

GUIDELINES FOR BREEDING




For a few years now the Hanoverian Association has formulated guidelines for planning and realizing strategic goals. These guidelines describe the course of a decision process and, at the same time, they serve as a foundation for a discussion on how to realize definite measures. The international and national expansion of the association was prepared in accordance with this method.

Departmental heads of the association define these guidelines in cooperation with the executive board. The discussion about how to formulate the guidelines has already proven helpful. All involved parties share from which angle they view the issue. The result of this mutual understanding is that all parties speak a uniform language when discussing the strategic goals. Until now this method has only been applied to structural goal setting and marketing question. Because of the positive experiences this system will now also be applied to breeding issues. The breeding goal is defined in the by-laws. In a consistent effort to improve the breeding of riding horses in accordance with the breeding goal, a dynamic process is being pushed

ahead which brings about changes. For instance today we are in a better position to evaluate the effects of specialization in the breeding of sport horses than during the nineties. The breed progress must however be examined as to whether it produces positive or negative developments in certain groups of attributes, when bloodlines are combined.

The breeding book committee of the Hanoverian Association formulated three guidelines. The guidelines are in agreement with the breeding goal in the by-laws. They each present a view on a part of the breeding goal.

A corresponding article explains the practical background. The concept that dressage horses will be evaluated on their jumping ability and jumper horses on their basic gaits and rideability is followed now and will also be done in future in the Hanoverian breed. In other words there is not a strict line of demarcation between the disciplines in our riding horses. However breeders should place emphasis on one discipline in their breeding concept. 


EMPHASIZED PREDISPOSITION

The breeding of sport horses calls for an adjustment to an aim-oriented predisposition for dressage, jumping or eventing. All attributes must be evaluated during the selection process. In the breeding of jumper horses, jumper lines are to be used exclusively and suitable refining sires. In the breeding of dressage horses, dressage lines, suitable jumper lines as well as refining sires can be used.

QUALITY

The evaluation of the back construction is of special importance in the breeding of sport horses for all disciplines. We strive to improve the motion of the movement under saddle. In the selection process we filter out horses with an energetic move-off which goes through a powerful, supple back as this is a prerequisite for a horse to best develop carrying power under a rider. The demands on the quality of the hooves and the foundation will also be increased again.

IDENTITY

The goal of the Hanoverian Association is to effectively stabilize the valuable, genetic foundation of the Hanoverian breed through purposefully promoting proven and newly arising Hanoverian performance lines. 

EMPHASIZED PREDISPOSITION

CURRENT BREED STRATEGIES

With the guidelines' help we direct our attention towards those parts of the breeding goal and to selection criteria that currently are of importance. They present a valuable orientation tool for every breeder. The guideline "specialized predisposition" describes the strategic direction for breeding dressage, jumping and event horses.

By Dr. Ludwig Christmann

The necessity to specialize with respect to predisposition in the breeding of sport horses is no longer disputable. It was not always like that. In the first decades after the war the goal was to breed one type of riding horse that was useable in a variety of ways. The sport of riding continued to develop though. During the eighties an insight was adopted that breed progress could be accelerated through breeding with a focus on a special predisposition. This makes sense as the demands on a jumper are very different to the demands on a dressage horse even though there are a multitude of attributes that are required for both types. The jumper horse needs jumping ability, carefulness and technique, while dressage horses must have three above average basic gaits, rideability and the ability

Dam's sire of Dablino by De Niro is Wanderbursch II, who passes powerful movements and willing to perform to his offspring. Dablino was the best young German Grand Prix-horse of the past year under rider Anabel Balkenhol.

to collect. For both disciplines the horses must be willing, serviceable, and with respect to their constitution serviceable over several years. The jumper horse program was introduced in 1993. Since then, with respect to specializing on predispositions, we have come to unpredicted realizations. Specializing works very well with jumper horses and with dressage horses but one must differentiate.

What does that mean? In the breeding of jumper horses the today's norm is to exclusively use the so-called jumper lines and/or refining sires with corresponding talents. Significant progress has been achieved through applying this principle to breeding jumpers over the past decades. The progress is not only limited to jumping ability and type, to some extent it has even improved the movement. Out of a large variety of different types a modern, athletic jumper has evolved.

When breeding dressage horses it appears advantageous to consider jumper genes in addition to the current dressage lines. Practical experiences support this thesis. The impression is that athleticism is lost

when only combining the blood of sires with clearly one-sided dressage genes. Over the past years the Hanoverian dressage horses has made great progress with respect to type, rideability and overall elasticity however, we must direct our attention to improving the hind legs, the motor. The second observation relates to the pedigree of successful Grand Prix horses. Very often we find a good "swig" of jumper blood in their pedigrees for instance in Satchmo, IPS Salinero and Hunter Douglas Sunrise all of which have been top dressage representatives for the Hanoverian breed during the last year. They all have one thing in common: jumper pedigrees. In Satchmo by Sao Paulo/Legat and Salinero by Salieri/Lungau, both parents are even entered into the Hanoverian jumper horse breeding program. Many more examples are available.

There must be attributes in jumpers that are beneficial to the sport of dressage. Which are they? As mentioned above we need the right attitude for both disciplines, horses with spirit and performance willingness. With respect to kinetics the impelling force from the hind leg is important. While it propels the jumper off the ground it allows the dressage horse to powerfully push off and to carry during collection. Both disciplines require the horse's back to combine mobility with strength.

PERFORMANCE PRODUCER

The realization that good dressage horses are produced out of classic



jumper lines is neither a new nor a Hanoverian phenomena. Performance producer Werther has created international competitors in dressage as well as in jumping. He is a grandson of Ferdinand who was one of the World's best jumper producers during the first decades after the war. The Holstein Flemmingh by Lacapo became the founder of a successful dressage line producing horses like Krack C and Lingham in the Netherlands.

Which stallions with jumper blood are suitable for breeding dressage horses? The G-line is a classic, Hanoverian performance bloodline used for breeding jumpers as well as dressage horses. Stallions like Grande, his son Garibaldi II and the two full-siblings Grundstein I and II passed on to their offspring dressage as well as jumper talent. Representatives of the G-line that are presently in breeding service and appear to be very interesting are Goethe by Grosso Z who has an excellent own performance record and Grand Cru by Grand Garcon who has the same dam as former World rank leader Walk on

Top as well as Goldfever II. The name Wanderer also stands for powerful action. This son of Wendekreis won the jumper index of his stallion performance test in his time. In the end he convinced more so with the dressage horses that he produced than with his jumper offspring. Three sons of Wanderer and one grandson were in the top 100 of the World rankings in 2006: Wellington out of a dam by Garibaldi II under rider Alexandra Simons de Ridder, Wild One out of a mare by Gutenberg with Eileen Page in the saddle, Active Walero out of a Matcho AA-daughter under Nicoal McGiven, and grandson Fabriano by Wanderbursch/Wienerwald with rider Jonny Hilberath. Wanderer's son Falkland stepped into the footsteps of his sire. He has already produced a dressage competitor of international caliber with Faberge (rider: Beatrix Ferrer-Salat); he is also the dam's sire of Una Donna Unique (bred in Denmark), the silver medal winner of the World Championships for young dressage horses. We also find Wanderer via Wanderbusch II on the damside of the pedigree of Dablino

by De Niro, who was awarded the Otto-Lörke Prize as the greatest German hopeful under rider Anabel Balkenhol.

Johnny Hilberath from Scheessel, the former German Champion of Professional Riders placing third with his horse Fariano in the German Championships in Gera in 2007 and today our federal dressage trainer, explains why Fariano became such a successful dressage horse, "I especially liked his strong back that in the beginning was rather tight but loosened up with proper gymnastic work. Most of all I liked his attitude and his spirit both being so important at the Grand Prix level." He views the use of jumper genes in the breeding of dressage horses as very positive especially with respect to attitude and performance willingness. "When breeding jumpers performance and athletic ability come to the fore, while type and beauty are also rather significant when breeding dressage horses."

All these examples do not comply with the current pedigree ideas for a dressage horse. They only very rarely

Stallion	Pedigree	Stallion performance test			Breeding value Hannover		Breeding value FN	
		total	dressage	jumping	dressage	jumping	dressage	jumping
Argentinus	by Argentan/Duden II	126,00/3/54			92	135	104/0,99	121/0,98
Christ	by Competent/Picard	30-day-test						
Contendros Bube	by Contendro/Pik Bube	128,3/48	138,69/2	100,03/22				
Edward	by Embassy/Fabriano	140,08/-/38	142,93	120,72				
Embassy	by Escudo/Silvio	124,74/5/45	111,07/14	134,65/3	105	158	115/0,94	148/0,93
Embassy III	by Escudo/Silvio	127,15/4/48	122,11/5	117,06/10				
Falkland	by Wanderer/Pik König	117,99/9/36	122,03/5	118,52/9	107	129	109/0,96	109/0,94
Goethe	by Grosso Z/Maat	126,98/4/36	133,15/2	112,54/8	96	99	119/0,93	91/0,85
Goldfever II	by Grosso Z/Galvano	107,55/13/43	115,61/7	94,02/26				
Grand Cru	by Grand Garcon/Absatz	129,53/3/53	125,23/5	116,14/13	112	120	119/0,97	117/0,95
Labiati	by Le Primeur/Werther	126,09/3/52	120,14/5	121,40/6				
Le Primeur	by Laptop/Pinkus	147,84/1/45	142,56/2	143,49/1	102	141	133/0,94	142/0,92
Lissaro	by Lissabon/Matcho AA	Bundeschampionate riding horses						
Salieri	by Salvano/Servus	110,05/12/36	101,52/17	116,44/8	98	92	104/0,89	109/0,86
Stalypso	by Stakkato/Calypso II	Qualification for Bundeschampionate, 30-day-test						
Other populations:								
Avagon (Ital. W.)	by Acorado II/Escudo	144,35/0/52	140,38	131,6				
Cevin Costner (Old)	by Chico's Boy/Calvin	126,66/3/24	122,29/4	130,12/4				
Chequille (Holst)	by Caretano Z/Lavall II	137,37/1/22	126,42/2	129,77/3				
Clinton (Holst)	by Carolus/Calypso II	10 wins in class S					112/0,80	154/0,83
Conteur (Holst)	by Contender/Rasputin	131,72/2/38	149,25/1	90,99/25	115	134	136/0,96	138/0,93
Sao Paulo (Old)	by Sandro/Gepard	115,73/12/36	107,85/13	122,30/5	88	139	96/0,96	126/0,95
Sergeant Pepper (Old)	by Silvio/Ramino	147,47/1/33	146,38/1	131,34/2	89	130	130/0,88	138/0,85
Valentino (KWPN)	by Now or Never M/Belisar	136,89/2/48	121,09/6	141,47/1				

Elvis VA by Espri/Garibaldi II is successful with a jumper's pedigree in the dressage arena.

made it into the top group in classes for young horses. Even though their starting conditions were not at all favorable they convinced at the most difficult dressage levels, in Grand Prix classes.

The chart of the current sires clearly shows that the number of stallions with jumper pedigrees that are suitable for producing dressage horses has increased. In the selection for this chart, that is published here with no claim of being complete, we considered stallions with jumper blood that are valued above average for their dressage suitability. We took the stallion performance test results, competition successes, as well as heredity performance substantiated by the results from the breed value estimation into consideration.

MULTI TALENTS

The sire Primeur, who is now in service at Spruce Meadows in Canada, was the unchallenged champion at the performance test in Adelheidsdorf. He was not only the jumper champion; he also finished with the second highest dressage index of 142,56 points. His son Labiat (dam by Werther) descends from a highly-proven dame line. He has all the prerequisites a Grand-Prix dressage horse requires. The line of Espri – especially via performance test champion Earl and Embassy with his young son Edward – produces multi talents.


A little bit of Holstein blood does not hurt when breeding dressage horses as descendants of Calypso II prove. For instance Contendros Bube, Conteur or Christ. The young Avagon by Acorado II out of a dam by Escudo is another good example. The gray is in dressage training with Johnny Hilberath. The Holstein influence often produces "higher movement" which dressage riders value. It means more knee action. However sometimes it also means a not so active, under the center of gravity reaching hind leg. Often it doesn't produce the desired well-muscled loin area. A careful inspection is advised.

These examples prove that there is no shortage in bloodline varieties when breeding dressage horses. Through the selective use of suitable sires with




jumper lines we obtain a large diversity of pedigrees. Now we must make use of these bloodlines. In addition to the breeders, we also ask the buyers to give an athletic horse a chance even if its pedigree does not correspond with the fashionable trend.

These recommendations are not to be viewed as instructions like the instructions to a cooking recipe. Adding certain ingredients never guarantees a certain breeding result.

It is considered food for thought, grapple with those criteria that are expected of a dressage horse that is to successfully compete at the highest level. Not every breeding effort will be successful. Sometimes it takes a generation and sometimes it may not fit at all. With respect to the entire population though a selective use of jumping sires or dams will advance the breeding of dressage horses. 

Herwart von der Decken-Show



The third Herwart von der Decken-Show will be held on wednesday, August 4, in Verden. It will be the opening event of the International Dressage and Show Jumping Festival, featuring the World Breeding Dressage Championships for Young Horses. The best three-year-old Hanoverian mares of the different regional breeding districts will be presented at the mare show. This is a new concept as last year, the best three- and four-year-old mares were still shown. It is a novelty that the competition for the best mare family will only be held every four years – next time in 2013. 

QUALITY

THE BACK NOT ONLY CARRIES THE RIDER

The breeding book commission of the Hanoverian Association has devoted its attention to the subject of quality with the second guideline. In principle it is the goal of every breeder to breed a quality horse; and the by-laws with its breeding goal and selection criteria already presents the framework.

By Ulrich Hahne

There are always exterior and performance criteria that have to be discussed and revised sometimes more sometimes less intensely in the development of a breed. The evaluation of correctness and foundation was of great importance in the Hanoverian breed for a long time. The standards were lowered a little in the past. The result was that horses with weaknesses infiltrated the Hanoverian breed. These horses however brought special, desirable attributes, with them that were not very common at that time. Their weaknesses with respect to construction or the quality of hooves and foundation met up with a generally solid, correct and consolidated Hanoverian breed base.

Nearly thirty years later the overall appearance of the Hanoverian breed is a different one. Course, wooden types are very rare. In general Hanoverian horses offer a high riding quality with respect to basic elasticity and sitting comfort. Other strengths and weaknesses exist. The breeding book commission renders special importance to current issues within the breeding goal with these guidelines.

CRUCIAL INFLUENCE

“The construction of the back has special importance in the breeding of sport horses for all disciplines,” one reads in the guideline for quality. After all the back does not only have to carry the rider it also crucially influences the movement. Only if the construction of the back actually allows for it can the movement within be harmonious and can be brought back and develop carrying power. The loin area is of significance as it is the connection where the power from the hind legs transfers over the back to the front. A very tight connection is just as hindering as today’s more frequent soft connection. A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. One can easily imagine that power will be lost if there is a weakness in a crucial area.

We often see a hind leg that stands out behind in connection with a weak loin area. The hind leg then does not stand underneath but behind the horse. The result is often a hock joint that only moves upward rather than forward underneath the body of the horse as it would be necessary for a perfect range of motion. An unfavorable back construction instantly has two negative consequences on the horse’s movement.

The elasticity must be maintained under all circumstances. In the canter and in the trot tension can cover up insufficient carrying power. This results in a loss of elasticity. This often successfully takes place at the foal age - sometimes it is even impressive. This can be achieved under saddle but only at the rider’s expense. The negative consequences of this type of motion become evident. No later than in the walk the

Dancing Queen by Dimaggio/Hill Hawk xx: supple movement with hind legs that are placed under the center of gravity. We can see a well-muscled, powerful top line in this example.





weakness in the elasticity becomes obvious. Transfer of power, activity of the hind leg, elasticity. The significance of the back construction should become clear with this list. In the future the high demand on this criterion will hopefully find its way back into the breed deliberations.

SOUNDNESS


“Greater importance will also be granted to the quality of hooves and the quality of the foundation again,” so the guideline. Attributes that especially aim towards the serviceability of horses. In both cases farriers will consistently gain in importance to correct construction shortcomings. Not all efforts will be successful, though. After all this cannot be the goal. The farrier’s work will often create an optical improvement but all too often the shortcoming will have a negative impact the serviceability of a horse in the end.

We have noticed two main negative hoof configurations over the past years. Firstly the hooves stand too upright. The reason for these conditions is often a reclamation at the time of delivery of the foal. In addition to a genetic predisposition the reason for this hoof issue sometimes lies in the way the foal is raised. The second negative hoof configuration presents itself as a narrow hoof that retracts back to the heel. This asymmetry does not allow the hoof mechanism to function properly. The hoof’s function as a shock absorber is no longer guaranteed as the heels cannot absorb the pressure because of their configuration. The result fur-

An impressive “front-end horse” with a large shoulder. The hind leg however stands behind and not under the horse. This is evident while the horse is standing still and most times will be confirmed in the movement when the forward-reaching thrust of the hind leg is missed.

thermore is that the blood circulation of the hoof is no longer guaranteed in its necessary form.

On stallion presentations the hooves disappear in the footing and/or sometimes bell boots cover them up. Every breeder should look at a stallion on hard ground and closely examine the hooves. The breeder can have a good look at the legs at the same time. The joints must be big enough and fit to the body of the horse to offer enough space for ligaments and tendons. Bad conformation and weaknesses in places where bones meet joints can negatively impact the soundness of a horse.

The back construction and the quality of hooves and foundation deserve special attention and need to be revised according to the breeding book commission. They are however only a part aspect. There always were and always will be horses with indisputable construction shortcomings that are capable of exceptional performances probably because of their strong performance willingness that balances out everything else. On the other hand there will be perfectly constructed horses that lack performance willingness and therefore not fulfill the expected hopes. These horses are however the exception and should not be a determining factor in breeding considerations. 

The guideline “Quality”y relates to attributes of quality. The examination focuses on the significance of the construction of the back and the hind legs. The way these attributes function has a high influence on decisive performance attributes. The ability to develop carrying power and forward thrust through a swinging back with a stable connection in the kidney area is a fundamental demand on sport horses of all disciplines. We also added the question of the foundation evaluation and the hooves to the guideline. Through the thrust created by powerfully pushing off the ground, the energy of movement is directed in such a way that a horse has very good prerequisites for developing carrying power. Furthermore an athletic horse must be able to quickly and effortlessly find his balance under a rider. A clear rhythm will reveal this. It is necessary for the horse to be able to build up positive tension if it is to be challenged to athletic performances. The readiness for collection constitutes the foundation for all disciplines. The construction of the back and the hind legs greatly influences all these connections.

At present we notice a development that demands an elucidation of this question. The problem presents itself in a weak back and sometimes coincides with a soft connection in the loin area. The enormous stress on the joints, the hooves and the ligaments requires first-rate functionality. While radiological findings are very often highly overrated with respect to the serviceability of a horse, experienced riders and trainers demand correct. This group of attributes must receive a lot of attention within the breed adaptation and the rearing management.

Breeding horses is a dynamic process that changes with time due to different influences. It is therefore important to realize these developments, to test them and to make them compatible with the breeding goal. The described relations are the main focus for future developments for the stallion selection for a breeder and for the selection measures for the association.

Dr. Werner Schade

GUIDELINE IDENTITY

THE DEVELOPMENT OF HANOVERIAN LINES



The third guideline the breeding book committee has formulated deals with the identity of the Hanoverian breed. For an original breed the question arises whether the own breeding program or outside genetic influences will determine our future breed development.

By Dr. Werner Schade

The Hanoverian breed has never been a closed, pure breed. It has a lengthy tradition of introducing refining sires and sires of other breeds. But this only happened to a limited extent. This was easily controllable whilst only life-cover was practised. Now at a time of artificial insemination of life- and/or frozen semen, stallions are used for breeding

beyond regional borders. Therefore very different mechanisms determine the selection of stallions.

In addition to availability and quality of a certain stallion its popularity plays a very big role in remaining in the breeders' favor. The marketability of the offspring presents an important criterion for the popularity of a stallion – especially the marketing of foals. The popularity must not be solely based on breeding facts. Championship successes, marketing successes or a clever marketing strategy can lead to great popularity within breeders' circles.

The use of foreign blood, in other words the use of stallions that do not carry a Hanoverian brand, has continuously increased over the past ten years. Traditionally the quota of foreign sires ranged between 15 and 20 percent. Between 1999 and 2009 this share almost doubled. Foreign sires performed 39 percent of all coverings in 2009. This means that the share of refining sires drastically decreased during this time period. In other words refining sires (two percent) did not cause the increase. The foreign sires mainly include Holstein

stallions (ten percent), Oldenburg stallions (eleven percent) and Westphalian and Rhineland sires (five percent). Trakehner and Dutch (KWPN) sires share the rest. This was and still is today a continuous development that has been taking place over years and leads to an increase of foreign blood from one generation to the next within the Hanoverian population. It poses questions like, how this development will influence the Hanoverian breed long-term, which chances do those stallions have, which emerge out of the Hanoverian breed, and if Hanover will be able to nurture its own lines and produce new lines, which are based on solely Hanoverian bloodlines?

In the past it was customary to seek the connexion to Hanoverian genes after the use of foreign blood. You can read this in many pedigrees. Today the trend seems to be that the use of foreign blood is followed by the next use of foreign blood. The reason is the above-mentioned idea of stallion popularity. With this knowledge the third guideline was formulated:

“The goal of the Hanoverian Association is to effectively stabilize the valuable, genetic foundation of the Hanoverian breed through purposefully promoting proven and newly arising Hanoverian performance lines.”

The following thoughts led to the guideline:

1. The Hanoverian is the result of a persistent and careful breeding program with the goal to be long-term. Very important attributes have been improved over many years now resulting in the Hanoverian being the leading sport horse breed in the World. In addition to a high performance willingness, the quality of movement and conformation, it is foremost the physical strength, that constitutes the Hanoverian horse. All

The use of Hanoverian stallions and foreign stallions in the Hanoverian breeding area from 1999 until 2009 (percentage).

	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007	2009
Hannover %	79,83	71,95	67,13	68,51	61,21	60,92
Other breeds %	20,17	28,05	32,87	31,49	38,79	39,08

these outstanding attributes are embodied in the dam lines of the Hanoverian population. They are now and will be in the future of high economic importance for a successful marketability. Therefore these attributes must be constantly secured and developed through the use of our own gene pool. This way the use of foreign blood, that we continue to encourage at a very high level of quality, will be successful. At present however the share of foreign sires is too high. It is important to reduce the share of foreign blood to no more than 25 percent to maintain a balance within the Hanoverian breed.

2. The Hanoverian stallion licensing and the following stallion sales are one of the most viewed breed showcases in the world. They set

standards for the breeding of sport horses. We would like these events to continue to hold this status in the future, too. Only those associations will succeed long term that are able to offer distinguished pedigrees that obtain a high level of quality. This because of the tough competition between breeding stallions. Pedigrees that are offered everywhere quickly become uninteresting to those who have stallions standing at stud.

3. The evaluation of stallions must be based on clear, verifiable breeding facts and performances. Two groups of stallions become the focal point. One group consists of performance tested, young sires; the other group consists of senior sires of ten years of age and more with performance tested descendants. The second group

essentially deserves so much more attention as performance records of descendants are the safest testimonies about the quality of a sire. As a current example I would like to mention the state stud sire Embassy I who was awarded the Grande Prize just recently on the gala night during the elite auction. This sire has passed on very valuable, uniform traits to his descendants and therefore deserves the breeders' interests.

The Hanoverian brand is a strong label known worldwide. The foundation for the image of this label is based on the quality and the successes of the horses. Marketing measures will only reach and impact a target if they facilitate provable values and contents. The Hanoverian breeding program is designed in such a way that it fulfills this demand. The guideline 'identity' directly corresponds with the other guidelines. All guidelines deal with the advantages and attributes that make up a Hanoverian. In future not only the popularity of individual stallions matters but also the popularity of the entire Hanoverian breed will do. 

SALES WEEK

Customers from all over Germany

The fourth Sales Week for Hanoverian pleasure horses in May closed with a very satisfying result. 21 of the 24 offered horses were sold at an average auction sales price of Euro 7,750.

Bella Donna by Belissimo M/World Magic, bred and owned by Alfons Dahlhaus, Wader-sloh, was the top-priced horse of the day. The mare was sold at Euro 13,900 to a family from Hessen. Bella Donna is already their third Hanoverian horse, purchased at one of the sales weeks. The mare will start her career as dressage horse. Apart from fantastic character and composure, she displays three excellent basic gaits. Roger by Royal Blend/Wesley (breeder and exhibitor: Alfred Rathkam, Bassum) was the second most expensive horse, sold at Euro 12,000 to Bavaria. The Sales Week attracted potential customers from all over Germany. Besides customers from



Bavaria (five) and Hessen (four), the new owners come from Baden-Württemberg (one), Schleswig-Holstein (one), Lower Saxony (eight) and North Rhine-Westphalia (one). Like last year, one horse was sold to France: Shakespeare by Silvio/Freedom was sold at Euro 10,000 to our southern neighbouring country.

With its program „Experience Hano-

verians“, Hannoveraner Verband satisfies the constantly increasing interest and demand in Hanoverian pleasure horses. The horses were already frequently tested on Tuesday, the first day of the Sales Week. Customers were especially enthusiastic about the relaxed atmosphere and the fantastic expert advice provided by the Verden team. 