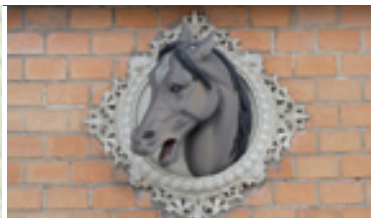




HAUPT- und LANDGESTÜT
Marbach



2nd Endurance Days
 Hof St. Johann
 Marbach, Germany
 14.-16. May 2010

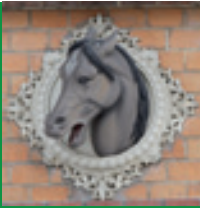
National Ride
 CEN 60, 80, 120 km

International Rides
 CEI 80, 120 km
 CEI JYR 80, 120 km

and
 Baden-Württemberg
 Championship 2010

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History of the Stud

Horse breeding at Marbach goes back to the middle ages, when Graf Eberhard V established his own private stud here between 1477 and 1480. The ruling Dukes soon realized the need to improve the quality of the local horse breeds, and in 1573 Marbach was elevated to the status of a court and state stud. This, in effect, means that Marbach is Germany's oldest state stud.

The 18th and 19th centuries saw intense breeding, using Mecklenburger, Holstein, English half-breds, and Norman-bred horses, to improve the quality of the local working horses. Heavier types, such as the Cleveland Bay, Yorkshire Coach Horse and Clydesdale were also used to improve substance and bone.



From about 1896 to 1950 breeding was concentrated on producing a standard Württemberger horse – a multi-purpose animal capable of working the land as well as being suitable for leisure purposes. From the mid-1950's it was decided to attempt to breed a lighter, more athletic, modern riding horse. The Trakhener stallion Julmond was used as the foundation stallion, and despite being 22 years old when he arrived at Marbach, he helped establish the modern Württemberger warm blood. Julmond died in 1965, aged 27 years, and is buried here, in the forest overlooking the stud.

Cross-breeding with other warm blood breeds, such as the Hannoverian, Oldenburger, Holsteiner, Trakehner and English Thoroughbred, has refined the breed, and today the modern Württemberger is highly regarded as a competition horse, as well as a good family all-rounder and carriage horse.

Marbach is also well known as the home of the Weil-Marbach Arabians. Between 1814 and 1819 King Wilhelm I of Württemberg imported a number of Arabian stallions and mares from the Middle East and established his own private stud at Weil (Esslingen). When he died in 1864 the Weil Arabians were considered to be the best in Europe. However, the stud went into decline between 1890 and 1932, and at the height of economic and financial crisis in 1932, Princess Pauline zu Wied decided to sign the entire breeding stock over to Marbach, as the last will and testament of King Wilhelm I forbade the disbandment of the herd. The post-war years saw the Weil-Marbach Arabians at another low-point – the original 17 horses to come from Weil in 1932 carried only one bloodline and another out-cross was urgently required to safeguard the future of these special horses. The saviour was a desert-bred stallion called Hadban Enzahi, imported from the El Zahara stud in Egypt in 1955 as a three-year old. He was perhaps the most enigmatic of stallions, responsible for the foundation of an exceptional family of mares. Such was his influence on the Weil-Marbach Arabians, his legacy can still be seen today in some of the resident Arabian stallions, mares and foals here at Marbach.



Impressions of the 1st Ride 2009



Hof St. Johann / Marbach, Germany



HAUPT- und LANDGESTÜT

Marbach



Welcome to Hof St. Johann / Marbach



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