



Al Waab Farm

by Simone Leo ■ photos by Erwin Escher (www.ErwinEscher.com), Frank Holloman, Jennifer Ogden

This last February we had the chance to visit Al Waab Farm, one of the best Straight Egyptian farm in the world. After leaving behind us the modern capital of Qatar, Doha, where everything is currently under construction due to the next World Cup taking place in 2020, we drove 70 km across the immense desert up until a green oasis, the Al Waab Farm where the hosts were very welcoming.

The urban look of Doha has been completely transforming with the constructions of a lot of new hotels, stadiums and a new subway. What hasn't changed is the love for Straight Egyptian Arabian horses belonging to Sheikh Abdulla Bin Khalid Al Thani.

As a matter of fact one of his sons, Sheikh Ahmed Bin Abdulla Al Thani, has inherited his father's passion for animals and today he is responsible for creating one of the best programs

of Straight Egyptians.

One of Al Waab's secrets is with no doubt his team. The manager, Mr. Agustin Gigena, who has been in charge for almost 10 consecutive years, has the right skills to organize a working team. We saw with our eyes that Agustin is doing a great job at Al Waab Farm. He chose the chief trainer Mr. Frank Holloman and their staff. Everything is perfectly organized.

In al Waab we witnessed that all the horses are properly treated. The numbers are impressive: approximately 200 horses in total and 60 people working at the farm. Every day the horses have free time in the paddocks and the best possible assistance.

Everything follows Sheikh Ahmed Bin Abdulla al Thani's vision and the results are incredible.

Inspired by his uncle Sheikh Abdul Aziz Bin Khalid Al

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Thani, Sheikh Ahmed has studied all the pedigrees by reading books and travelling around the world in order to have the best perspective on Straight Egyptian breeding programs.

From time to time Al Waab Stud participates at the shows. Everytime he does, Sheikh Ahmed participates to win not just to participate. He always aims to the Gold.

At the first edition of World Straight Egyptian Championship in Rome he won the Gold medal with Deema Al Waab (Ansata Nile Echo x Nadeema), Obeyyah Strain Family that we had the honor to admire during the tour at the Al Waab Farm. She was so fit, elegant and powerful that she could have gone to a show with no further preparation.

Last year a great colt Asfoor Al Waab (Barraq El Aliya x Sara Al Jazira) was nominated Qatar Straight Egyptians Gold Champion.

This year Al Waab has travelled only to Kuwait for the first Straight Egyptians All Nations Cup and with just three horses he achieved two gold medals and one silver.

In front of our eyes there was one of the two golds: Delielah Al Waab (Barraq El Aliya x Nabeela Saqr). She was Kuwait Straight Egyptians All Nations Cup Gold Junior Fillies.

Her face type and her charm are immediately visible. We could easily realize why six judges nominated her Gold in Kuwait. Delielah Al Waab was also Gold Champion at Qatar 2015 Straight Egyptians Show.

Her younger full sister Ghazalah Al Waab was nominated Kuwait Straight Egyptians All Nations Cup Gold Yearling Fillies. She looked similar to her older sister even if she is less mature since she is younger. She had many qualities that in the future will certainly make her one of the best mares in Al Waab.

Both fillies represent a part of Dahman Strain family in Al Waab Stud.

In Kuwait Al Waab Farm won also the title of Kuwait Straight Egyptians All Nations Cup Silver Senior Mares with Jouna Al Naif (Ashbal Al Rayyan x Ansata Mouna) an incredible snow white mare with a very clean pedigree plenty of scope and presence.

Many of these champions are by Barraq El Aliya (Ashbal Al Rayyan x Asrar Al Rayyan).

One stallion that is really outstanding. We asked them to show him to us closer as it was a long time that we hadn't seen such a complete stallion.

He still is an incredible reproducer and, today, he is the head

sire at Al Waab.

Every year Al Waab breed 50/60 mares. One important section of Al Waab breeding program is dedicated to the embryo transfer. These activities take place not only in Qatar but also in Europe in famous clinics. One of the best representatives of this section today in our opinion is the filly Ghezlan Al Waab (Barraq El Aliya x Nabeela Saqr).

She is the same age of Ghazalah Al Waab and she definitely has a great future in front of her.

During the presentation we had the chance to watch Sharuby HP (Maydan-Madheen x Shabneekha), Shabira Al Nasser (Ashbal Al Rayyan x Bint Saidia Al Nasser), Shabrayar Al Waab (Ansata Sokar x Shabira Al Nasser) and Nagla Al Waab (Ashbal Al Rayyan x NK Nada) Hadban Strain Family.

Another mare that we really appreciated was Ajmal Moneera (Ansata Hejazi x Hamasa Maassudda). She well represents the Saglawieh Strain Family.

All Straight Egyptian breeders would love to have one of the mares of Al Waab. This is why Al Waab doesn't organize any private auction and when the Sheikh decides to give the opportunity to buy one mare from Al Waab the mare is sold in one second.

The presentation ended with other three stallions: the "old" Farres (Anaza El Farid x Shameerah) that at the age of 21 years is still in great shape and conditions and he continues breeding, the famous and extremely typy Sinan Al Rayyan (Ansata Sinan x Al Wajba Al Rayyan) reimported from Kuwait from Mr. Talal Al Mehri to Qatar by Sheikh Ahmed to continue the legacy, and the "young" Fares Al Rayyan (Ansata Hejazi x G Shafaria) who already produced some gems.

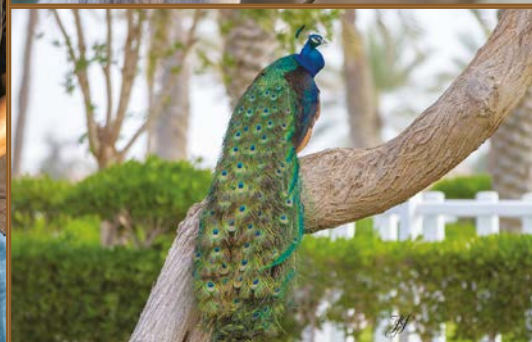
In addition to the private presentation, we had the chance to attend the Al Waab open day during the Qatar International Show. The open day was really amazing and people from all over the world were impressed with the quality of the Al Waab Stud's breeding program.

As a matter of fact just two days after Al Waab won two Gold medals at the 2016 Qatar Straight Egyptian Championship: Deenara Al Waab (Ansata Nile Echo x RN Dananeer) in the Junior Fillies Championship and Hilal Al Waab (Sinan Al Rayyan x Sharuby HP) in the Junior Colts Championship.

We left the Farm and its champions with little sadness as we wanted the tour to never end!

Straight Egyptian lovers make sure to visit the Al Waab Stud for a memorable experience! □

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STUD



NEFISA AL SAFINAT

(ANSATA HEJAZI X ALIIKAT)



FARRES

(ANAZA EL FARID X SHAMEERAH)



D'AJAA AL NAIF

(AL ADEED AL SHAQAB X MEZNA AL RAYYAN)



SHARUBY HP

(MAYDAN-MADHEEN X SHAHNEEKHA)

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SHALFAH AL RAYYAN
(ANSATA NILE ECHO X G SHAHFARIA)

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STUD



GHAZALAH AL WAAB

(BARRAQ EL ALIYA X NABEELA SAQR)



GOLD MEDAL YEARLING FILLIES
KUWAIT - ALL NATIONS CUP - STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN 2016

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DEIELAH AL WAAB

(BARRAQ AL ALIYA X NABEELA SAQR)



Jennifer Ogden
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GOLD MEDAL JUNIOR FILLIES
KUWAIT - ALL NATIONS CUP - STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN 2016

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ASFOOR AL WAAB

(BARRAQ EL ALIYA X SARA ALI JAZIRA)



BRONZE MEDAL COLTS

QATAR NATIONAL 2015



GOLD MEDAL COLTS

QATAR STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN 2015

D'AAJAA AL NAIF

(AL ADEED AL SHAQAB X MEZNA AL RAYYAN)



BRONZE MEDAL MARES

QATAR STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN 2015

DELIELAH AL WAAB

(BARRAQ EL ALIYA X NABEELA SAQR)



GOLD MEDAL FILLIES

QATAR STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN 2015

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DEEMA AL WAAB

(ANSATA NILE ECHO X NADEEM)



GOLD MEDAL FILLIES

STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN ARABIAN HORSE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP, ROME 2013

JOUNA AL NAIF

(ASHHAL AL RAYYAN X ANSATA MOUNA)



SILVER MEDAL MARES

QATAR STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN 2015

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STUD



DEENARA AL WAAB

(ANSATA NILE ECHO X RN DANANEER)



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JOUNA AL NAIF

(ASHHAL AL RAYYAN X ANSATA MOUNA)



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SILVER MEDAL MARES

KUWAIT - ALL NATIONS CUP - STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN 2016

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HILAL AL WAAB

(SINAN AL RAYYAN X SHARUBY HP)



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GOLD MEDAL JUNIOR COLTS

QATAR STRAIGHT EGYPTIAN 2016

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