

Low related harness horse stallions

What are the options?

Kinship and inbreeding: it's a hot item in harness horse breeding. Solutions are constantly being sought, but reducing the average kinship in the population appears to be difficult to achieve. This is partly because a small number of stallions has bred or is breeding relatively much. A good distribution of breeding between stallions contributes to a reduction in the relationship percentage. Which stallions can help reduce kinship and inbreeding in the population?

English translation: **LIESBETH VAN WOERDEN** – Original Dutch text: **DINI BROUWER**
Images: **JACOB MELISSEN** and others

This subject was discussed extensively in the first KWPN Magazine (January 2020). This article about inbreeding in harness horse breeding stated that the majority of breeders thought it was a 'far-off show', probably because the problems don't seem very visible to them. Many harness horse breeders breed more performance-oriented than kinship-oriented: basically they just like to breed the best foal. They think they can achieve that goal the fastest by breeding to a champion stallion, but that stallion is often more closely related. The Dutch agency RVO, which is responsible for the recognition of studbooks, has rang the alarm bell. They order that the inbreeding increase must remain between 0.5 and 1%, otherwise the Dutch harness horse threatens to become a dying breed. The inbreeding increase is now 1.18% per generation. The Inbreeding and Kinship working group has examined this urgent problem and the Breeding Council is now working out the ideas into clear proposals presented at the spring members' meetings.

Kinship qualifications

Inbreeding and kinship are shown in percentages and on My KWPN you can see exactly how high the kinship and inbreeding of your mare with the stallion you have chosen is. Within the stallion- database, there are kinship qualifications from 'very low' to 'very high' (see table).

Level of kinship	Dressage horses	Gelders horses	Harness horses
Very Low	< 1.0	< 1.4	< 6.1
Low	1.0 – 1.5	1.4 – 2.7	6.1 – 8.2
Low- Average	1.6 – 2.1	2.8 – 4.1	8.3 – 10.4
Average- High	2.2 – 2.7	4.2 – 5.5	10.5 – 12.6
High	2.8 – 3.3	5.6 – 6.9	12.7 – 14.8
Very high	> 3.3	> 6.9	> 14.8

The stallion and mare population seems to offer possibilities to reduce kinship, but the breeder obviously determines which choice he makes. In this article we give you an overview of the stallions with their own kinship percentage that fall in the very low to average classes and are available via fresh or frozen semen. Of course, a low-related, high-quality mare that will increase the effect and well-fitting combinations must also be sought. The relationship percentage is recalculated every year because the active breeding population changes every year. For example, the relationship percentage of stallions that cover a lot may increase over the years.



Bocellies Matteo (by Bocellie) is the only actively breeding KWPN recognized Hackney stallion.

Very low related

What options are there for very low related stallions? Various full Hackneys have been recognized by the KWPN over the years. The deceased Hackney stallion Plain's Liberator (Plain's Black Satin x Segenhoe Lucifer) has brought harness horse breeding a lot of good, both to mares and stallions; he can therefore be described as a foundation stallion. Stallion farm Landzicht still has semen available from Plain's Liberator. His blood is richly integrated into the breeding population through his three sons and his five grandsons and therefore Liberator blood does not decrease kinship in every mare. One of his grandsons is Bocellies Matteo (Bocellie x Rambo) owned by Andre Veltkamp from Hengelo. He is the only KWPN licensed Hackney that is currently available for breeding. He has been maintained based on his foals. His oldest children registered with the KWPN are now two years old. He performs well himself and is available

for breeding at Veltkamp and Albert Lueks. Frozen semen from the Hackney stallion Morocco Field Marshall (Durora Hero x Breda Eyeshide) is also available, at Harry van Middelaar. A good number of the 79 registered offspring of Morocco certainly performed well. For example his well-known descendant Elburg (dam sire Manno) of Stal Haarsma who has 192 winning points and who is still doing very well at the competitions. Then there is frozen semen available at Lambertus Huckriede from Hackney stallion Wentworth Ebony (Heldon Mistrel x Wentworth Moonlight), who was put on the watchlist and exported. Wentworth Ebony's offspring is doing well now though, for example his son Just Lucky (dam sire Waterman), has 63 winning points and his daughter Incognito (dam sire Victory) has 100 winning points.

Also very low related

An option via frozen semen is also the Half-Blood-Saddlebred Marvel (Immigrant x Proloog), which has bred very creditably. His son Barend (dam sire Manno) has 183 winning points and the Keur Sports mares Betske (dam sire Manno) and Celesta (dam sire Waterman) respectively 151 winning points and 102 winning points. Recently the show mare Habibi (dam sire Torino) from Stal de Boer (46 winning points) also put Marvel back on the map. Two of Marvel's grandsons were approved. These are the now gelded Fabuleus (Unieko x Marvel), who is still available via frozen semen from the Van Manen brothers and Jesse James (Unieko x Marvel), who is now six years old and is available via fresh semen from Mark de Groot. Then there are the very low related stallions Moneymaker (Farao x Excellent van Herpen), who himself achieved 223 winning points and Aron HBC (Ganges x Plains Superstition) who also won a lot. A well-known daughter of Moneymaker is Keur mare Ariantha (dam sire Manno) who has almost 100 winning points. The Keur mare Irona (dam sire Koblenz) is a well-known daughter of Aron, with almost 100 winning points. Frozen semen is available from Moneymaker at Van Manen and from Aron HBC and Marvel at Harry van Middelaar.

Low related

Of course, also very interesting are the stallions that fall in the category 'low related'. Three of them are actively available for breeding, the others are available through frozen semen. Firstly, Urgent (Waterman x Ureterp), who successfully competed with Freek Saris (218 winning points) until a fairly old age. The stallion is available for breeding there. He produced a number of Ster, Keur and Elite mares. Carlos (dam sire Manno), who became World Champion in Boyd Exell's team, is a well-known son. The successful Preferent foundation stallion Waterman himself (Noran x Brook Acres Silversul), is also available through frozen semen at the Van Manen brothers. Waterman has produced many good show horses and brood mares as well as five approved sons and eight approved grandsons. As a result, his blood is abundantly available in different ways. The second low related stallion that is still available for stud is the 25-year-old



Innovatief (Zepplin x Heiring out x Fabricius)

Nando (Fortissimo x Bayard). With his owner Bep van de Brake from Doornspijk, where he is still available for breeding, Nando caused a sensation as a competition horse. In addition to various Ster, Keur and Preferent mares, he also gave the well-known competition horses Botilas (dam sire Marvel), 84 winning points, Toetida (dam sire Fabricius), 45 winning points and Scodessa (dam sire Fabricius) with 117 winning points. The third stallion available through fresh semen is the

six-year-old Innovatief (Zepplin x Heiring Out). Zeppelin is a son of Plain's Liberator. With Mark de Groot at the reigns, Innovative collected 39 winning points already and he is also available for breeding there. Mark has semen available from his low-related and exported sire Zepplin (dam sire Fabricius) as well.

LOW RELATED PERFORMANCE

That low related horses also perform is apparent from the list below of horses that are less than 10% related and that have finished at least four times in the first second or third place in the 2019 competition season.

- > Incognito (by Wentworth Ebony) 5.3%
- > Just Lucky (by Wentworth Ebony) 6.1%
- > Irona H&H (by Aron) 6.3%
- > Evert (by Stjerreljocht Surprise) 6.5%
- > Fontana Landzicht (by Waterman) 7.0%
- > Kensington (by Bocellie) 7.2%
- > Habibi (by Marvel) 7.6%
- > Kane BFT (by Bocellie) 8.6%
- > Business (by Vlasco) 8.8%
- > Dylano (by Plain's Liberator) 8.9%
- > Jirzela-C (by Plain's Liberator), 9.0%
- > Berino (by Stuurboord) 9.1%
- > Heraut (by Bentley) 9.4%
- > Zuidwester (by Stuurboord) 9.7%
- > Jongleur GSM (by Athlete) 9.7%
- > Havana (by Bentley) 9.8%
- > Kiranda VB (by Fabuleus) 9.8%
- > Elegant (by Waldemar) 9.8%

Low to medium

Five stallions are currently available through fresh semen in the 'low to medium related'- category. Stuurboord (Jonker x Factor) certainly offers perspective: this stallion from the Zendrini line performed very well himself and achieved 258 profit points. Some of his well-known performance offspring are Berino (dam sire Renovo) who has 313 winning points and Zuidwester (dam sire Fabricius) who has 138 winning points. He is available at Hengstenhouderij Landzicht. The five-year-old Kane BFT (Bocellie x Unieko) also offers opportunities. Last year he realized 31 winning points in the hands of Freek Saris where he is also available for breeding.

Dylano (dam sire Fabricius) is also one of the three Plain's Liberator sons that is available. This well performing stallion is 8.9% related and has 173 winning points. His son Mooiman (dam sire Manno) was recently selected and last year his sons Leffe Blond (dam sire Patijn) and Lancelot (dam sire Nando) were invited to the performance test. Last year the Dylano son Jericho (dam sire Manno) achieved a remarkable achievement, with 31 winning points. The fourth low to average related stallion

is the already mentioned Jesse James. The fifth stallion to belong to this group is Oregon Trophy winner Icellie (Bocellie x Jonker). His oldest children were presented at the stallion selection this year and two were invited for the performance test.



Stuurboord (Jonker x Factor x Proloog)



De preferente hengst Waterman voert bloed van Noran, Brook Acres Silversul, Marfleet Raffles en Oregon. Hij heeft zeer veel betekend voor de fokkerij en is via diepvries-sperma nog beschikbaar.

Waterman (Noran x Brook Acres Silversul x Marfleet Raffles)



Jansen kocht de Wentworth Ebony-dochter Incognito als driejarige van Huckriede en daar manifesteerde de schimmelmerrie, die nooit op de keuring werd aangeboden, zich als een goed concourspaard. Ze is het meest laagverwante concourspaard dat minimaal viermaal bij de eerste drie was in 2019.

Incognito (Wentworth Ebony x Victory x Cambridge Cole)

In the semen tank

Close to average related is also Wodka HBC (Roy M x Jonker), who has not been breeding very long. Harry van Middelaar still has frozen semen from him, as well as from Torino (Jonker x Ganges), who is successful in driving. Ganges (Renovo x Indiaan) can also still provide offspring. At Reilink and van Middelaar his frozen semen is available. Ganges certainly produced remarkable broodmares and competition horses, such as his still active children Wonder (dam sire Manno) who has 257 winning points and Silver D (dam sire Fabricius) who has 304. The Keur stallion Cinovo (Renovo x Prins Oregon) also falls within this category. Cinovo produced various Ster, Keur and Preferent mares as well as the approved stallions Jochem, Joviaal and Vikking. The stallion Opgenoort was a grandson of his. A well-known daughter of Cinovo is honorary class horse Horava (dam sire Wouter). Cinovo semen is available at Van Manen. Frozen semen of the exported Aquarel (Unieko x Wouter) is available at Mark de Groot. Lorton (Wouter x Renovo), at the time very modernly 'bred back', has produced many offspring, of which competition horses as well as a large number of Ster, Keur and Preferent mares. For example the competition horses Victor B (180 winning points) and his full sister Wilhelmientje (dam sire Waterman) with 57 winning points. Van Manen still has frozen semen from Lorton. •

AVAILABLE STALLIONS AND THEIR KINSHIP

Name	Kinship percentage	Level of Kinship
Morocco Field Marshall	0.6	Very Low
Wentworth Ebony	2.3	Very Low
Bocellies Matteo	3.6	Very Low
Marvel	4.7	Very Low
Plain's Liberator	5.1	Very Low
Moneymaker	5.1	Very Low
Aron HBC	6.1	Very Low
Urgent	6.9	Low
Innovatief	7.1	Low
Nando	7.4	Low
Waterman	7.8	Low
Zeppelin	8.0	Low
Stuurboord	8.5	Low- Average
Wodka HBC	8.6	Low- Average
Kane BFT	8.6	Low- Average
Jesse James	8.9	Low- Average
Dylano	8.9	Low- Average
Icellie	9.2	Low- Average
Fabuleus	9.2	Low- Average
Torino	9.3	Low- Average
Cinovo	9.4	Low- Average
Lorton	9.6	Low- Average
Aquarel	9.6	Low- Average
Ganges	10.4	Low- Average