



TA: Tell us, who is Philippe Hosay and how and when did you get involved with Arabian Horses?

My involvement with Arabian horses began in 1985 - a very close friend of mine who owned an Arabian stallion was inviting me to come along and attend some shows. It was very interesting and of course ignited the passion for Arabian horses.

TA: How did you start training and showing Arabian horses?

After buying my first Arabian horse, I began trying my hand at breeding, attending shows - both as a spectator and as an exhibitor, for the later - I was always preparing and showing my horses myself. When you do something you're

passionate about and are fortunate enough to do something you love, you learn very quick and soak in all you can. Even today, I'm still learning new things... I think thats an aspect of this Arabian horse industry that I like very much. From one thing came the other and in 1995 what started as a hobby transformed into to a professional career as a handler and trainer. It is because of many small breeders and clients who believed in me as trainer & handler and also for entrusting their horses to my care. It is not a responsibility I take lightly and I work

hard to ensure the care and well being of each horse in my care is first class.

TA: You also have your own breeding program. Could you tell me more about that?

The most enjoyable aspect for me in breeding Arabian horses is enjoying the mares and foals having a great time outside in the grass paddocks. It's very important for me that I breed not only beautiful Arabian horses, but that they must have very nice characters, along with beautiful

Arabian type and unmistakable Arabian attitude. Horses from our breeding program have gone on to be very successful for their new owners. It's very gratifying to see the horses from our program bring success and excellent results to their new owners from all around the world. For me, this brings a lot of joy.

TA: We know that you give some advice to your client regarding breeding program. What qualities are you looking for in an Arabian stallion when you select your broodmares and stallions?

It's very important to first evaluate the mare, to see her weaknesses and also to appreciate her strengths. You cannot be barn blind as it will only affect the





results of the expectant foal. You also need to spend time evaluating what the stallion has produced on similar bloodlines. This can help you in making educated breeding decisions.

TA: Your horses are always in great condition at the show. What is the key to get the show horses in show condition?

We have fine turned an excellent training and conditioning program at my farm. We provide different conditioning regiments to ensure horses are cross-trained. We also work very hard to ensure we feed the highest quality feed and hay. It is essential also that grooming never be sacrificed as this is one of the most integral part in the overall

success in obtaining winning show condition.

TA: How do you train the young horses? Do you give them a different approach than the older ones?

Every Arabian horse is different. Whether the horse is young or older - we fine tune our training programs to fit the individual horse based on

An interview with...

current condition, their mind, how they adapt to our program, and most importantly their overall health and condition. Seasoned show horses can have a different condition program than say a young yearling coming into the show barn for the very first time. It just all depends on the horse.

TA: What are the characteristics a show horse must have?

I'm sure many people would answer this question differently -- but for me, quality plays a very big part in a show horse. Type, attitude, ability to train and of course there is also the way the horse handles the shows; from transport (both short & long hauls), adapting to different stabling environments, climate changes, and the level of stress.

TA: What are your favorite features of the Arabian Horse today? Do you have an Arabian that comes closest to your ideal?

Many Arabian horse features are attractive to me. Of course, I love a beautiful head - short, deeply dished, wide forehead with low-set eyes. The eyes along with the eye sockets need to be large. Attitude is also very, very important. Arabian horses must





be extremely animated - straight, high tail carriage, along with a beautiful shaped, well set on, neck. For me, El Palacio VO who I've been fortunate to show, owned by Al Khalediah Stables, is a very good representative of these qualities. What's also so impressive is he is passing on these same amazing qualities to his foals.

TA: Tell us more about your team.

The team associated with me and my farm play a very important role in our success. From the day-to-day care our horses receive at home, to the tireless hours spent traveling on the road ensuring the well-being of each horse is always tended, to the meticulous show grooming and preparation at the shows. It's for sure the truth that no success could be possible with out my team - for they are responsible for so much of our successes around the world. I cannot tell you how relieved I am when I travel knowing that my farm and horses are very well cared for. This allows me to focus on the shows and other aspects and responsibilities of the horses and running a training center.

TA: Tell us more about your work with the clients.

Your client relationship is very important - communication about the day-to-day well being of their horses in your care, as well as the plans and arrangements for shows needs to always be clear. It's a special bond between owner and horse so you

An interview with...

need to understand the clients just want to be kept informed. Sometimes you make the clients happy and sometimes it's not always going like you planned, but working hard for them and giving them for what they invest, being straight forward and honest, thats why clients become friends

TA: Do you have any advice for the young people out there who are dreaming about doing your job?

Educate yourself as much as you can. Attend shows, fine tune your techniques. Work hard, be yourself, and don't walk next to your shoes. The Arabian Horse World is ever evolving and you must learn to grow and evolve as you go. This is the most important. When you think you know everything, you stop learning.

