

PRESS RELEASE

European State Studs Association e.V. (ESSA)

The European State Studs presented classical riding and driving and the diversity of their horse breeds at Eurocheval

Marbach (29. July 2014, AL). From July 23rd to 27th the Eurocheval fair invited horse lovers to Offenburg in the south west of Germany for the 20th time. With 404 exhibitors from twelve countries and a large activity programme the organisers had accomplished wide ranging offers for horse enthusiasts. 41.830 visitors came to the fair-grounds during the five event days. The State Studs are strongly connected with the “European Horse Fair”. Since the early days of the event the most prominent horse breeding institutions of the continent present themselves at Offenburg.

In the fair’s jubilee year, Marbach State Stud, which as Offenburg is located in the State of Baden-Württemberg, is also celebrating an important anniversary. According to the slogan “500 years of Marbach – rooted in the region, connected with the world” hall 4 was dedicated to Marbach in connection with the European State Studs. Here visitors could experience the different horse breeds, proud stallions, noble mares and even a trusting foal close up. The exhibition about the Marbach jubilee gave insight into the changeful history of the stud. ESSA presented the large national studs of the neighbouring countries and their diverse equine heritage.



At the information stand visitors could experience horses close up, even a rare Kinsky-foal was there.

Photo: Alexandra Lotz

For the 20th Eurocheval issue, the ESSA partner studs came up with something special. The traditional “European Quadrille” was presented for the first time mounted and driven, since the state studs are devoted to the preservation of classical riding and driving alike. Marbach State Stud, the Suisse National Stud Avenches, the Polish State Stud Sieraków and the French National Studs Besançon and Montier en Der sent horses, riders and drivers to this unique performance. The colourful picture of the different horse breeds was added by the “golden” hunters of the noble Czech Kinsky family.

Another highlight of the daily show programme was the driving quadrille of Marbach and Avenches. Black Forest Coldblood and Franches Montagnes stallions were harnessed in front of sulkies. Both breeds are listed as endangered and owe their survival largely to the state studs which provide enough stallions for the private breeders.

The individual partner studs presented their horses additionally in breed shows and performances of their home countries. Highlights were the appearances of the famous Weil-Marbach-Arabian mares on the Offenburg grass. In 1817 the Württemberg king William I. founded the oldest pure bred Arabian stud of Europe. His heritage is continued today by Marbach State Stud. Before the 200th anniversary of Weil-Marbach will be celebrated in 2017, the next Eurocheval will take place from July 20th to 24th 2016.



The Eurocheval-team of the European State Studs:

Representatives of Avenches, Marbach, Sieraków, Besançon, Montier en Der and the Equus Kinsky Breeding Association with the vice director of Marbach, Dr. Carolin Eiberger, and ESSA-manager Alexandra Lotz

Photo: Anke Müller