was also the sire of the winner of the largest five-year-olds, Bjennesby Fergi (out of Hagens Ninnie). Fergi also won her class at last year's finals. The five-year-old's jumping finals turned out to be a clean sweep for the Connemaras who won also the class for smaller ponies. There the winner was Høryda Joy's Sunshine Pearl (by Calvin Klein out of Hagens Joy) who did one better from last year when she was runner up.

/Jenny Hagenblad