

# Haflingers WorldWide – your new source of information on the haflinger breed

From Osttirol via Ebbs to Ötztal

**liz.410/T Sevruga was the most beautiful haflinger  
stallion at the North Tyrolean inspection 2010**



Traditionally the breeding year starts with the stallion inspection, which especially a World Show year like this year, was followed enthusiastically by an even larger number of spectators from all around the world, despite a steady rain. For the presentation of the 19 best stallions, that have been raised correctly in a herd over 3 years at the Fohlenhof and on the Alm (alpine pasture), over 1000 interested spectators from all around the world came to the Haflinger-Center in Ebbs. The 3-year-old stallion candidates were presented to a broad range of breeders for the first time, and the producers for the future were selected. Since over a hundred years this selection is one of the most important days in the breeding year for stud stallions of all breeds and in all parts of Europe. The stallion inspection of the Haflinger Pferdezuchtverband Tirol is thereby one of the most important inspection dates for this breed worldwide. The Tyrol is undisputably as a source of bloodlines for the international haflinger breeding, and the importance of the inspection, which is held yearly in Ebbs on the first Saturday in February, is thereby understandable. Breeding experts from Great Britain, the USA, Denmark, Sweden, Holland, Belgium, Luxemburg, France, Switzerland, Germany, Italy, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and of course from all parts of Austria once again came to Ebbs to attend the selection of the new stud stallions.

As usual, the stallion candidates were first presented to the inspection committee, which was made up by managing director Johannes Schweisgut, chairman Hans Strobl, the two vice chairmen Romed Posch and Oswald Hochfilzer, and the veterinary Dr. Peter Kastlunger.

The winner of this year's inspection was liz.410/T Sevruga, bred by Gerhard Weiler from Anras in Osttirol (Eastern Tyrol). This top quality stallion will stand at stud in the tyrolean area of Ötztal. The Haflinger Breeder's Association of Tyrol has not sold this stallion, despite getting several offers from many countries. Instead the association is going to use this stallion to get an even higher quality in their own country.

As number two placed the stallion liz.411/T Stilton, bred by Family Pfausler from Roppen. Stilton will be used for breeding purposes in Imst.



*The winner of the North Tyrolean stallion inspection, liz.410/T Sevruga and the reserve champion liz.411/T Stilton and their breeders*

The inspection in Ebbs has once again proven, that the Fohlenhof not only is the world center of haflinger breeding, but that for all 70 nations that breed haflingers, the stallions from the Fohlenhof still means world class. The stallions from Ebbs are in great demand all over the world and produce the best offspring among the 250.000 haflingers in the world.

The inspection was the first step for the stud stallions, after their hard but correct raising. The breeding season will be the first test, and the quality of the mares that are bred by the stallion will set the bar for the first foal crop. The next step for the stallions is the performance test, which the stallions have to go through in September to have their qualities in riding, in dressage and jumping and in driving tested by an independent commission.

Text and photo: Fohlenhof Ebbs

Translation © Kerstin Dreborg

## **Raising of haflinger stallions and stallion inspections in North Tyrol**

The Haflinger Pferdezuchtverband Tirol (Haflinger Breeder's Association of Tyrol) organizes the breeders in the Austrian provinces of Tirol (Tyrol), Osttirol (Eastern Tyrol) and Vorarlberg. The Haflinger Pferdezuchtverband Tirol used to be part of the umbrella organization ARGE Haflinger Österreich, which organizes the haflinger breeders in the six other Austrian provinces (see Haflingers WorldWide, article 2) but for various reasons, in the beginning of the 1990s the Haflinger Pferdezuchtverband Tirol made the decision to work on their own, and left the ARGE Haflinger Österreich.

Of the around 600 haflinger colts born yearly in this Austrian region, about 25 are selected by a commission of judges each fall. The selection is done both by inspection of the colts build and movement and by their pedigree. The dam, maternal granddam and maternal greatgranddam must all fulfill certain criteria re. for example withers height, inspection class and fertility. The selected colts are raised together and spend the winter months at the Fohlenhof in Ebbs, and the summer in the Alps, on the so called "Hengstalm".

The inspection/classification is done when the stallions are three years old, and the 100-point system is used. The stallions are thus inspected on the following traits: Type/size, Head, Neck, Forehand, Body, Hindquarters, Forelegs, Hindlegs, Correctness of gaits and Length of stride. Each criterion is given a note between 5 (insufficient/not approved) and 10 (Excellent), and a stallion must achieve at least 75 points (Class IIa-) to be approved for breeding.



*A group of haflinger colts at the Fohlenhof in Ebbs. Photo K. Dreborg 2002*

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