

Review 2013

MARCH

Tandem-Quadrille of the European State Studs at Equitana: Save Heritage and Biodiversity!

From March 16th to 24th ESSA participated with the theme “*Save Heritage and Biodiversity*” at the world's leading equestrian fair Equitana at Essen (Germany). A quadrille of mounted and carriage tandems celebrated its premiere, demonstrating traditional horse training and the diversity of breeds maintained in the European state studs.



ESSA tandem quadrille at Equitana 2013, Photos Archiv Boisselle

Franches Montagnes stallions of the Suisse National Stud AVENCHES and Black Forest Coldbloods originating from MARBACH State Stud in Germany performed together with Oldkladrubers from KLADRUBY NAD LABEM and Czech Kinsky horses. TOPOL'ČIANKY National Stud in Slovakia sent Lipizzaner stallions and Huculs, DILLENBURG State Stud Rhenish German Coldbloods. The colourful picture was completed by Breton, Comtois and Cob Normand stallions of the French National Studs LAMBALLE, ROSIÈRES-AUX-SALINES and SAINT-LÔ.

Visitors of the fair could experience the European state studs' representatives also during different performances in the small rings and at the ESSA information stand shared with MARBACH and the German State Studs.

European State Studs Association e.V.

Alexandra Lotz | Haupt- und Landgestüt Marbach | D-72532 Gomadingen-Marbach
Tel +49 73 85 96 57 17 | Fax +49 73 85 96 57 38 | info@europeanstatestuds.org | www.europeanstatestuds.org
VAT number 89078/31680

Bank: Kreissparkasse Reutlingen | Account No. 100045178 | BLZ 64050000
BIC SOLADES1REU | IBAN DE24 6405 0000 0100 0451 78



ESSA tandem performance at Equitana 2013, Photos Ross Foto



ESSA team at the Equitana information stand, Photos ESSA

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APRIL

General Assembly at BÁBOLNA National Stud, Hungary

On April 16th and 17th 2013 the directors of the ESSA partner institutions gathered at the Hungarian National Stud BÁBOLNA for their annual general assembly. The conference was accompanied by a visiting programme to the different parts of the stud, which is known as the birth place of the Shagya Arabian breed. As in many European state studs reconstruction and new building projects are undertaken, to adapt the historic stud premises to modern use.



Breed presentation in the central Bábolna stud yard, Photo A. Lotz



Carriages from Mezöhegyes, Szilvásvárad and Bábolna in the show programme, Photo A. Lotz

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The Hungarian state studs BÁBOLNA, MEZŐHEGYES and SZILVÁSVÁRAD offered the European stud directors a wonderful breed show in the central BÁBOLNA stud yard and a show programme in the outdoor arena. Headed by the mounted trumpeters of the hosting stud Shagya-Arabians, Pure Bred Arabians, Lipizzan and Nonius horses were shown under the saddle and in front of the carriage. A festive dinner, accompanied by traditional music and dance, completed the event. Thank you to director Balázs Bérci and his team for the superb organisation!



Bábolna trumpeters, Photo A. Lotz



Foals on their way to the stables, Photo A. Lotz



Participants of the festive evening, Photo S. Först



Traditional music and dance, Photo A. Lotz

During the general assembly two new board members were elected. Dr. Maximilian Dobretsberger, director of the Austrian State Stud PIBER and Dr. Janez Rus of the Slovenian National Stud LIPICA will lead ESSA during the next five years together with Mr. Bernard Maurel, heritage director of the French National Institute for Horse and Riding, Dr. Dominik Burger, head of the Swiss Agroscope research division based at the National Stud of AVENCHES, and Dr. Astrid von Velsen-Zerweck, director of MARBACH State Stud in Germany, who were confirmed in their positions. The next ESSA General Assembly will take place on July 3rd 2014 at MARBACH.

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Visit at MEZÖHEGYES State Stud

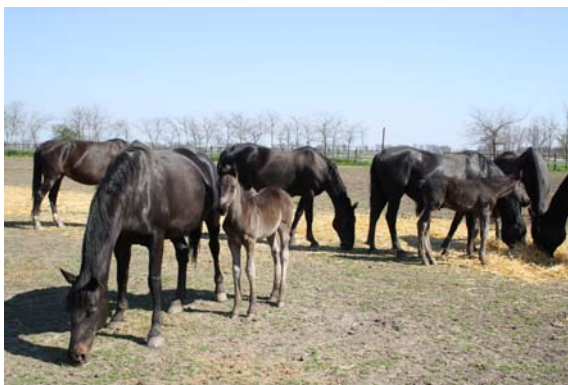
From March until July 2013 ESSA was supported by Isabell Hofmann, a student of the equine business programme at the University of Nürtingen-Geislingen (Germany). She was involved in the ESSA presence at Equitana and in the General Assembly at BÁBOLNA. Following the conference she continued her internship for 8 weeks at MEZÖHEGYES State Stud in the very south of Hungary. ESSA manager Alexandra Lotz accompanied her to MEZÖHEGYES and used the opportunity to visit the partner institution. She was impressed by the rich architectural heritage of the different parts of the stud and its horses, especially the Nonius breed. Everything seemed to be well organised, horse keeping and training, school, events, touristic offers and hotel looked very promising. It was an impressive and remarkable experience, and once more a huge “thank you” goes to director István Pap for the wonderful hospitality. Isabell Hofmann enjoyed her internship at MEZÖHEGYES a lot and would have loved to stay longer!



Nonius pair



Administration building



Nonius mares and foals still on the winter paddock



Sport horse after the training

all Photos: A. Lotz

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JUNE

Presentation at International Conference of Heritage Interpretation

In June Alexandra Lotz participated in an international conference on heritage interpretation at Sigtuna, Sweden. It was a truly global event as the conference has been organised by *Interpret Europe*, the European Association for Heritage Interpretation, in collaboration with the Swedish Centre for Nature Interpretation at the Swedish Agricultural University [SLU] and the National Association for Interpretation [NAI], based in the USA. Cultural and natural heritage specialists from all around the world shared their experiences about sustainable tourism and heritage interpretation.

In her presentation titled “*European State Studs – a forgotten heritage?*” Alexandra Lotz focused on the challenges to interpret living heritage sites which are usually perceived in a different context and the role interpretation can play to ensure the survival of cultural heritage. Her contribution was very well received and helped raising awareness for the European state studs as unique heritage sites that currently undergo a period of change, shift their focus and develop new business areas including touristic offers.



Interpretation specialists gathering nowhere else than under a horse monument at Stockholm. Photo Interpret Europe

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Visit at YPÄJÄ Equine College

After the heritage interpretation conference in the Stockholm area, Alexandra Lotz used the opportunity of being in Scandinavia and took a ferry to Finland, where she met Päivi Laine, the ESSA contact person at the Equine College YPÄJÄ. YPÄJÄ used to be the national stud of Finland and is today the major horse center of the country with a focus on education and training. The site is larger than one could expect, 320 hectares of land with boxes and outdoor loose housing for 530 horses, four indoor arenas (2 heated, 2 cold, the biggest 100 x 38 m) and eight outdoor arenas including a derby course, a 1 kilometer race track (trotting), 20 kilometer training roads and a cross country track for international eventing.

Thanks to Päivi Laine and Kirsti Piminäinen for being such wonderful hosts and guides!



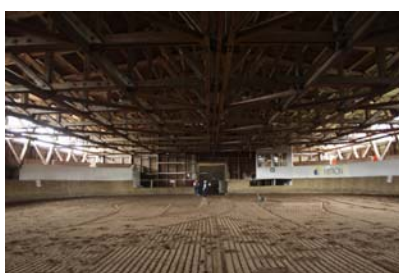
Päivi Laine explaining the site



Schoolhorses on holiday



Finnhorse mares and foals



One of several indoor arenas



Students at work



Ypäjä stables

all Photos A. Lotz

Breeding of the native Finnhorses still takes place for education purposes. Trotting-races play an important role with trotters as well as with Finnhorses. The first weekend in August 2014 will be a good chance to see top horses at the 90th anniversary of the "Trotting King Race", the championships for Finnhorse trotters. Guests can stay in the YPÄJÄ school hotel and the Equine College offers to organise trips to the competitions at Pori. An ESSA travel package will be on offer early in 2014.

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

Since the ESSA network was established, the connections between its partner institutions have become stronger. They can benefit not only from joint activities at horse fairs and other external events, but also by inviting partners to their own activities. Good examples for this kind of cooperation are the MARBACH Stallion Parades, which take place with a guest country since some years. After Switzerland, Hungary and France in the previous years, the Czech Republic supported the largest events of the stud in 2013. Coordinated by Alexandra Lotz the ESSA partner institutions KLADRUBY NAD LABEM, PÍSEK and TLUMAČOV, as well as the EQUUS KINSKY breeding association sent a total of 18 horses to MARBACH, accompanied by their riders, drivers, grooms and a lot of equipment. 26.000 visitors enjoyed three wonderful parades with first-class performances illustrating European stud culture at its best.



Eight-in-hand with Oldkladruber stallions



Kinsky horses under the saddle



Coldblood stallions from Písek in a sulky-quadrille



Guests from Tlumačov

all Photos Gotthardová

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Tour to REDEFIN and NEUSTADT-DOSSE

In both ESSA partner studs in the north east of Germany significant renovation and construction projects have recently been completed or are still going on. They aim to improve the conditions for horses and employees and provide the studs with new infrastructure for new tasks. In October Alexandra Lotz had the chance to take a look at the recent developments in both institutions.



Redefin: stable Nr. III from outside and with new boxes, more space and more light inside. Photos A. Lotz

At REDEFIN a new training stable with paddocks and a second indoor arena are already operating, while the historic stable Nr. III is supposed to be ready for use after intensive renovation at the end of the year. At NEUSTADT-DOSSE reconstruction work is going on at the last buildings of the historic “Hauptgestüt”- complex. The former mill has been turned into a dormitory of the boarding school.



Neustadt-Dosse: scaffoldings at some of the “Hauptgestüt”- buildings

Dormitory

Photos A. Lotz

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UNESCO conference about intangible heritage at Berlin

On October 30th a symposium organised by the German UNESCO Commission titled “*Immaterielles Kulturerbe erhalten und wertschätzen*” (*Preserving and Acknowledging Intangible Heritage*) took place at Berlin. Alexandra Lotz was invited to present a poster about European stud culture which caused interesting conversations and much positive feedback. Presenting our state studs at events of this kind helps raising awareness for their heritage values within the cultural sector. Promoting European stud culture as intangible heritage might be a way to gain UNESCO World Heritage status as it has already been achieved by the French riding tradition.

A report about the Berlin symposium and the contributions to the poster presentation are available online at <http://www.unesco.de/8318.html>

NOVEMBER

Visit at KLADRUBY NAD LABEM and SLATIŇANY

After the UNESCO conference at Berlin Alexandra Lotz visited KLADRUBY NAD LABEM and SLATIŇANY, in order to meet the new director Ing. Jíří Machek and to see KLADRUBY a last time before the long awaited reconstruction project, that will be undertaken in 2014. Due to this enormous task, the stud will be closed to the public and 240 horses need to be moved to different locations. The palace and the church are already empty and the administration is located in the former casino building for the time being.



Despite being recognised as national monuments the buildings of Kladruby nad Labem urgently need repair. Photos A. Lotz

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Slow decay and the value of age are important preservation principles, but at some stage help is required to save our heritage.

Photos A. Lotz

Even in poor condition KLADRUBY is a place of exceptional beauty and atmosphere. Thanks a lot for the warm welcome, the inspiring conversations and the wonderful hospitality! Best of luck for the reconstruction works, we are looking forward to see the outcome!

Festival of European Stud Culture with General Assembly and “Marbach Classics” 2014

In 2014 MARBACH will celebrate its 500th jubilee. The main event of the year will be the *Festival of European Stud Culture* from July 3rd to 5th. On July 3rd the ESSA members will meet for their General Assembly and on the following days a symposium and guided stud tours will be offered to a wider public. In the evenings of July 4th and 5th the gala shows “*Marbach Classics*” will take place open-air in the large arena. The Philharmonic Orchestra of Baden-Wuerttemberg will play live to a colourful show programme connecting 500 years of MARBACH with European history and stud culture with its diversity of breeds, riding, and driving traditions. Many ESSA partners have already announced to participate with horses and employees and we are looking forward to exciting days of trainings and performances in the European spirit. The TV-station of South West Germany (SWR) will accompany the event as media partner. Detailed information is available and will be updated on the ESSA website and on www.marbach-classics.de. All ESSA members will receive invitations early in 2014. Online ticket sales will start on February 13th at www.easy-ticket.de.

Thanks to the financial support of the newspaper “Reutlinger General Anzeiger” (GEA), that organises *Marbach Classics* in cooperation with the stud and the Philharmonic Orchestra, it was possible to re-open the ESSA-office, from where Alexandra Lotz coordinates the participants of the partner studs.

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ESSA DATES 2014

- February 14th to 16th PFERD BODENSEE fair at FRIEDRICHSHAFEN, Germany
- July 3rd to 5th Festival of European Stud Culture at MARBACH, Germany, with
- General Assembly on July 3rd
 - Symposium and guided tours on July 4th and 5th
 - “Marbach Classics” show on July 4th and 5th
- July 23th to 27th EUROCHEVAL fair with “Europa-Quadrille” at OFFENBURG, Germany
- July 31st to August 3rd Excursion to YPÄJÄ and the “Trotting King Race” at PORI, Finland



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MARBACH CLASSICS 2014

Hier kündigt sich Großartiges an. Die »Marbach Classics«, die Pferdeballet und sinfonische Live-Musik verbinden, werden 2014 zu einem der Glanzpunkte im Jubiläumsjahr des Haupt- und Landgestüts Marbach. 500 Jahre wird Deutschlands ältestes Staatsgestüt – ein starkes Argument, um einen Besuch der »Marbach Classics« am 4. oder 5. Juli 2014 zu einem unvergesslichen Sommerabend zu machen.

Die »Marbach Classics« werden im Jubiläumsjahr zum Festival der europäischen Gestütskultur. Führende Gestüte, wie die beiden Nationalgestüte Lipizza (Slowenien) und Kladruby (Tschechien), präsentieren die Vielfalt der europäischen Pferderassen, von mächtigen Arbeitspferden über seltene Spezialrassen, die einst zur Repräsentation an kaiserlichen Höfen gezüchtet wurden, bis zu modernen Sportpferden. Die Besucher erwartet eine Reise durch 500 Jahre Geschichte und durch die Pferdewelt Europas!

ALLES WICHTIGE AUF EINEN BLICK

Ort	Haupt- und Landgestüt Marbach 72532 Gomadingen-Marbach	
Termine	Freitag, 4. Juli 2014 Einlass 19.30 Uhr Beginn 20.30 Uhr	Samstag, 5. Juli 2014 Einlass 19.30 Uhr Beginn 20.30 Uhr
Preise	49,00 € 44,00 € (ermäßigt für Jugendliche bis 15 Jahre)	
Vorverkauf	Tickets gibt es ab 13. Februar 2014 bei EasyTicket-Service	
VIP-Pakete	Auf Anfrage (info@marbach-classics.de)	

Medienpartner **SWR** Fernsehen

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