

THE SECRETS OF **BLACK**

SILVATICA BLACK ARABIANS

interview by Urszula Łęczycka | photos by Katarzyna Dolńska, Joanna Jonientz



Alicja Napióra with son - Konrad



Esterna (Al Maraam x Echidna)



Tutto Arabi: *As one of the first in Poland you started to breed Arabian horses specializing for black color. Nowadays in your barns almost half of the horses wear bay color and you are also using some non black stallions. Does it mean a change of breeding concept?*

Alicja Napióra: *Indeed I have 4 mares and one fillies bay now but its because of the recent sale of the group of 7 black horses from my farm! And the concept is still the same.*

TA: *So is there still a good market for black Arabian horses then? Is that market good? Recently you have sold seven mentioned horses to one client from the Middle East – can you tell us a bit about that transaction?*

AN: *I think the market for black Arabian horses still exists and is still good although this breeding is tough task as the buyers nowadays are not only seeking for color but also, as in case of other Arabian horses, for good type, pretty faces and extreme movements. Indeed I sold 6 horses to Lebanon recently and I went to Kuwait. I have a big satisfaction from it as I am still receiving new informations from the new owners how much they are happy with my horses. Some of the mares sold will establish black Arabian horses breeding in Lebanon. Ramira Rose, full sister to out entitled colt Rascal will surely end up at the show ring and the colt Black Kamir made such a good impression that he will now start his career as a chief sire.*



Silvatica (Fawor x Sawina)

TA: *Since you have started your breeding there were quite many farms breeding black Arabian horses across Europe and also in Poland. In your opinion, do these horses sell well and does this concept has a financial, reasonable future? Is it easier to sell black Arabian horse, even young one without any show or breeding career then Arabian horse of different color?*

AN: *I have one rule: „don't look at the others, work yourself" so I never judge or copy others, I always listen to myself only. I think that during these 10 years I learned how to summarize my own breeding decisions and it helps me with taking the further directions for my breeding. I didn't start my black breeding for money reasons but because it was and still*

is a big challenge as nowadays except from a color the head, movements and type matters, that black Arabian horses often lacks, that's why I think that to sell black Arabian horse is not so easy.

TA: *So waht are your further breeding goals and directions? What sires have you been using recently and why?*

AN: *Recently I am using my home bred colt – Juman Psyche, son of legendary and entitled multichampion Magnum Psyche, as well as Enzo and QR Marc. I also plan to use Magnum Psyche himself and Magic Magnifique. These are wonderful, pretty stallions that may not only effect a black color but also pass their type to the future foals.*



Juman Psyche
(Magnum Psyche x Jasmin DH)



Marjjana VA
(Marwan Al Shaqab x MI Khismit)

TA: This season we will see a show debut of an interesting filly bred by your farm. Enigmatica by 2011 Brazilian National Champion HDB Sihr Ibn Massai and out of Esterna, exotic Al Maraam daughter will start at Bialka Junior Spring show which is quite tough debut for Arabian in Poland. How do you judge this filly comparing to the other offsprings you have bred and what do you expect from Enigmatica this season?

AN: It's so difficult to compliment own horses. For me Enigmatica is a pretty filly but will judges like her? We will see in time... We have really good and strong young competitors in Poland so it is tough. I don't plan further starts by now, let's see the first scores in Bialka.

TA: What else new and interesting we can see in your barns?

AN: I think two black young Windspress Mirage broodmares are interesting, we have also a promising colt – Murray Shah by BS Black Fable.

TA: We know that you owe probably one of the few black Magnum Psyche sons across the world. Moreover it was your own breeding idea as you have been dreaming of having black Magnum Psyche offspring. Can you tell us the story of breeding this colt?

AN: Yes, indeed it was my dream to breed a foal by Magnum Psyche and 4 years ago it happened to be a challenge coming across the



Cocco Mirage
(Windspress Mirage x Czarnula)



BS Black Fable (Taladinn x BS Black Fantasy)



Ravenwood Nejma
(Ravenwood Sihr x Ravenwood Masha)

Enigmatica
(HDB Sihr Ibn Massai x Esterna)



way and as I said before, I like challenges. The difficulty was that Magnum Psyche's semen was not available in Europe so the only way to breed such foal was to buy a mare in foal in the USA. I think it was right time and right place as an interesting mare was found and I decided to order her being bred to this fantastic sire.

TA: It seems that also your most entitled mare, one of the prettiest Marwan Al Shaqab mares in Europe purchased in the USA is now being in foal – to which stallion and what will be the future career of this beautiful mare?

AN: Marjjana is incredible, beautiful, with lovely character, I like her very much. She is

now in foal to our stallion BS Black Fable and it was not an easy task, I guess due to the embryos being done before, to get her in foal. But we did it. Futher plan? Probably Marjjana will say her next word in 2013...

TA: Because you have sold so many horses last year do you plan any interesting trips and purchases in the near future?

AN: I basically don't look for horses now as I still have 8 broodmares and I am more focused on breedings now... but never say ne4ver so if some horse will steal my heart who knows...

TA: We wish you the best of luck either in planning your breedings or in finding that right horse.



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