

## **Board proposals concerning myotony**

To limit a further spread of the defect allele that causes myotony, the General Board has chosen to present several proposals to its members. If the majority of members consent, the proposed measures can go into effect as of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

The breeding committee has advised the General Board extensively about the handling of the situation. The Board has adopted the most important suggestions made by the breeding committee. These proposals will be brought to a vote during the regional meetings this autumn. **The General Board calls all society members to come to a regional meeting and vote for these important proposals.**

### **Stallions**

As of January 1st, 2013, only those stallions that, after testing, prove not to be carriers of the defect allele that cause myotony may be approved for stud purposes. To be eligible for such approval, the test results need to be handed in at the studbook administration office before the General Stallions Show. So as not to impede the flow of horses into sports, the Board has opted not to make the myotony test compulsory for the Preliminary Stallions Show. The costs of the test are to be carried by the owner. The Board proposes to have all stallions tested, including those in which there is no direct suspicion of the allele's presence; the aim is to inform breeders as completely as possible about a stallion's status concerning myotony.

For all stallions approved before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the Board wishes to make the test results public. DNA test results for myotony will not affect the status of approval for stallions that were approved before this date; in other words, the status of approval of such stallions will not be changed by DNA test results.

### **Proposal nr. 1**

Those stallions who carry the myotony allele will no longer be approved for stud purposes as of January 1st, 2013.

### **Breeding show rules and regulations, old article**

#### **Article 11**

- a. For assessments, not only are conformation, movement and rideability to be taken into consideration, but also the results of the horse's ancestors.
- b. Also, assessments will involve testing for possible hereditary defects. The board will lay down further directives for such tests.
- c. The assessment will involve the judging of rideability.
- d. The results of the assessments of offspring will also be taken into consideration.
- e. No approval for stud purposes shall be granted for stallions born out of dams registered in the foal register and/or by sires for whom fewer than two generations of ancestry are registered on the certificate of origin.
- f. The quality of sperm has to meet the standards decided on by the board. Advice of the breeding society's veterinary officer will be taken into consideration in this matter.

## **Breeding show rules and regulations, new article**

### **Article 11**

- a. For assessments, not only will conformation, movement and rideability be taken into consideration, but also the results of the horse's ancestors.
- b. Also, assessments will involve testing for possible hereditary defects. The board will lay down further directives for such tests.
- c. The assessment will involve the judging of rideability.
- d. The results of the assessments of offspring will also be taken into consideration.
- e. No approval for stud purposes shall be granted for stallions born out of dams registered in the foal register and/or by sires for whom fewer than two generations of ancestry are registered on the certificate of origin.
- f. The quality of sperm has to meet the standards decided on by the board. Advice of the breeding society's veterinary officer will be taken into consideration in this matter.
- g. No approval for stud purposes shall be granted for stallions whom DNA testing has proven to carry the myotony allele.

### **Proposal nr. 2**

Stallions that carry the myotony allele will no longer qualify for approval for stud purposes.

## **Studbook rules and regulations, old article**

### **Article 2.2**

A stallion will be approved provided:

- a. He is on stud in the Netherlands and has been approved for stud purposes by the Dutch New Forest Pony Society NNFPS.
- c. He has been approved by any other breeding association that has been recognised by the New Forest Pony mother breeding association, and has not been disapproved in the Netherlands on grounds of rideability results, results by offspring, and/or veterinary issues.

## **Studbook rules and regulations, new article**

### **Article 2.2**

A stallion will be approved provided:

- b. He is on stud in the Netherlands, has been approved for stud purposes by the Dutch New Forest Pony Society NNFPS, and is not a carrier of the myotony allele.
- d. He has been approved by any other breeding association that has been recognised by the New Forest Pony mother breeding association, and has not been disapproved in the Netherlands on grounds of rideability results, results by offspring, and/or veterinary issues.

### **Proposal nr. 3**

Based on the revised article 2.2 of the studbook rules, the Board proposes to introduce the possibility of making the test results of previously approved stallions public.

**To be added: article 2.7**

For those stallions described in article 2.2, section a, that were approved before January 1st, 2013, the results of DNA testing for myotony will be published through the society's media. The test results bear no influence on these stallions' status of approval.

**Mares**

The General Board has made the explicit choice to reduce the presence of the myotony allele within the population. It has chosen not to open up a separate register for carriers of the allele, nor to give carriers a different status or to institute a breeding ban. We count on the responsibility of our members to breed sensibly and to minimise the use of carrier animals in breeding as much as possible. Also, all too drastic measures may imply the loss of good breeding material. However, in the full awareness that carriers are healthy ponies that function perfectly well, we do consider it sensible to present the following proposals to you for the sake of animal welfare.

The status concerning myotony is to be added within our studbook administration for all animals. There is a suspicion of the presence of the myotony allele in ponies descending from the stallion Kantje's Ronaldo. DNA testing may clarify the status of myotony for ponies.

For foals born as of January 1st, 2004 out of a dam and/or by a sire who is, or is suspected to be, a carrier of myotony, it will be made compulsory to have DNA testing carried out before a certificate of origin is issued. The test results will be noted on the certificate of origin. Foals whose parents have been tested not to carry the myotony allele, or are not suspected to be carriers (i.e. those that do not have Katje's Ronaldo in their ancestry), will be exempt of testing. This means that, if you are the owner of a mare that is possibly a carrier of the myotony allele, it is strongly advised to request DNA testing for your mare. If the test results indicate that your mare is not a carrier (A/A), you will be exempt of having foals out of this mare tested for myotony, provided that the sire has also been tested and is not a carrier (A/A).

**Additional information concerning proposals nrs. 4 through 11**

The proposals 4 through 11 are intended to bring into effect the condition that the status of myotony for a pony be known before it can be registered. The information about its status will be published on the certificate of origin, so that the status of myotony for the pony at hand is clear to all.

**Proposal nr. 4**

**Studbook rules and regulations, old article**

**Article 2.1**

Foal register

Foals are not to be registered in the foal register unless:

- a.1 The sire is an approved stallion and the dam has been registered in the foal register, the foal import register, the studbook register or the import register, or:
- a.2 It concerns a filly out of a dam that has been registered in the F-register and for whom the F-register certificate has been issued, and the sire and dam's sire of the filly have been registered with a recognised breeding association.
- a.3 It concerns a colt that has been registered in the F-register, that has been shown at a preliminary stallions show as described in article 9.1 of the breeding show rules, whose F-register certificate has been issued, and whose assessment results rank him for the star predicate.
- b. Within 14 days after birth of the foal, notification of such needs to have been received by the studbook administration office, and the date of birth needs to correspond with the date of covering of the dam as listed on the covering certificate issued, which is to be handed in at the same time.
- c. Inspection of the foal has shown that the data concerning the dam and foal listed both on the covering certificate and the notification of birth are correct.
- d. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder in the pony's lineage amounts to 6,25% or less.

## **Studbook rules and regulations, new article**

### **Article 2.1**

#### Foal register

Foals are not to be registered in the foal register unless:

- a.1 The sire is an approved stallion and the dam has been registered in the foal register, the foal import register, the studbook register or the import register, or:
- a.2 It concerns a filly out of a dam that has been registered in the F-register and for whom an F-register certificate has been issued , and the sire and dam's sire of the filly have been registered with a recognised breeding association.
- a.3 It concerns a colt that has been registered in the F-register, that has been shown at a preliminary stallions show as described in article 9.1 of the breeding show rules, whose F-register certificate has been issued, and whose assessment results rank him for the star predicate.
- b. Within 14 days after birth of the foal, notification of such needs to have been received by the studbook administration office, and the date of birth needs to correspond with the date of covering of the dam as listed on the covering certificate issued, which is to be handed in at the same time.
- c. Inspection of the foal has shown that the data concerning the dam and foal listed both on the covering certificate and the notification of birth are correct.
- d. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder in the pony's lineage amounts to 6,25% or less.

e. The status of myotony is known for the foal.

#### **Proposal nr. 5**

##### **Studbook rules and regulations, old article**

###### **Article 3.1.**

Import register

On behalf of the society, imported horses will not be registered in the import register, unless:

- a. The pony is 3 years old or older, inspection of the documents made available to the breeding committee has shown that the pony has been registered with The New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society in Great Britain or with a foreign New Forest Pony breeding association that is recognised by the mother breeding association, and two generations of ancestors have been registered, or the pony has been registered in the foal import register.
- b. The committee in charge of admission has declared that in their opinion, the pony meets the breed's standard and qualifies for registration in the import register.

##### **Studbook rules and regulations, new article**

###### **Article 3.1**

Import register

On behalf of the society, imported horses will not be registered in the import register, unless:

- a. The pony is 3 years old or older, inspection of the documents made available to the breeding committee has shown that the pony has been registered with The New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society in Great Britain or with a foreign New Forest Pony breeding association that is recognised by the mother breeding association, and two generations of ancestors have been registered, or the pony has been registered in the foal import register.
- b. The committee in charge of admission has declared that in their opinion, the pony meets the breed's standard and qualifies for registration in the import register.
- c. The status of myotony is known for the pony.

#### **Proposal nr. 6**

##### **Studbook rules and regulations, old article**

###### **Article 4.1**

Foal import register

Ponies are not to be registered in the foal import register unless:

- a. The pony is less than 3 years of age, the breeding committee has ascertained that the pony at hand has been registered with The New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society in Great Britain or with a foreign New Forest Pony breeding association that is recognised by the mother association, and that two generations of ancestors have been registered.
- b. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder in the pony's lineage is 6,25% or less.

#### **Studbook rules and regulations, new article**

##### **Article 4.1**

###### Foal import register

Ponies are not to be registered in the foal import register unless:

- a. The pony is less than 3 years of age, the breeding committee has ascertained that the pony at hand has been registered with The New Forest Pony Breeding and Cattle Society in Great Britain or with a foreign New Forest Pony breeding association that is recognised by the mother association, and that two generations of ancestors have been registered.
- b. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder in the pony's lineage is 6,25% or less.
- c. The status of myotony is known for the pony.

#### **Proposal nr. 7**

#### **Studbook rules and regulations, old article**

##### **Article 6.1**

###### The F-register

Ponies may be registered into the F-register, if it is clear that:

- a1. The sire is an approved stallion and the dam has been registered in the F-register, or:
- a2. The sire is a stallion with an F-register stud license and the dam has been registered in the foal register, the foal import register, the studbook register, the import register, or the F-register.
- b. Notification of birth of the pony that is to be registered needs to have been received by the studbook administration office within 14 days after its birth, and the date of birth listed on the notification of birth needs to correspond with the date of covering of the dam as listed on the covering certificate issued, which is to be handed in at the same time.

- c. Inspection of the foal has shown that the data concerning the dam and foal listed both on the covering certificate and the notification of birth are correct.
- d. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder in the pony's lineage amounts to 6,25% or less.

### **Studbook rules and regulations, new article**

#### **Article 6.1**

The F-register

Ponies may be registered into the F-register, if it is clear that:

- a1. The sire is an approved stallion and the dam has been registered in the F-register, or:
- a2. The sire is a stallion with an F-register stud license and the dam has been registered in the foal register, the foal import register, the studbook register, the import register, or the F-register.
- b. Notification of birth of the pony that is to be registered needs to have been received by the studbook administration office within 14 days after its birth, and the date of birth listed on the notification of birth needs to correspond with the date of covering of the dam as listed on the covering certificate issued, which is to be handed in at the same time.
- c. Inspection of the foal has shown that the data concerning the dam and foal listed both on the covering certificate and the notification of birth are correct.
- d. As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013, the percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder in the pony's lineage amounts to 6,25% or less.
- e. The status of myotony is known for the pony.

### **Proposal nr. 8**

#### **Studbook rules and regulations, old article**

#### **Article 7.1**

At the entry of ponies in a register, the following information is to be registered:

- a. Name, registration number and date of entry.
- b. Year and date of birth.
- c. Gender, colour, markings and height at the withers.
- d. Name, address and residence of the owner and, if need be, of the breeder.
- e. Awards and predicates.
- f. The circumference of the cannon bone of the left fore, if it concerns an approved stallion.

## **Studbook rules and regulations, new article**

### **Article 7.1**

At the entry of ponies in a register, the following information is to be registered:

- a. Name, registration number and date of entry.
- b. Year and date of birth.
- c. Gender, colour, markings and height at the withers.
- d. Name, address and residence of the owner and, if need be, of the breeder.
- e. Awards and predicates.
- f. The circumference of the cannon bone of the left fore, if it concerns an approved stallion.
- g. The status of myotony.

### **Proposal nr. 9**

**To be added:**

#### **Article 10.4**

A pony is not to be entered into the competition register, as long as the status of myotony is unclear.

### **Proposal nr. 10**

**Studbook rules and regulations, old article:**

#### **Article 11.1**

Ponies may be registered into the X-register, if it is clear that:

- a. The percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder in the pony's lineage amounts to more than 6,25%, and the pony was born after December 31rd, 2012.
- b. Other than the percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder, the pony is a full-blood New Forest pony by lineage.

**Studbook rules and regulations, new article:**

#### **Article 11.1**

Ponies may be registered into the X-register, if it is clear that:

- a. The percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder in the pony's lineage amounts to more than 6,25%, and the pony was born after December 31rd, 2012.
- b. Other than the percentage of blood passed on by the stallion Golden Wonder, the pony is a full-blood New Forest pony by lineage.
- c. The status of myotony can be determined for the pony.

### **Proposal nr. 11**

**To be added to the studbook rules and regulations:**

#### **Artikel 19**

There can be no entry of ponies into one of the registers as mentioned in the articles **2.1, 3.1, 4.1, 6.1, 10.1** and **11.1**, as long as the status of myotony cannot be determined.

### **Proposal nr. 12**

For ponies suspected to be carriers of the myotony allele, DNA testing is to determine the status of myotony. Ponies that are not suspected to be carriers of the myotony allele do not need to be tested; their status of myotony may be registered without further DNA testing. To make sure that the DNA tested belongs to the pony that was examined, the testing procedure needs to offer several warranties.

**To be added to the studbook rules and regulations:**

#### **Article 19.1.**

Security about the status of myotony can be obtained by having the DNA testing done following a procedure as determined by the Board, carried out by a laboratory that is recognised by the Board.

#### **Article 19.2.**

That which has been defined in articles 19 and 19.1 only applies to ponies whose ancestry raises the suspicion that they may be carriers of the myotony allele.