



Charting Arabian Strains in Pedigrees:

Part Two

by Christie Metz

photos by Stuart Vesty, Johnny Johnston & Judith Forbis

In the “Arabian Strains” article in the April 2009 issue of *Oasis*, I identified six of the strains commonly represented within the straight Egyptian community of Arabian horses today in the United States and many other countries. While there are a variety of other strains and sub strains that may be written about, these six strains (identified by a specific color) will be used for the purposes of this article. In the first article I traced the history of how and when strains or types of Arabian horses came about within the Bedouin/nomadic culture of the Arab people. More specifically this applied to whether the Arabian horse was a product of a desert tribe or a city confederation associated with the Bedouin. Other sources such as a personality or character trait of the horses or the different, ever changing, geographical regions the Bedouins traveled through served as the inspiration for naming the strains. Names and identifiers were commonly added to the strain name when the horses changed hands or a family branch was added via a human family member. Also, it was not uncommon for a daughter of a mare to establish a new branch name. Mare lines are held in the highest esteem by the Arab people as illustrated by the fact that strains are always traced through the female side of the pedigree, along the last line, which is known as the tail-female line.

Kuhaylan, Dahman, Saqlawi, Dahman-Shahwan, Hadban Enzahi and Abbeyan

In order to illustrate a pedigree of today I also added the color purple to the sub-strain Dahman Shahwan that is thought to be a combination of Saqlawi and Kuhaylan strains.

In addition to remembering these color connotations for each strain, please keep in mind the phenotype (body type) associated with that strain. Please note the chart listing the strain and which includes photos of individual Arabian horses that resemble the phenotype associated with each strain. On the right of the chart is an arrow that indicates the scale of the most masculine to the more feminine body types. It is with the kind permission of Judith Forbis, designer of the original scale, that I revised it to resemble what you see here. Remember, this chart applies to both male and female horses. Once you have this chart fixed in your mind it is an interesting exercise to apply it to an Arabian horse with a modern day pedigree.



STRAIN TYPE SCALE

Masculine



Kuhaylan



Dahman



Saqlawi



Dahman-Shahwan



Hadban
Enzahi



Abbeyan

Feminine



**MAJESTIC
NOBLE SMF
AHR*578880 Grey 2000**

MARQUIS I
AHR*506866 Grey 1993

MAKHSOUS
AHR*202958 Grey 1979

ANTIGUA DANCE
AHR*412330 Grey 1987

**NABIEL+/
AHR*72106 Grey 1971**

NAGDA
AHR*376520 Grey 1986

BINT MAGIDAA
AHR*62907 Grey 1970

***SULTANN**
AHR*124566 Chestnut 1961

***NABDA**
AHR*124560 Grey 1974

RUMINAJA BAHJAT
AHR*150088 Grey 1977

TALYLA
AHR*203121 Chestnut 1980

***SAKR+++**
AHR*50732 Grey 1968

***MAGIDAA**
AHR*56075 Chestnut 1964

***KHOFO++**
AHR*32265 Grey 1965

***MAGIDAA**
AHR*56075 Chestnut 1964

SAMEH (or Kuhaylan)
IOHB*139 Grey 1945

LUBNA
EAO*17 Grey 1953

WAHAG
EAO*320 Grey 1964

NEAMAT
EAO*181 Chestnut 1962

SHAIKH AL BADI
AHR*54456 Grey 1969

BINT MAGIDAA
AHR*62907 Grey 1970

ANSATA SHAH ZAMAN
AHR*47967 Grey 1968

TALYA
AHR*59150 Grey 1969

SULTAN
EAO*52 Chestnut 1961

ENAYAT
EAO*530 Grey 1961

ALAA EL DIN
EAO*352 Chestnut 1956

MAYSA
EAO*519 Chestnut 1955

MORAFIC
EAO*29 Grey 1956

NABILAH
EAO*166 Grey 1960

ALAA EL DIN
EAO*352 Chestnut 1956

MAYSA
EAO*519 Chestnut 1955



Above is the pedigree of one of our stallions at Silver Maple Farm, Majestic Noble SMF. His lines have been highlighted in the color of the strain according to original studbooks of several countries. When analyzing Majestic Noble SMF's pedigree please observe that he has three lines representing the Abbeyan strain, highlighted in brown. The first line comes through Noble's dam, Nagda, whose line traces to Bint Magidaa, Magidaa and then to Maysa. A second Abbeyan line is found again through Majestic Noble's dam, Nagda and through her sire, Nabil, a Magidaa son and Maysa grandson. Because both Nagda's sire and dam are of the Abbeyan strain she is considered a pure in the strain Abbeyan mare. For Majestic Noble to be pure in the strain, both his sire and dam lines would have to be Abbeyan in strain, but this is not the case. Noble's tail female line is Abbeyan, but his sire Marquis I, is Hadban Enzahi (Inzahi) in strain. However, the third Abbeyan line in Majestic Noble's pedigree is found in the pedigree of his sire Marquis I who traces to Maysa through his dam, Antigua Dance. She is a Ruminaja Bahat daughter, Bahat is a Bint Magidaa son, Bint Magidaa is a Magidaa daughter and Magidaa is again out of Maysa. The sire side of Majestic Noble's pedigree appears to be predominately a blend of Hadban and Saqlawi strains with two sires in the fifth generation being of the Dahman strain. One line is questionable as to whether it is Kuhaylan or Saqlawi in strain because the stallion Sameh is listed as being either Kuhaylan or Saqlawi in strain from several sources. However, photos of Sameh

show that his phenotype most resembles a Kuhaylan stallion. Majestic Noble's pedigree is leaning towards the more feminine side of the scale with representatives from the strains of Hadban Enzahi, Saqlawi and Abeyyan Um Jurays; and without a doubt his photos show that his phenotype matches his pedigree.

In closing please remember; the scale of strain types range from masculine to feminine, the colors we've used to identify the strains and how the strains originated through the Arab people. In the next article I will use these same cues and hopefully map a pedigree with the geographical areas, tribes and confederations and show how history traces to the people of today. All of these elements are parts of the horses we breeders, owners and trainers love. Humans are integral to the Arabian horse's existence – past, present and future. This continuum is an inter weaving of human lives and Arabian horses, and each generation contributes to a totally unique, ever changing, rich and glorious tapestry.

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