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by Pat Canfield photos by Erwin Escher

> he Egyptian Arabian Horse Breeders Association held its annual show on 24-26 April 2008 in Cairo. It was a major change of venue for the show which has always been held at the Saqqara Club at the edge of the desert near the Pyramids. This year's event was held at the Cairo Stadium in a special stadium built for show jumping. The three day show spread the usual two-day event by moving the Championships to the third day along with a presentation of horses by member farms of the association. As in previous years, this show is under ECAHO affiliation while the EAO show in autumn is not ECAHO for the Nationals but is for the International segment.

> The first day for fillies and mares had nearly 80 entries. The second day for colts and stallions was smaller with 50 in competition. Since the show had been rescheduled into hotter weather, the classes started at 5 o'clock in the afternoon on Thursday and did not end until 2 o'clock the next morning so unfortunately; most viewers had left before the mare classes. The Friday show began at 6 o'clock because of the Spring time change but it ended earlier due to the shorter classes. Judges were: Mr. Wladyslaw Guziuk – Poland, Mrs. Christina Wale – Sweden, Mr. Burchard Schroder – Germany and Mr. Gerard Wissler – France. Disciplinary Committee: Dr. Mohammed Hammad – Saudi Arabia, Mrs. Annette Siren and DVM Emad El Baroodi – Egypt.

> Ring Steward was Mr. Koenraad Detailleur – Belgium. The Organizing Committee was headed by Omar Sakr, President of the





Breeder's Association. The setting was completely different from the Saqqara site because it was done in a stadium constructed for show jumping events. Stabling for the horses was better since the boxes were permanent rather than the temporary type from previous shows. The visitor tables were set on terrace like levels which allowed for better viewing of the horses from the lower tiers but was not ideal from the upper tiers. Some people felt that the upper levels were set too high for a good view of the horses and the large

(Imtaarif x Nimeelah) owner: El Farida Stud

screen TV was less than optimal for close observation of the presentations. Many other visitors including Ahmed Hamza the owner of Hamdan Stud (A), who has been supporting and showing horses since the beginning of these events over 20 years ago, thought that the new setting was very classy and better for the horses.

The first class for Fillies born in 2007 was by far the largest of the entire show with 22 entries and was broken into two sections. This class showed the results of some of the local breeding programs with many of the fillies bred here in Egypt. As in every show, the audience is especially enthusiastic about the young horses. Section A had a tie for first between Kenooz El Farida ((Said Hafid El Chamsin x Nour Sakr) owned and bred by El Farida Stud and

90 • Desert Heritage Magazine



Champion Mares

Ghazalah El Gabry

(El Basha Sakr x Konooz) owner and breeder: El Gabry Stud

Amoura Hamdan A (Ibn El Basha x Helaleyet Ikhnatoon) owned and bred by Hamdan Stud (A). On rejudging, first place went to Amoura. In Section B, Amira Al Mamlaka who is out of two champions (Farouk Sakr x Set El Koll Rahim) took first place over the Italian bred Queen of Royal (Royal Colors x Flaxmans Raja) now owned by El Farida.

The class for Fillies born in 2006 had 13 entries and was won by Anwaar Al Kaherah

(Makhnificent X Moonira) who scored very high with two 20's in movement and one in type. The light bay filly went on to win Reserve Junior Champion filly as she did in last year's show. Second place went to Dalia KA (Marquis 1 x Georgia KA) bred by Kehilan Bloodstock and now owned by El Farida. The filly is quite elegant and tall and garnered



19's in movement. In the final class for fillies with

12 entries – those born in 2005 – the first two places went to fillies bred in the States and now owned by El Farida Stud. In first place and eventual Junior Champion was Imeila (Imtaarif x Nimeelah) bred by Scribner and in second place was Imperial Koublah (Imperial Al Kamar x Imperial Falaah) with 273 and 271 points respectively.

The break between filly and mare classes provided a surprise for the spectators when a sudden and quick





across the area. Winds and rain gusted for about a half hour but fortunately ceased before the start of the fourth class. The first mare class for those born 2002 – 04 was won by Nawal El Gabry, a very strong El Basha Sakr daughter out of Farida Hedeyah bred and owned by El Gabry Stud. The elegant chestnut mare with a chiseled head and dominant type had a total of 275 points which was the second highest in the show and 9 points above the second place mare.

Adham Sakr

Anbar Noor (Ibn Arabia Sakr x Hams El Koulout Noor) who is a multi champion seemed to have an off night and although she took second did not place with her usual high scores.

In the final Mare class, those born 2001 and older, the two top mares went on to take Senior and Reserve Championships. Ghazalah El Gabry, another El Basha Sakr daughter out of Konooz with three 20's in her score is well known to show attendees. The dynamic bay mare has two Championships and two Reserves previous to this show with the most recent being Reserve at the EAO International Show last Fall. Her owner and breeder Mohsen El Gabry said that this is a mare who never disappoints. "Whenever she is in a show," he said, "this mare performs and always catches the crowd". He plans to keep her

92 • Desert Heritage Magazine

⁽Imperial Madori x Amira Sakr) owner: El Farida Stud



Champion Stallions

Hamra Aligance

(Ali Valentino x Sonbohlas Music) owner: El Farida Stud

at the farm for a period and breed her to some of his new stallions to see what she will produce.

In a close second place was Mohga Sakr an Imperial Madori daughter out of SES Marah who was bred by Sakr and is owned by Khattab and Tahani Stud. Mohga and Ghazalah often trade places in the results. Mohga's most recent wins were Senior Champion Mare at the EAO Nationals in '07 and Reserve Champion in '05. A very stretchy dark bay mare, Mohga is also a crowd pleaser at every show in which she participates.

The second night of the show was the showcase for colts and stallions. With fifty entries it was a smaller field than the females of the previous evening but happily for the horses and spectators, it was also a shorter event. The first class for Colts born in 2007 had 13



entries.

Adham Sakr, an Imperial Madori son out of Amira Sakr bred by Sakr and owned by El Farida won the class and went on to take the Junior Championship. The dark grey colt had a very well formed head and neck that indicates he should continue to develop into a strong stallion. Three 19's in movement were also well deserved. Second place by only two points went to Salman Al Marbat a very refined colt with a good throat latch by Ezz Ezzain out of Ghazallah. He was





bred by Al Marbat Stud and is owned by Omar Stud. The class for Colts born in 2006 also had 13 entries. The first two colts had tied and on rejudging Awwal Al Amaar (Amaar Al Rayyan x Farid Nile Dream) took first place. The grey colt scored well on both type and movement. He was bred by De Shazer in the States and is now owned by El Farida. Second place went to Nawawy Al Masaeed by Khaled Sakr out of Lolowa El Moussa. The bay colt with a finely chiseled head had a 20 in type and was bred and owned

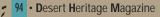
Anwaar El Kaherah

(Makhnificent KA x Mooira) owner and breeder: Al Kaherah Stud

by Shomookh Al Masaeed Farm.

El Gabry Stud took first and second place in Class 8 for Colts born in 2005. First place was won by Jamil Al Rayyan an extremely elegant grey son of Ansata Hejazi out of Dana Al Rayyan. The colt who loves to show and has a lot of charisma is well balanced and complete even at this age. Jamil is coowned with Al Baidaa Farm and was awarded Reserve Junior Championship. The other Gabry entry, Saladin Al Qusar by NK Hafid Jamil out of 241 Tisrina B won second place in the class. The dark dappled very powerful and yet refined grey colt who was imported from Germany has always done well in the shows so far and holds great promise for his farm.

After a short break, the evening continued with the





Mohga Sakr

(Imperial Madori x SES Marah) owner: Khattab & Tahani

stallion classes. In class 9 for Stallions born 2002-04, Imperial Baareg, a son of the multi champion Imperial Baarez out of Imperial Karmah, won the class with 276 points based on ten 19's. The very stretchy bay stallion took Reserve Senior Champion at the EAO Internationals in November as he did at this show. He was bred by Imperial Stud and is now owned by El Farida Stud. In second place was Ezz Ezzain (Ansata Al Murtajiz x Najeiah) an extremely beautiful grey stallion with two 20's in Head and Neck who was the Reserve Junior Champion at Saqqara in '06 and won the Most Classic Head at this show. He was bred in Kuwait and is owned by Omar Stud.

The last stallion class had only four entries. The winner, as expected, was Hamra Aligance by Ali

Valentino out of Sonbohlas Music bred in Italy and owned by El Farida stud. The very charismatic stallion had two 20's in type and one in movement to give him the tie for high score with his stable mate, Imperial Baareg. He was Reserve Champion at last year's show and went on to take the Championship this year. In second place was Mashkour Al Maha (Nasek II x Kholood Albadeia) another winner in the show owned by Omar Stud and bred by Al Maha Stud in Egypt. Reserve Mares



The third and final night was quite festive with the awarding of the Championships and a presentation of horses by members of the Breeder's Association. None of these horses had competed in the show. Many of them were familiar to the audience either as previous champions, class winners or sire and dam of some who had been in competition. Fillies and mares were presented first including: Salma a daughter of the prestigious Royal Colors out of Fay Zina T bred in Italy and now owned by El Farida

Jamil Al Rayyan

(Ansata Hejazi x Dana Al Rayyan) owner: Al Baidaa & El Gabry Stud

and Set El Koll Rahim (Imperial Madori x Farha) bred by Rahim Stud and owned by Al Mamlaka. Another highly anticipated young mare was Mahala an exquisite five year old Al Lahab daughter out of Mahasin II who made a name for herself on the European circuit before coming to Rabab Stud in Egypt. Mahala was Junior Champion at St. Tropez and Schotten, Reserve Junior Champion at Neufchateau and Top Ten at the European Egyptian Event at Baden Baden all in '05.

Last year she won the Senior Championship at Saqqara and recently had her first foal, a colt by Al Lahab. She will leave again shortly to return to Europe for showing and breeding.

Among the colts and stallions shown were previous champions both at Saqqara and at the EAO: Farouk

% • **D**esert Heritage Magazine



Reserve Stallions

Imperial Baareg

(Imperial Baarez x Imperial Karmah) owner: El Farida Stud

Sakr (El Habiel x Desperado's Fancy), GR Lahari (Al Lahab x GR Marianah), Hafid Ali El Dahab (MA Alisha x Ken Alia) and Sheikh Mahboub (Thee Sharif Amir x Farahat Gawdat). They all proved why they had been champions to the great appreciation of the crowds in addition to a number of newcomers to the audience in Egypt.

This year's Show organizers made a concerted effort to make the Show work with very short time to finalize arrangements. Special effort was made to eliminate complaints about politics and favoritism which plague many shows worldwide. The Judges were selected from a pool of those who have not judged in Egypt in the past three years. Actually the four who were at the show were completely unknown to the breeders in Egypt and in some cases new to the Egyp-



tian horses themselves.

Overall, the consensus was that this year's show provided a strong basis for next year's event. Even though there was no desert background, it was clear that these are still Egyptian horses and can handle themselves in any setting. Plans were already in progress for next year.

To see al the results of the Show: www.ecaho.org

