

“The 7/16 rule”

Open letter to all Shagya breeders & owners in North America

The ASAV Breeding Committee and BOD looked into the overall situation to register horses with Shagya-Arabian bloodlines in North America and also reviewed registration practices used in the past. When ASAV started their registry according to International registration guidelines, there was no reason to question or doubt the correctness of already registered Shagya bloodstock in North America.

During the year 2008 ASAV received a high number of applications from already registered Part-Shagya-Arabian horses standing in North America. The ASAV Breeding Committee and ASAV Registrar still took the time and effort to particularly cross-check & validate the correctness of already registered Part-Shagya-Arabians according to the RZBO (ISG General Studbook Rules & Regulations). It came to our attention and it was also quite a surprise to us that Part-Shagya-Arabian registration papers were issued for Shagya-Arabian horses. Referring to the RZBO, which are the breeding rules & regulations of binding effect for ISG members, there is no such thing or category such as a “Part-Shagya-Arabian”. The RZBO defines the requirements for Shagya-Arabians and outlines the rules/requirements to which section or studbook a Shagya-Arabian belongs, but a discrimination or disqualification by naming certain horses with Shagya bloodlines only as Part-Shagya-Arabians can nowhere be found.

Fact is – based on the information we have at hand – that horses with registration papers called or currently classified as Part-Shagya-Arabians are indeed Shagya-Arabians* as long as they fulfill the 7/16 rule (means in the 4th generation out of 16 ancestors 7 ancestors are at least Shagyas and the remaining ones are Purebred Arabians (ox)).

**Each horse/registration still subject to validation & confirmation of correct Shagya-Arabian category by ASAV*

ASAV wants to make sure that Shagya-Arabian owners and breeders of horses with currently only Part-Shagya-Arabian registration papers have the right to know about this misleading or even wrong classification of their purebred Shagya-Arabian bloodstock.

The details for the official & international definition of Shagya-Arabians can be found in the ISG RZBO:
<http://www.shagya-isg.de/studbook-rules.htm>

The related definitions can be found under “**Studbook Categories**”. All registration requirements always refer to **Shagya-Arabians** and only differentiate/group through sections or the appendix of the studbook. Neither the original German nor the English version of the ISG RZBO calls Shagyas-Arabian horses with at least 7 Shagyas ancestors in their 4th generation “Part-“ or anything else or less than “Shagyas”.

ASAV offers to register all Part-Shagya-Arabians, fulfilling the 7/16 rule, to issue them correct registration papers as “Shagyas”.

This relates to quite some owners and breeders of off-spring from the following stallions – here a partial list:
*Oman, Almos, Bayram, *Budapest, *Dante, *Murad, *KS Tribute, and others.

ANY off-spring from these stallions with a Purebred Arabian mare fulfills the 7/16 RZBO rule/requirements and therefore has to be named correctly as “Shagya”.

ASAV cannot and does not want to comment or speculate about registration practices from the past in North America, but ASAV can assure all breeders & owners that we are committed to issue the correct registration papers for Shagya-Arabian bloodstock.

ASAV BOD & ASAV Breeding Committee
October, 2008