



Purebred Spanish Horse

- PRE -

Asociación Nacional de Criadores de Caballos de Pura Raza Española





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PUREBRED SPANISH HORSE (PRE)

THE BREED

Purebred Spanish Horses are one of the most highly appreciated horses in the world. Its success lies in its balance. Both its beauty and temperance are the result of selective breeding and respect for specific bloodlines, but with genetic traits that are passed on from generation to generation.

Over the centuries, Purebred Spanish Horses have withstood the coming and going of fashionable desires to retain their purity and become the foundation stock for many other breeds. It has all been possible thanks to the love and care of breeders who have strived to preserve the best characteristic and reject those that might contaminate or fail to perpetuate the sought-after traits.

Versatility is the breed's most valued virtue. Its psychological well-being, the harmony of its anatomy, its willingness to work and intelligence all reinforce its ability to attain unimaginable limits.





Its abundant and silky mane, together with its long tail flowing in the wind, its expressive movements and rounded body are but the façade of a wide range of qualities. PRE horses are emotionally stable, with a huge desire to work; they have a feel for responsibility and their obedience is the cornerstone of a breed with unlimited potential.

A Purebred Spanish Horse (PRE), also known as a Spanish Horse, is enshrouded in natural beauty, in addition to the many careful details that complete the breed. When it comes to accepting external influences, breeders have shied away to preserve those traditions that most identify Spanish culture. The traditional Spanish riding saddle or attire that includes chaps, leggings, pendant trim or Calañá-style hats are but a few of the many elements that make the presentation of a PRE a true jewel and one that has remained unaltered by the passing of time.



HISTORY

The Purebred Spanish Horse (PRE) appeared in the 16th Century, thanks to the convergence of an economic and political bonanza in Spain. These results are the perfect balance between Renaissance art and having overcome Spain's Golden Age. Its influence extends to all horse breeds found in America.

King Philip II of Spain established the bases for what is known today as the Purebred Spanish Horse. The King organized the equine populations of his kingdom and ordered the Royal Stables of Cordoba to be built; a place where only the very best stallions and breeding mares were brought together along the banks of the Guadalquivir River.

For more than thirty years, the breed was refined in this historic city, where a renewed and improved breed was created; one that was considered the perfect horse. This equine breed became the emblem of Imperial Spain and initially, was destined for exclusive use by the Royal Household.

Throughout five centuries of Purebred Spanish Horse breeding, the breed has undergone a number of critical moments, including the French invasion at the onset of the 19th century or the Industrial Revolution when horses lost their grounds due to agricultural machinery. Nevertheless, King Alfonso XIII established a milestone by creating a registry of Spanish Horses. Later, during Spain's Civil War, which were complicated years for the breed, the sector managed to make a slow comeback; first with the launching a common European Market, which allowed Spain to become the third most important tourist destination and secondly, in 1972, with the creation of the Purebred Spanish Horse Breeders' Association that later incorporated the word national into its name to become ANCCE. To date, this body ensures the defense, promotion and continuity of the breed throughout the world.



OFFICIAL DOCUMENTATION

The Purebred Spanish Horse Stud Book (LG PRE ANCCE) is the only official register that is authorized to issue documentation for any given PRE, whether located in Spain or abroad. This register, handled by the National Purebred Spanish Horse Breeders' Association (ANCCE) since 2007, is located in the city of Sevilla (Spain). It is the only body that guarantees the purity of the breed and applies controls that are internationally accepted by the European Union to identify PRE Horses. These controls include implanting microchips and graphic descriptions, verification of parentage using DNA testing, UELN assignment, registry in the PRE Stud Book and the issuing of Equine ID documents or Passports.



The PRE ANCCE Stud Book has international delegations throughout Europe, America and Oceania. Since Spain's Ministry of Agriculture granted ANCCE the task of handling the Stud Book in 2007, it has progressively worked to attain high levels of quality, efficiency and reliability. In turn, this has earned the body recognition internationally to make it a reference followed by other equine breeds, especially within Europe.



ANCCE has taken an important step to create a Purebred Spanish Horse molecular genetics laboratory, to become the first breeder association to have its own lab. This pioneering endeavor is already a reference and one that guarantees the purity of Purebred Spanish Horses.



This laboratory is responsible for analyzing all necessary DNA tests required by the registration service. These include genetic identification analysis, parentage (paternity and maternity) analysis, genetic identification controls and the analysis of the genes that intervene in coat colors (to facilitate coverings based on the coat color sought after in the descendants) for horses anywhere in the world.







Once a PRE horse is three (3) years of age, its owner may request that the PRE Stud Book assess that horse's Basic Aptitude as breeding stock to then be used for breeding and have its progeny registered in the LG PRE ANCCE Stud Book. This assessment or revision is carried out using an elimination system, which is based on a series of disqualifying defects, or by tallying up penalizing defects found in the horse. These defects are defined in the breed quality definition. All information collected during this assessment is included in the breed's genetic Breeding Program, for which ANCCE has been responsible since 2003.

All genetic information from any horses assessed is included in the LG PRE ANCCE Stud Book, and the genetic category earned appears on the Equine Identification Document (EID) by means of a distinctive mark/stamp.

PRE BREEDING STOCK TYPES



Young Recommended Breeding Stock

Young horses subject to genetic assessments that obtain a genetic index that surpasses the established minimum for the trait or aptitude being covered. Likewise, the horse must surpass the conformation, functional, reproductive and health requirements as established by the Breeding Program.



Improver Breeding Stock

These horses are genetically assessed and must obtain a genetic index that surpasses the established minimum for the trait or aptitude being covered and with the minimal reliability indicated in the PRE Breeding Program, in addition to surpassing the established requirements.



Elite Breeding Stock

This category is for those horses with outstanding genetic qualities that surpass the rest of the breed and have already earned the category as Improver Breeding Stock. Likewise, these horses must surpass the requirements established in the PRE Breeding Program.



SPORT HORSE

Purebred Spanish Horses, in addition to being beautiful and obedient, are excellent athletes. The ease with which they perform collected and elevated paces—something that is much more difficult for other breeds—places them in the spotlight at competitions. Their excellent personality, noteworthy submission and huge work capacity makes them ideal for preparation in other equestrian disciplines, including Dressage, Doma Vaquera, Spanish High School, Carriage Driving, Eventing, Working Equitation and even the lower levels of Show Jumping.

The breed's versatility, perseverance, blend of movements with natural beauty and elegance add to the natural characteristics of a horse that is willing to work, is docile and resistant. These traits make the breed ideal for both amateur and professional riders.

The strength and heart make them a very frank horse. It is a horse that intelligently manages its resources to provide its rider with a comfortable seat, smoothness while training and responds immediately to lessons.

Purebred Spanish Horses have an unsurpassable characteristic, which makes them an ideal sport horse: emotional stability.



SICAB

WORLD PUREBRED SPANISH HORSE TRADE FAIR

ANCCE, the National Purebred Spanish Breeders' Association organizes SICAB (International PRE Trade Fair). It is the greatest, world-class equestrian event dedicated in full to the Purebred Spanish Horse and held annually in the month of November in Sevilla (Spain).

SICAB hosts the World PRE Championship. This equestrian event is open to the sixty-seven (67) countries that breed Purebred Spanish Horses. It also hosts the finals for the various ANCCE Cups, including Dressage, Doma Vaquera, Spanish High School, Carriage Driving (Competition and Combined), Working Equitation, Show Jumping and Sidesaddle.





This equestrian event brings together the very best stud farms and horses from all over the world. National and international breeders congregate at this venue every year to compete for the most important awards and titles that the breed has to offer.





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ANCCE

ASOCIACIÓN NACIONAL de CRIADORES
de CABALLOS de PURA RAZA ESPAÑOLA



This innovative project by G.O. EXPORTGEN has been granted €543,404.60 as a tentative resolution, with 80% being co-financed by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and 20% by Spain's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.