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HERDA Information as it Pertains to Woronecki Ranch Quarter Horses

HERDA is a genetic disorder that can affect horses. It is recommended that people research more in depth on their own as to the history, problems, genetic factors and heredity of HERDA. HERDA is a recessive trait and only horses that inherit both recessive genes from each parent (Hdr/Hdr) will be afflicted. Afflicted animals usually are euthanized by age two due to the problems that it causes.

Carriers (N/Hdr) and non-carriers (N/N) will have no problems in their lives as they will NOT be afflicted at all and they will be able to perform all performance activities.

From a breeding perspective, non-carrier to non-carrier are the best. Non-carrier (N/N) to carrier (N/Hdr) will statistically produce carrier offspring 50% of the time. Carrier (N/Hdr) to carrier (N/Hdr) will statistically produce non-carriers 25%, carriers 50% and afflicted 25%. It is highly advised that carriers not be bred to carriers as to avoid producing afflicted offspring.

Genetic testing for HERDA became available in 2007. At this time the patent for HERDA testing within the US is held by UC Davis <http://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/services/horse.php>

HERDA was mistakenly thought in the past to have been passed to Poco Bueno through his sire, King-P234. It is now believed to have its origin with his dam, Miss Taylor. Any descendants of Miss Taylor have the potential to be HERDA carriers. There are several that were known carriers including Poco Bueno, Poco Lena, Doc O'Lena, Dry Doc and many, many more.

We at Woronecki Ranch Quarter Horses had our pedigrees examined by Dr. Nena Winand from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Dr. Winand led the way in developing the genetic test for HERDA. She advised us which of our horses could potentially be carriers based upon review of their extended pedigrees.

Our stallion, **TRR Paddys Texas Gin aka Tex, was tested and found to be a carrier (N/Hdr)**. As stated above, as a carrier, he is NOT afflicted and never will be. However, statistically he can produce carrier offspring 50% of the time. **All mares bred to Tex have also been tested and are (N/N). We will NOT breed him to a carrier mare. We will NOT take the chance of an afflicted foal. All of his offspring will be tested and their carrier status will be declared.** We also provide original reports of his offspring to buyers. **Remember that carrier horses are NOT afflicted, but can pass it on through breeding. We advise prospective buyers to make informed decisions when choosing to breed a carrier horse.** It is believed that Tex received his carrier gene through his damsire, Tanquery Gin who is by Doc O'Lena (a known carrier). His sire, Paddys Irish Whiskey is declared N/N by the 6666s ranch veterinarian.

Paddys Gin Luke JW (AQHA Pending)
2011 Bay Stallion
HERDA Status is N/HRD---carries one copy of the HERDA Gene

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