

GALLOPING THROUGH EUROPE

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The year 2015 was full of travelling for us. Together with N.V. Abramova, we started our European journey in Denmark. Our mission was to describe, photograph and assess horses of all age categories, including geldings and part-bred horses, measure them and evaluate them in motion. After Denmark, we visited one resident in Sweden and then horses in Belgium. The Akhal Teke Championship in Belgium provided an opportunity to evaluate a few horses from the Netherlands, Germany and UK as well. The next stop was France. Upon request of members of the French Akhal Teke Association (ATF, President Héloïse Ghirardi), the results of French horses were presented as the “Distant French Championship”. After France, we both travelled to Italy and Spain, but I then went to the Czech Republic and Austria on my own. All in all, 157 horses were evaluated.

Methodology. The evaluation of the type, conformation and body measurements followed the traditional procedure, i.e. used a ten-point scale and multiplying coefficients (just like in the evaluation of the quality of the progeny of breeding stallions); the score for the type was multiplied by 3, those for the conformation and body measurements by 2. As some of the participants were unable to show their horses in motion properly, this part was not included in the final evaluation. All horses were photographed from both sides in the basic conformation stand.

Results.

The table below shows the horses’ affiliation to different genealogical lines. France and the Czech Republic accounted for the highest numbers of horses under evaluation. Horses from the United Kingdom, Austria, Belgium, Denmark, the Netherlands, Italy and Spain are presented in a single aggregate group.

Table 1

The affiliation of European Akhal Teke horses to different genealogical lines

Line	France	Czech Republic	Rest of Europe	Total
Arab	9	6	7	22
Kir Sakar	2	-	2	4
Kaplan	6	5	3	14
Everdy Teleke	1	-	3	4
Skak	-	-	-	-
Peren	6	1	3	10
Mele Kush	-	-	2	2
Sere	2	3	5	10
Toporbai	1	4	1	6
Karlavach	1	-	-	1
El	9	2	2	13
Sovkhoz 2	2	1	4	7
Posman	2	-	5	7
Fakirpelvan	2	8	1	11
Gelishikli	9	1	4	14
Gundogar	5	6	7	18
Genealogical group Melguna	-	-	1	1
Ak Sakal	-	2	-	2
Dor Bairam	-	-	1	1
Ak Belek	-	-	1	1
Part-breds	3	6	-	9
Total	60	45	52	157

The tables below contain data characterizing different groups of the horses under evaluation:

Table 2

Yearlings (horses born in 2014)

Sex	Number	Type	Ext.	Measurements	Total
Fillies	8	7.89	8.33	146.8 - 147.3 - 158.4 - 18.0	56.25
Colts	5	7.74	8.22	145.4 - 144.2 - 158.6 - 18.2	52.94

Best fillies

Country	Name, colour	Sire-Dam	Line	Body	Certificate
France	Djinja, cremello	Shanameh - Djiran	El	61.0	I
France	Garynja, bay	Dargan-Gagara	Gundogar	58.9	II
Czech Republic	Delbar, black	Samurai-Davenda	Fakirpelvan	56.5	III

Best colts

Austria	Daiquiri, bay	Dangatar-Kegera Hanum	Dor Bairam	54.8	I
Spain	Amudarya, buckskin, born from covering in the Czech Republic	Patysh-Abra	Gundogar	53.5	II
France	Sinai, bay	Sidjil-Urs	Gelishikli	53.4	III

The information presented above shows that the young horses under evaluation are well-developed. As usual in this age group, fillies tend to be slightly more advanced than colts.

Table 3 shows the quality of two-year horses. At this age, colts are more “advanced” (in terms of body measurements) than fillies.

Table 3.

Two years old horses (born in 2013)

Sex	Number	Type	Ext.	Measurements	Total
Fillies	7	7.86	8.21	153.1 – 157.9 – 173.9 – 18.21	57.1
Colts	6	7.90	8.67	157.3 – 157.3 – 174.2 – 19.08	59.2

Country	Name, colour	Sire-Dam	Line	Body	Certificate
Best fillies					
France	Bogdana, dark buckskin, born in Slovakia	Gorets – Bagra Hanum	Sovkhoz 2	62.4	I
Czech Republic	Gemekala, dark buckskin	Gumon-Grust	Kaplan	61.1	II
Czech Republic	Gowy Gowun, grey	Gobi Gush-Mukam	Gundogar	56.3	III
Best colts					
Czech Republic	Shergir, bay	Samurai – Jana-Jan	Fakirpelvan	61.8	I
France	Aldebaran, buckskin	Real-Azira	Kaplan	61.1	II
Czech Republic	Shabrang, bay	Samurai-Ainabat	Fakirpelvan	60.4	III

The next table is dedicated to horses born in 2012 and 2011. Table 4 presents both results for each year and the aggregate for the whole group. The best horses are listed according to their scores rather than according to their year of birth. The table shows that the horses in this age group also display good body measurements, although they are slightly behind their younger colleagues as to the type. This fact also indicates that Europe has started paying more attention to the “type” in the selection process.

Table 4
Youngstock born in 2012 and 2011

Year of birth	Number	Type	Ext.	Measurements	Total
Fillies					
2012	8	7.40	7.69	156.8 – 159.1 – 178.8 – 18.13	53.53
2011	4	7.60	8.00	157.8 – 160.3 – 184.3 – 18.50	55.80
Group aggregate	12	7.47	7.79	157.1 – 159.5 – 180.6 – 18.25	54.28
Colts					
2012	5	7.62	8.36	159.6 – 159.4 – 179.6 – 19.20	57.18
2011	7	7.57	8.40	160.6 – 163.6 – 179.7 - 19.50	56.94
Group aggregate	12	7.59	8.38	160.2 – 161.8 – 179.7 – 19.38	57.04

Country	Name, colour	Sire-Dam	Line	Body	Certificate
Best fillies					
Czech Republic	Dijanitra, dark bay, 2011	Germes-Davenda	Ak Sakal	59.1	I
Czech Republic	Djik-Djiki, dark buckskin, 2012	Samurai-Davenda	Fakirpelvan	57.8	II
Belgium	Tedjen, buckskin, 2012	Ikon (u.i.)-Talianka	Kir Sakar	55.6	III
Best colts					
Czech Republic	Sergesdan, buckskin, 2012, born from covering in Estonia	Serdaryan-Sayatkhanum	Sere	61.0	I
France	Alsabik, bay, 2011	Ornai-Azira	Kaplan	60.8	II
Czech Republic	Pair, bay, 2011	Fatyh-Penelope	Sovchoz 2	58.0	III

The next group comprises five- and six-year horses (born in 2009 and 2010). Unfortunately, there were only two stallions in the group. The results are presented in Table 5.

Table 5
Horses born in 2010 and 2009

Year of birth	Number	Type	Ext.	Measurements	Total
Mares					
2010	5	7.70	8.16	157.6 – 158.6 – 181.0 – 19.20	54.82
2009	5	7.70	8.40	154.6 – 158.6 – 178.0 – 18.10	53.98
Group aggregate	10	7.70	8.40	156.1 – 158.6 – 179.5 – 18.60	54.40
Stallions					
2009	2	7.85	8.50	163.0 – 169.0 – 184.0 – 20.50	59.55

Country	Name, colour	Sire-Dam	Line	Body	Certificate
Best mares					
Czech Republic	Jangi, black	Samurai – Jana-Jan	Fakirpelvan	58.1	I
Spain	Abra, chestnut 2010, born in the Czech Republic	Abebe-Alsanta	Sere	55.5	II
France	Revati, dark chestnut, 2010, born in Germany	Gagarchan-Mar geli	Gundogar	55.4	III
Best stallions					
Czech Republic	Ghadir, bay, 2009	Gumon-Grust	Kaplan	62.0	I
Czech Republic	Gobi Gush, bay, 2009, born in the Netherlands	Gilzai Han-Marishka	Gundogar	57.1	II

The last and most numerous group consists of horses that are seven years old or older. The group of stallions also includes geldings, but the latter are not included in the championship. The results are presented in Table 6.

Table 6
Akhal Teke horses seven-year or older horses (born in 2008 or earlier)

Sex	Number	Type	Ext.	Measurements	Total
Mares	48	7.62	8.14	158.3 – 162.0 – 182.2 – 18.76	55.18
Stallions and geldings	21	7.76	8.31	159.1 – 161.1 – 180.1 – 19.29	54.86

Country	Name, colour	Sire-Dam	Line	Body	Certificate
Best mares					
Czech Republic	Ainabat, buckskin, 2006, born in Germany	Gunesh-Amga	Kaplan	61.0	I
Czech Republic	Jana-Jan, bay, 2006	Mingam-Davenda	Toporbai	59.0	II
Czech Republic	Bibigy, bay, 1995, born in Russia	Gaisan-Bazilik	Gelişikli	58.8	II

Austria	Kegeera Hanum, chestnut, 2007, born in Russia	Garphan-Keik	Peren	58.1	III
France	Dargana, bay, 2003	Dargan-Morena	Gundogar	57.5	III
Czech Republic	Grust, buckskin, 1993, born in Russia	Serasker-Greza	Sere	57.5	III
Best stallions					
Czech Republic	Samurai, black, 2001, born in Russia	Maksut-Sakata	Fakirpelvan	58.5	I
Czech Republic	Gelshah, bay, 2008	Gumon-Fornaks	Kaplan	58.2	II
Italy	Luigi, buckskin, 2006 born in Austria	Olzar-Libussa	Gelishikli	58.1	II
Czech Republic	Damask, dark buckskin, 2003, born in Russia	Aksum-Davenda	Arab	57.1	III
France	Ornai, bay, 2000, born in Russia	Ashg-Olvia	Kaplan	54.4	III
France	Gapur, black, 1991, born in Russia	Pudok-Greza	Peren	53.1	III

As to the geldings, the highest-rated horse was Galindar (buckskin, born in 2008 (Gindarkh-Guana Kosteka)), Gundogar line. Galindar was born in the United States, to parents imported from the former Soviet Union. At the moment, his home is Denmark. His total score was 58 points.