

The legacy of proven sports mares

Part 1

More than 1100 KWPN-registered jumping mares, born in 1990 or after, have proven themselves at 1.50m, 1.55m or 1.60m level. A large group of these mares are used in breeding. Did their offspring get the valuable sports genes from their dam's side? Did they reach top sport level? Or are they well on their way? We investigated it in this analysis.

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He lives up to his name in everything. Explosion W has unlimited power. His dam, the Baloubet du Rouet daughter Uarina, jumped 1.55m level very successfully with Leon Thijssen.



46% of the more than 1100 top sport mares have produced at least one offspring. On average, this group of mares has 2.6 offspring and a total of 1,372. 90 of these offspring, who are now old enough, have managed to match or exceed the performance of their dam and are classified at least 1.50m.

1.60m horses out of better sport mares

Some well-known 1.60m horses that come out of a proven sports mare are Ben Maher's Explosion W (by Chacco-Blue) out of the 1.55m mare Uarina (by Baloubet du Rouet) and Robin Hood W (by Animo) from the Grand Prix mare Melisimo (by Libero H), Steve Guerdat's Dorian (by Ukato) out of the Grand Prix mare Mariona (by Equador), Harrie Smolders' Cas (by Indoctro) out of the 1.55m mare Wish (by Numero Uno), Tyson Uno (by Tyson) out of the Grand Prix mare Izaura G, P-Pilot (by Epilot) out of the Grand Prix mare Meatloaf (by Indoctro) and the KWPN-approved and preferent Harley VDL (by Heartbreaker) out of the 1.50m mare Larthago (by Carthago).

Proven Larthago

This last-mentioned mare has been frequently used as a broodmare by Martien van de Bruggen from Goirle and was able to produce good sport horses. In addition to Harley VDL, she also brought the KWPN-approved Casago (by Casall), who recently became Italian champion with Piergiorgio Bucci and competes internationally in the 1.45m. The full brother of Harley VDL, Uncle Sam, has jumped up to 1.40m level. In addition, Larthago has offspring registered elsewhere who also know how to live up to expectations in the sport. For example the 1.60m horse Sören Z (by Sandro Boy) from the American rider Kasey Ament.

Mares Wish and Mariona

The mare Wish (by Numero Uno, breeder Th. Tax from Blitterswijk), with which Jessica Springsteen was successful up to 1.55m level, was able to produce more good sport horses, besides Cas. She is also the dam of the 1.50m horse Dali T (by Phin Phin) and of the 1.40m horse Full-Wish T. The same applies to the dam of Dorian (by Ukato, breeder D. Nanning from Dalfsen). This Mariona (by Equador, breeder RJM Siemerink from Rossum) has proven herself at the highest level. In addition to her 1.60m son Dorian, she also produced two 1.40m horses: Arlybet Hero (by Querlybet Hero) and Belrose (by Action Breaker), both ridden by Niels Nanning and bred by his father Daan Nanning.

Mother Explosion W

Explosion W's dam is the Baloubet du Rouet daughter Uarina and both are bred by Willy Wijnen from Berlicum. Under the name Untouchable she competed with Leon Thijssen up to 1.55m level. Subsequently, the Swedish rider Alma Björklund took over the reins and the mare started, among other things, at the European Championships for Young Riders in Vejar de la Frontera. Before her international sports career, she produced four offspring, two of which were competed in the sport. In addition to the phenomenal Explosion W, this is Boncetto W. (by Concetto Famos), who performs internationally up to 1.45m with Turkish rider Ozgur Ozkan.

Two-time World Cup finalist Melisimo

The dam of Animo son Robin Hood W is the two-time World Cup finalist Melisimo (by Libero H, breeder D.J. Wijngaards from Epe). Before she started her own sports career, she gave birth to Robin Hood W, bred by Bennie Wezenberg from IJsselmuiden. After her sports career, the mare was used for breeding until 2018. This Libero H daughter is still the only mare who competed in the World Cup final in Las Vegas together with her offspring, in this case Robin Hood W. One of her upcoming promising offspring is the Don Diablo HX daughter Isabella HX (breeder Stal Hendrix from Kessel). As a four-year-old she won the

Stal Hendrix competition, when she was five she came second. She took part in the Blom Cup and finished seventh at the age of four and also took part in the final as a five-year-old. She is currently competing internationally at 1.35m level. Also participant in the World Cup final in Las Vegas is the mare Kroon Gravin (by Grandville, breeder J. Maat from Balkbrug). She participated with the American rider Molly Ashe. Of her three offspring, her eldest, Nomograaf (s. Orthos), also bred by Jan Maat, took it to the highest level.



The mare Melisimo and her son Robin Hood W. both took part in the World Cup Final in Las Vegas and thus achieved a unique performance in both sport and breeding.

Derby horse P-Pilot

The well-known P-Pilot (by Epilot), is a son of the mare Meatloaf (by Indoctro), who jumped at the highest level with Jeroen Dubbeldam before she was sold to Saudi Arabia. Wout-Jan van der Schans had a very good derby horse in P-Pilot. He won the tough CSI5 * GCT Derby in Valkenswaard in 2010 and finished second in 2011. The Epilot son was born before the sports career of his mother. After her sports career, she produced several offspring registered elsewhere, such as the internationally 1.45m classified Princeton Z (by President) and Uma Z (by Untouchable). Both P-Pilot and Meatloaf were bred by Luit Dubbeldam from Zwolle.

Both mare and offspring 1.60m

There are more mares and offspring that have both taken it to the highest level. Like Odile: this Indoctro daughter bred by J.A. Schipper from Rijsbergen, seems to be a good match with Numero Uno. This cross has already led to Eric Lamaze's 1.60m horse Take Off (breeder J. Coolen from Kelpen Oler) and the 1.40m horses Get-Off and Hands-Off, who are bred by J.A. Skipper. Her youngest offspring is the four-year-old Lift Off, also by Numero Uno. Odile's mother is just outside this analysis, this Grannus daughter Hanneke

(or better known in the sport as Hot Shot) was born in 1989 and has also proven herself at the highest level.

The 1.60m mare Wieminka B (by Cardento) produced her second offspring, Berlin son Chilli B, as a four-year-old. Both mother and son were bred by L.C.J. Berben from Meijel. Last year, this thirteen-year-old gelding made his 1.60m debut with the Irish rider Alexander Butler. Last September they managed to win an international 1.45m class in the Peelbergen.

The Voltaire daughter Polita (breeder N.H. Sieling) was active at the highest level with Henk van de Pol. She produced a total of three offspring, including the 1.60m horse Wannahave (by Numero Uno, breeder A. Van Laak from Berkel Enschoot) of the Portuguese rider Alexandre Mascarenhas de Lemos.

The G. Ramiro Z daughter Nirmette was very successful with Marcus Fuchs. In 2007, the mare won four Grand Prix competitions in just a few weeks. This descendant from the Balia line has also been used for breeding. Son U2 (by Calvados) finished 15th in the 2008 World Championships for Young Show jumpers and went to the highest level with Michel Hendrix. Both mother and son are bred by P. Van Eik from Bakkeveen.

The twelve-year-old Dundee v/h Marienshof (by Cicero van Paemel Z, breeder De Coninck-Ecker from Asse BE) is active at the highest level with the Italian rider Roberto Arioldi. He is a descendant of the international Grand Prix mare Marien (by Libero H, breeder J. Pex from Sint Joost) and competed by the Portuguese rider Luciana Diniz. Her Zangersheide-registered daughter Calorie v/h Marienshof (by Clinton) is classified at 1.45m level.



Successful derby horse P-Pilot was, just like his dam Meatloaf, bred by Luit Dubbeldam. Meatloaf jumped at the highest level with Jeroen Dubbeldam and her son P-Pilot with Wout-Jan van der Schans (photo).

European Championships and Olympics

Various mares and/ or their offspring took part in international championships. Julia Houtzager-Kayser and Pherna (by Calvados, breeder H. Agter Buis from Hattem) were reserve for the Austrian team for the European Championship in Mannheim and participated in the European Championship in Windsor. Her eldest son Utopie (by Jacomar, breeder E. Regterschot from Heerde), better known in the sport as Combina, took part in the 2012 World Cup finals in 's-Hertogenbosch. Two of her other offspring are classified at international 1.35m level.

Odette W (by Libero H) jumped, under the name Mirage 89, with the Swedish rider Angelica Augustsson at international Grand Prix level. This mare, bred by Bennie Wezenberg, came into the hands of Jeroen Dubbeldam as a young horse, who trained her for the sport and bred a foal with her. Her only offspring is the Olympic gelding Sinatra (by Epilot), who jumped under the flag of Venezuela in 2008 with his rider Pablo Barrios.

With one offspring, Burggraaf daughter Irosa also managed to pass on her own sport genes. The mare herself jumped at Grand Prix level under the name Volkswagen Irosa's Gold with the Polish rider Krzysztof Prask and took part in Nations Cup competitions several times. Before her sports career, she had a foal by Topas, Mondriaan. With William Funnel he won the Derby of Hickstead in 2009 and was part of the British team at the European Championships of San Patrignano in 2005. Both Irosa and Mondriaan are bred by E.J.J.H. Rutten from Ruurlo.

Zilvana Verte (by Ticalux Verte) has proven herself at the highest level and is still competing in the international sport. Her offspring Diva (by No Limit) is active at the highest level with the Czechoslovakian rider Emma Augier De Moussac, who participated in the 2018 World Equestrian Games in Tryon. Zilvana Verte's dam is the grandmother of the Ticalux Verte daughter Be Gentle Verte who was active at 1.60m level with Jelmer Hoekstra. She is also used for breeding and is the youngest performance daughter in this analysis. This entire line was bred by Pascal Knijnenburg from Deurne, an article about the mare Be Gentle Verte will soon be published in the KWPN Magazine.

Sport anchored in Damiro daughters

The Damiro daughter Jente has proven herself at the highest level, just like her DWB-registered half-sister Feline ASK (by Carthago) and her dam Florence ASK (by Voltaire). In addition, Jente is also classified Z1 dressage, which means that she has two sports predicates. Her breeder J. Haerkens from Boxmeer combined her with Heartbreaker, which resulted in Ricardo, who was active at the highest level under Athina Onassis de Mirando. Jente is also the dam of the 1.40m-classified mare Nike (by Larome). She in turn produced the Voltaire daughter Udine, who became free jumping champion of Noord-Brabant as a three-year-old, the 1.40m horse Solide (by Voltaire) by Aniek Poels and the Grand Prix show jumper Trix (by Kalypso), are all bred by Herkens. The last- mentioned mare also has her prestatie predicate and produced the international 1.50m horse VDL Groep Zandorra Z (by Zandor Z) owned by Maikel van der Vleuten, which is registered elsewhere.

Another daughter of Damiro is Jaravola. She proved herself at the highest level, just like her half-brother Midnight (by Voltaire) and mother Garavola (by Nimmerdor). Jaravola's son Oxford (by Concorde) jumped 1.60m classes with Canadian rider Laura Jane Tidball. H.L.J. Kessels from Meerlo bred all four of these horses.

Foundation mare Belle Amie S

The Rash R daughter Zeuchelle S, bred by the Van Straaten family from Den Ham, also needs to be mentioned. She is one of the few mares from this analysis to have produced multiple 1.60m horses. The mare herself performed under Isabelle van Straaten up to 1.50m level. In combination with Vittorio she delivered the 1.60m horse Dittorio-S. Fellini-S (by Vermont) also reached this level. Fellini-S is the youngest horse to perform at 1.60m level out of a mare classified at least 1.50m.

Zeuchelle-S has now produced six offspring. The dam line of this mare goes back through Zeus daughter Neuvelle-S to Belle Amie S (by Le Mexico). This mare is the great-grandmother of Calvados daughter Una Bella S, she jumped 1.60m with Hendrik-Jan Schuttert and then with the Italian rider Mathilde Giorgina Bianchi, who still competes with her in 1.40 / 1.45m classes at the age of seventeen. Una Bella S is known as the dam of Frank Schuttert's 1.55m Grand Prix horse Arc de Triomphe S (by Triomphe de Muze) and of the two 1.50m horses Baretta-S and Ciao Bella S, both by Triomphe de Muze as well. The latter mare is also used in breeding. Her oldest eight-year-old offspring is the 1.40m level classified Hazelhorst I (by Cardento).



Zeuchelle-S, bred by the Van Straaten family, is one of the few mares from this analysis that has produced two 1.60m horses.

1.60m horses out of international mares

Sydney V (by Kigali, breeder D.W. Klijn Velderman from Diepenveen), or better known as VDL Groep Sydney V, jumped with Mathijs van Asten to international 1.50m level. She got her first offspring at the age of four and is the stallion Wieke Bert (by No Limit) that came to the second round of the stallion selection. He has then developed into a successful 1.60m horse with Sjaak Sleiderink. Her second offspring is the Timeless- son Zowiezo who jumps 1.50m internationally and participates in two-star eventing competitions. Her third offspring is the eight-year-old Handy (by Emilion) who competes in the 1.40m level with Ernesto Canseco. Sydney V is now successfully used in breeding by W. Kooistra from Houtigehage. This year she gave birth to a filly named Parkville, by Emerald van het Ruytershof.

Jos Lansink rode the Tangelo van de Zuuthoeve daughter Wienke (breeder G.J. van Zadelhoff from Winterswijk), sport name Santa Maria, up to 1.55m level and took part in the Nations Cup competitions of Sopot and Rotterdam. She gave birth to a foal at five and six years old. Her oldest is Mr. Blue son Cuba Libre who jumped at 1.50m level under Roelof Bril. Her second son Duke (by Phin Phin), went up to 1.60m level. Both horses were bred by Roelof Bril from Westerndorp.

Youngest broodmares

Many of the mares classified at 1.50m or more are still too young to have offspring perform at 1.50m level or higher. The Zavall VDL daughter Gilona AO (breeder A. Osinga from Wjelsryp) at nine years old, is the youngest 1.60m mare who has also been used for breeding. Her first offspring from 2015 has unfortunately passed away, her second is now three years old, Messi-AO (by Zambesi).

Feminka (by Andiamo, breeder A.W.M. van Hal from Udenhout) has already grown into a 1.60m horse from the F-year. As a four-year-old, she gave birth to the mare Jeminka-H, by Denzel van 't Meulenhof. Fancy Girl (by Zirocco Blue VDL) and Fresca (by Carambole, breeder S.J. Swierstra) from the same year, are classified at 1.55m Grand Prix level. Fancy Girl's half-sister is the Cardento daughter and 1.50m horse Earl Gray. She already produced the KWPN-approved Jay Star (by Big Star), all bred by Alexandra van der Peijl from Oene. Both Fancy Girl and Fresca produced offspring when they were four years old.



Bardesther is the youngest performance mare in this analysis. This mare from the breeding of the Moerings family jumped at 1.50m level with Lisa Nooren and she already produced a 1.50m and 1.40m horse.

Youngest 1.55 / 1.60m broodmares

Mares born in 2007 are in theory the youngest broodmares to have their own offspring at 1.55 / 1.60m level. This applies, for example, to Van Gogh daughter Cum Laude, sports name Bella Brown. She jumps at 1.55m Grand Prix level with Emma Augier De Moussac, as is her only offspring Farezzo (by Arezzo VDL), both bred by A. van de Vin from Heeze. Cum Laude is a half-sister of the international 1.50m horse Zaza Davino (by Polydox) and the former 1.55m horse BMC Veyron (by Indoctro), ridden by Jeroen Dubbeldam, also comes from this dam line. From the same crop comes Argentinus daughter Celena, who has competed at 1.50m level by Anna-Liza Makinga. As a four-year-old, Celena gave birth to the mare Goldy Shot (by

Ukato), known in the sport as Bountiful. Both horses were bred by H. van de Wijngaart from Prinsenbeek. This nine-year-old mare competed at international 1.50m level with Danielle Goldstein-Waldman.

Other young mares that have performed at least at 1.50m level themselves and already have offspring at the same level, are the Cardento daughters Beyonce P and Bardesther. The former is 1.60m classified, was bred by P.W. Pijnacker & T.F. Pijnacker-Dam and gave birth to her only offspring at the age of four. This KWPN approved stallion Florian (by Zirocco Blue VDL), who won many stallion competitions under Albert Zoer and is currently competing at 1.55m level, is also bred by the Pijnacker family.

The second Cardento mare, Bardesther, is bred by the Moerings family from Oud-Gastel. She is internationally classified 1.50m with Lisa Nooren. She brought her oldest offspring Fosther (by Vigo D'Arsouilles) at the age of four and he is now internationally classified at 1.50m level with Bas Moerings and recently sold to Abdel Said. Her eight-year-old daughter Hardesther jumps at 1.40m level.

Offspring of these mares at a young age often perform remarkably in the sport.

Bardesther, together with the aforementioned Be Gentle Verte, is the youngest performance mare in this analysis. Other young performance mares are A. Vaantje R. (by Carinjo breeder H. Jacobs from Weert), who produced the 1.40m horse Idiaal Special H.J. (by Falaise de Muze), and the elsewhere registered and 1.60m classified Ideaal (by Andiamo). A. Vaantje R. jumped in the 1.50m level herself with Wout-Jan van der Schans.

The former 1.60m horse of Bianca Schoenmakers, Anastasia HDH (by Oklund, breeder Hans Dings BV from Heeze), produced the 1.55m horse Daylight HDH (by Ustinov), which was also ridden by

Schoenmakers. With Numero Uno she produced the 1.35m horse E-Vincent HDH.

The mighty Berlin daughter Athene (breeder G. van Wylick from Venlo) jumped at the highest level with Aniek Poels. At a young age she produced two offspring: the 1.50m horses Davos (by Canturo) and Evivera (by Contendro I). The last performance mare from the A- year that has performed at 1.55m level herself is Atina (by Cartier van de Heffinck). Her oldest offspring is the Clinton son Ellington JSX who competes at 1.45m level and her other son is the 1.60m horse Fair Play (by Gaillard de la Pomme), all three bred by P. Leenen from Lomm.

First offspring stands out

These are just a few of the many successful sport horses out of a similarly successful jumping mare. It is worth noting that the offspring that these mares give birth to at a young age often perform remarkably in the sport. •



The Berlin daughter Athene made a great impression with Aniek Poels at the highest level and was reserve for the European Championship in Gothenburg. She is successfully used for breeding also and has already produced two 1.50m horses.