

THE ARAB WELSH PONY CROSS

The more usual mating is to put an Arab stallion to a Welsh Mountain Pony mare. We thought it would be interesting to see what a Welsh Mountain Pony stallion to a purebred Arab mare would produce. Consequently, the purebred Arab mare CHEZ NOUS CASSANDRA was bred to BADGEMORE BOXER. The result was the delightful pony JAMANI BLUE KERRID, and also that a second purebred Arab mare JAMANI QUANTEZA was bred to BADGEMORE BOXER producing JAMANI BLUE MAGIC.



Jamani Blue Magic, a painting by Gavin Doyle in 1977

These two ponies have a double status, and they have been Champion Partbred Arab stallions, as well as Champion Partbred Welsh Pony stallions. Both have always been produced immaculately at all shows, and the Championships seen between the two for years, in-hand and under saddle.

Even more remarkable was their achievements as sires, especially JAMANI BLUE MAGIC. Mrs Armitage uses him mostly on Thoroughbred mares. He has twice sired the winner of one of the most coveted awards in horse circles viz. "Horse of the Year".

The awards won by the two ponies and their progeny are far too many to elaborate on. This proved the success of the experiment.

As far as I know, only three of them were ever bred, and third one was gelded (his dam ORANGE VALLEY CRYSTAL was not a very good Arab mare). The only reason why there are not more of them is that purebred Arab mares are really far too priceless to use for this kind of breeding.

According to the SA Studbook, there is no record of the partbred Welsh foal of Orange Valley Crystal, but this could have been recorded in the Arab partbred studbook. Jamani Blue Elle, a partbred filly also by Boxer, was out of Blue Haze, a partbred Arab mare. However, in 1962 the partbred filly, Jamani Blue Rain was foaled. She is by Boxer out of a purebred Arab mare Jamani Jinah-Al-Tayr

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STABLE BLINDNESS

I have met plenty of men who placed very high value on their riding horses which to others, equally qualified to arrive at a judgement, did not appear to possess any special or excellent points; in fact, one would be tempted to think that said points existed in the owner's imagination only ~ JM Christy, Selecting and Judging Horses, Transvaal Agricultural Journal, Vol 5, Jan 1907