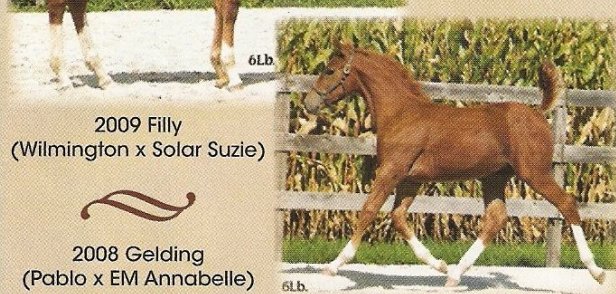




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North American Passports

Once a horse begins a competitive career beyond local shows, an FEI passport is required and is usually issued by the national federation of the country where the horse resides at the time.

The top dressage horse sporting a U.S. passport is Salinero (Hanoverian), a multiple-medalist. Otto, a Danish Warmblood gelding, and Rafalca, an Oldenburg mare, also make the top 100 with their U.S. passports. Pop Art, a KWPN gelding, ridden by Ashley Holzer, has a Canadian passport, as do the KWPN stallion Paganini, the Oldenburg gelding Gran Gesto, and the Oldenburg gelding Quantum Tyme.

The highest-ranked eventer with a U.S.-issued passport is My Boy Bobby, an Irish Sport Horse gelding. Leyland, a pure Thoroughbred gelding, carries a U.S. passport, and both of his parents were U.S.-breds. High Patriot (Oldenburg gelding), Ballynoe Castle RM (ISH/TB cross), Woodburn (Australian-bred TB ridden by a Canadian), Truluck (U.S.-bred TB with U.S.-bred parents), Dobbin (U.S.-bred TB with U.S.-bred parents), Fleeceworks Mystere du Val (SF gelding), S.S. Jett (New Zealand Sport Horse gelding), R-Star (Holsteiner mare), Normandy Soldier (TB cross), Remington XXV (Hanoverian gelding), and Destination Unknown (TB gelding) all boast U.S. passports and are among the top 100 eventers.

Among the top 100 jumpers with U.S. passports are Sapphire (Belgian Warmblood mare), Cristallo (Holsteiner gelding), Love Affair (SF mare), Night Train (Zangersheide gelding), Flexible (ISH stallion), Danny Boy (Belgian Warmblood gelding) and 11th and Bleeker (Westphalen gelding). Those with Canadian passports include Picolien Zeldenrust AD (KWPN mare), In Style (Holsteiner gelding), Redefin (KWPN gelding), and Black Ice (KWPN gelding).

Patterns and Trends

When looking at the overall picture, it became clear that the Thoroughbred influence is still very important in eventing, but there were also a couple of patterns emerging in both dressage and jumping in regard to the Thoroughbred influence.

In eventing, things are much as they have been for many years. Nearly half of the top 30 sires are full Thoroughbred, one is three-quarters Thoroughbred, one is half Thoroughbred, and three have Thoroughbred grandsires (either paternal or maternal). And, most of the remaining sires show a high percentage of Thoroughbred blood. In addition, approximately one-fifth of the top 100 eventers are pure Thoroughbred. This is not necessarily in keeping with the predictions of many, who thought that the warmbloods would dominate the sport after the removal of the steeplechase and roads and tracks phases.

One of the top sires of dressage mounts was Lauries Crusador xx, but one leading sire doesn't really qualify as