

REPORT

From The Road

NEW PARIS EQUINE CENTER- NEW PARIS, INDIANA - 8.29.25



Harness Horses in the Hoosier State!

NEW PARIS EQUINE



August 29-30, 2025
New Paris, Indiana

Hosts:
Glen Yoder & Justin Bontrager

Jury Members:
Viggon van Beest
Bauke de Boer

Handlers:

Offical Photographer:
Summit Professional Services

Author: Viggon van Beest

Editor: Tracy Geller

The first KWPN-NA Inspection of 2025 was held Friday and Saturday at the beautiful New Paris Equine Center in New Paris, Indiana. The well-organized, welcoming, and atmospheric two-day inspection was held under ideal conditions, with sufficient quantity and a broad range of average to good quality, including several appealing and high scoring horses. New Paris Equine Center is a new host location, and we are so grateful to them for opening up their facility to us!

Special Thanks to Summit Professional Services for providing photographs for the report!



Photo by Kelley Stachon

Studbook Classes:

Thank you to our Keuring Championship Award Sponsor, Iron Spring Farm

Foals/ Weanings - Harness

A total of five foals competed for the Championship titles in two separate classes - the Register A & foalbook foals as well as the Register B foals. The quality ranged from sufficient to good, with four foals receiving a first premium.

The filly **VERONA** (Jaleet x Jonkerina by Jonker), **BREEDER/OWNER: Justin Bontrager** of Millersburg, IN was crowned Champion of the Foalbook and Reg. A foals. She is a well-developed and strongly built, harness-type foal with a beautiful head and substance. In trot, she showed a sufficient front end and foreleg use with good balance, but she could show a bit more self carriage.



Register B Champion foal was **VALERIE M** (Mando x Amber WH ster by Horal), **BREEDER/OWNER: Mariusz Malinowski** of Addison. **Valerie M** is well-developed with good conformation. She has strong connections with a very appealing front and a solid foundation. At the trot, she shows a lot of presence and excellent self carriage. She also displays balance and a strong hind leg that comes well under the body. She could show a bit more knee action.

Yearlings - Harness

Three foalbook yearlings were presented, with first and second place closely matched.

After a tie-breaker, **UPHORIA** (Hermanus x Lillian Ster by Vaandrager), **BREEDER/OWNER:** Glen Yoder of Middlebury, emerged as the winner. **Uphoria** has good conformation, strong connections, a beautiful head, and plenty of presence. She is beautifully proportioned. In trot, she displayed suppleness, good suspension, and good posture, combined with strong hind leg use. She could show a little more foreleg action.



The runner-up, the filly **UNICA** (Graaf Kelly x Jonkerina by Jonker), **BREEDER/ OWNER:** Justin Bontrager of Millersburg, IN was almost similar in conformation to the winner but during the tie-breaker **Uphoria** just outperformed her.

Photos by Summit Professional

2025 Keuring tour Sponsors:



D.G. Bar Ranch



KWPN
NORTH AMERICA

Studbook & Ster - 3 YO and up Mares & Stallions - Harness

A three-year-old Reg. A mare, two 4- to 7-year-old foalbook mares, an 8-year-old foalbook mare, a three-year-old Reg. B stallion, and a four-year-old foalbook stallion were presented for studbook registration and/or Ster certification.

The three foalbook mares could undoubtedly be declared Ster with a first premium, and it was notable that two of them scored higher on movement than on conformation. This year in the Netherlands we saw in general a lack of self-carriage, the opposite was true here. Self-carriage is very important for harness horses, actually for all horses in different breeding directions !

The three-year-old Reg. B stallion presented remained Reg. B, and the three-year-old Reg. B mare could unfortunately not be included.

The eight-year-old **MELLINE SE** (Hiro T x Ellina Keur IBOP by Makari Jetsetter), **BREEDER:** Josh Eicher of Colon, **OWNER:** Allen Bontrager from Sears, took the top spot. **Melline SE** possesses a great deal of presence and substance. She has a good type and rectangular conformation, but lacked some muscling due to lactation. At the trot, she displayed considerable boldness, impulsion, and action, while also demonstrating strength and transitional ability.



The five-year-old **PRINCESS PEARL J** (Hermanus x Jansody VJK Ster by Vaandrager) **BREEDER/OWNER:** James Troyer of Wolcottville did not make it an easy victory for Melline. She has generous lines, stands very well in harness type, has a light head-neck connection, a lot of withers and also has a lot of expression. In trot she was also very appealing but at that moment slightly less convincing than the first placed mare.

Third place went to the also appealing harness type **ROSARITA WCE** (Vaandrager x Glamorita by Jonker) **BREEDER/OWNER:** Marlin Mast of Bloomville, **OWNER:** Jeremiah Mast from Bloomfield.

Photo by Dutch Quality Horses



Ster & Keur Mares In Hand - Harness

Three mares were presented in this section on the second day of the inspection. The victory went to the brand-new Ster mare **Princess Pearl J**, described earlier. She was even more impressive than on the first day of the inspection and had already been invited to the General Championship.

The 18-year-old and remarkably well-preserved Ster mare **CUTELLA** ster (Ulandro x Utella ster by Nando). **BREEDER:** R. van de Veen, **OWNER:** Daniel Krol, was also invited to the General Championship and stood out for her enormous front, expression, and cheerfulness.



The seven-year-old Ster mare **NAVANNAH** (Graaf Kelly x Havanna ster PROK by Delviro HBC). **BREEDER:** Daniel J. Miller, **OWNER:** The Navannah Partnership also showed herself as a harness type but just missed out on an invitation to the championship.

Photos by Summit Professional

General Championship In Hand - Harness

Five mares entered the arena for the General Championship. The aforementioned yearlings **Uphoria** and **Unica**, the five-year-old mare **Princess Pearl J**, the eight-year-old mare **Melline SE**, and the eighteen-year-old mare **Cutella**. The highest honor went to **Princess Pearl J**, who was now in-hand for the third time, but once again trotted very convincingly and just kept getting better and better. She just kept going!



Performance Classes:

IBOP, DG Bar Cup & Global Equine Sires Cup

Thank you to our cup class sponsors, DG Bar Breeders and Global Equine Sires

IBOP - Harness

The aforementioned ster mare **Melline SE** was the only one presented for the Alternative IBOP and passed twice, earning her a "keur" designation. Congratulations! She was responsive each time, passing the first time with 76 points. The second time, she was more relaxed and showed herself even more convincingly, earning 77.5 points with eights for posture, hind leg use, willingness to move, and overall appearance.



Photo by Summit Professional

Fine Harness Class - Mares

Fine Harness Cups for mares and stallions were held on both inspection days, which are always highly anticipated.

Three mares competed on the first day. The participants were **Princess Pearl J**, the 6-year-old Reg. A mare, **O SUNNY DELIGHT** ster (Graaf Kelly x Sunrise's Knightoremember by Dondersteen W).

BREEDER: William Detweiler, **OWNER:** Steven and Janetta Graber of New Haven, and **NURRINA BCE** (Jurriaan x Agres J.W. Sophie by Dondersteen W). **BREEDER:** Lavern Miller, **OWNER:** Dennis Miller and Paul Hilty.

With her dynamic movements, **O Sunny Delight** won the class ahead of **Nurrina BCE** and **Princess Pearl J**.

On the second day, **O Sunny Delight** again won, and this time the newly selected keur mare **Melline SE** finished second, ahead of **Nurrina BCE**.

O Sunny Delight received sport points for both competitions she won, bringing her total to over 25 points in two seasons, earning her the coveted keur title, Congratulations!



Fine Harness Class - Stallions & Geldings

The first Fine Harness Cup for stallions & geldings had three competitors, with two horses invited for a final work-out .

Winning the class was the now gelded KWPN-approved stallion **MAXIMIANO I & S** (Baarzens Jagerzoon x Belindia ster by Plain's Liberator keur). **BREEDER:** by S. Rozendaal, **OWNER:** Lubbert van Oene and Simone Jongbloed. **Maximiano I & S** won today with his strong, active movements and consistent performance.

Second place went to **SUNRISE'S ROYAL HEIR** (Dondersteen W x Sea Lodge Lady Joyce by Wentworth Astra). **BREEDER:** David J. Miller, **OWNER:** Enos Schwartz and the third placed **CHARLEY** (Jonker x Dewdrop by Moneymaker) **BREEDER/OWNER:** James Yoder.

Photos By: Summit Professional Services



Photos by Summit Professional

Fine Harness Class - Stallions & Geldings



On the second day, there were two competitors, and Lubbert van Oene again took victory, this time with the stallion **NICO JS** (Famous V x Dionne by Wodka HBC). **BREEDER:** Gary Bontrager, **OWNERS:** Dennis Miller and Paul Hilty who is very dignified and possesses powerful, dynamic movements. **Sunrise's Royal Heir** once again took an honorable second place.

Both **Maximiano I & S** and **Sunrise's Royal Heir** earned sporting points in both competitions, towards the coveted sport predicate, which requires 50 sporting points.



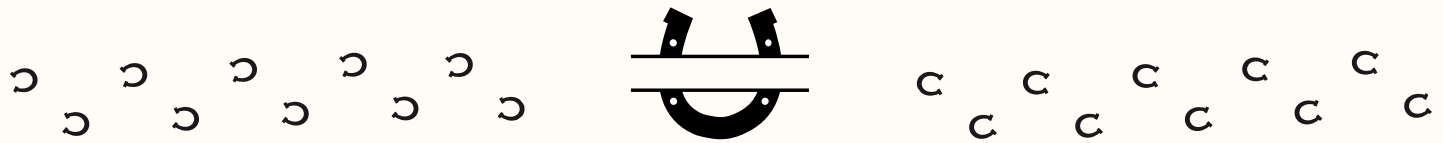


Photo by Summit Professional



Photo by Summit Professional



First Premiums & Performance Classes

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Foals/Weanlings - Harness (VB & Reg. A) | conformation / movement |
| VERONA (Jaleet x Jonker) | 77/71 |
| | |
| Foals/Weanlings - Harness (Reg. B) | |
| VALERIE M (Mando x Horal) | 78/80 |
| VAANYA (Kalarama's Golden Cat x Graaf Kelly) | 75/77 |
| VILANO DK (Winding Brook Royal Commander x Ulandro) | 74/74 |
| | |
| Yearlings - Harness | |
| UPHORIA (Hermanus x Vaandrager HBC) | 78/76 |
| UNICA (Graaf Kelly x Jonker) | 76/76 |
| UNOVA (Atleet x Exalted Effect) | 72/72 |
| | |
| STB/Ster 4-7 Year Old - Harness (VB & Reg. A) | |
| PRINCESS PEARL J (Hermanus x Vaandrager HBC) | 76/80, Ster |
| ROSARITA WCE (Vaandrager HBC x Jonker) | 76/76, Ster |
| | |
| Stb/Ster 8 and older - Harness (VB & Reg. A) | |
| MELLINE SE (Hiro T x Makari Jetsetter) | 76/84, Ster |
| | |
| Predicate increase by sport-points in Harness | |
| O SUNNY DELIGHT (Graaf Kelly x Dondersteen W) | Keur |
| | |
| ALTERNATIVE IBOP - Harness (Day 1 & Day 2) | |
| MELLINE SE (Hiro T x Makari Jetsetter) | 76 and 77.5, Keur |

First Premiums & Performance Classes

| | |
|--|-----|
| Fine Harness Class - Mares (Day 1) | |
| O SUNNY DELIGHT (Graaf Kelly x Dondersteen W) | 1st |
| NURRINA BCE (Jurriaan x Dondersteen W) | 2nd |
| PRINCESS PEARL J (Hermanus x Vaandrager HBC) | 3rd |
| | |
| Fine Harness Class - Mares (Day 2) | |
| O SUNNY DELIGHT (Graaf Kelly x Dondersteen W) | 1st |
| MELLINE SE (Hiro T x Makari Jetsetter) | 2nd |
| NURRINA BCE (Jurriaan x Dondersteen W) | 3rd |
| | |
| Fine Harness Class - Stallions & Geldings (Day 1) | |
| MAXIMIANO I & S (Baarzens Jagerzoon x Plain's Liberator) | 1st |
| SUNRISE'S ROYAL HEIR (Dondersteen W x Wentworth Astra) | 2nd |
| CHARLEY (Jonker x Moneymaker) | 3rd |
| | |
| Fine Harness Class - Stallions & Geldings (Day 2) | |
| NICO JS (Famous V x Wodka HBC) | 1st |
| SUNRISE'S ROYAL HEIR (Dondersteen W x Wentworth Astra) | 2nd |

