



Magazine

Magazine in four languages

Nr. 1 / February - April 1997

English edition



Eric van der Vleuten:
"System more important
than style"

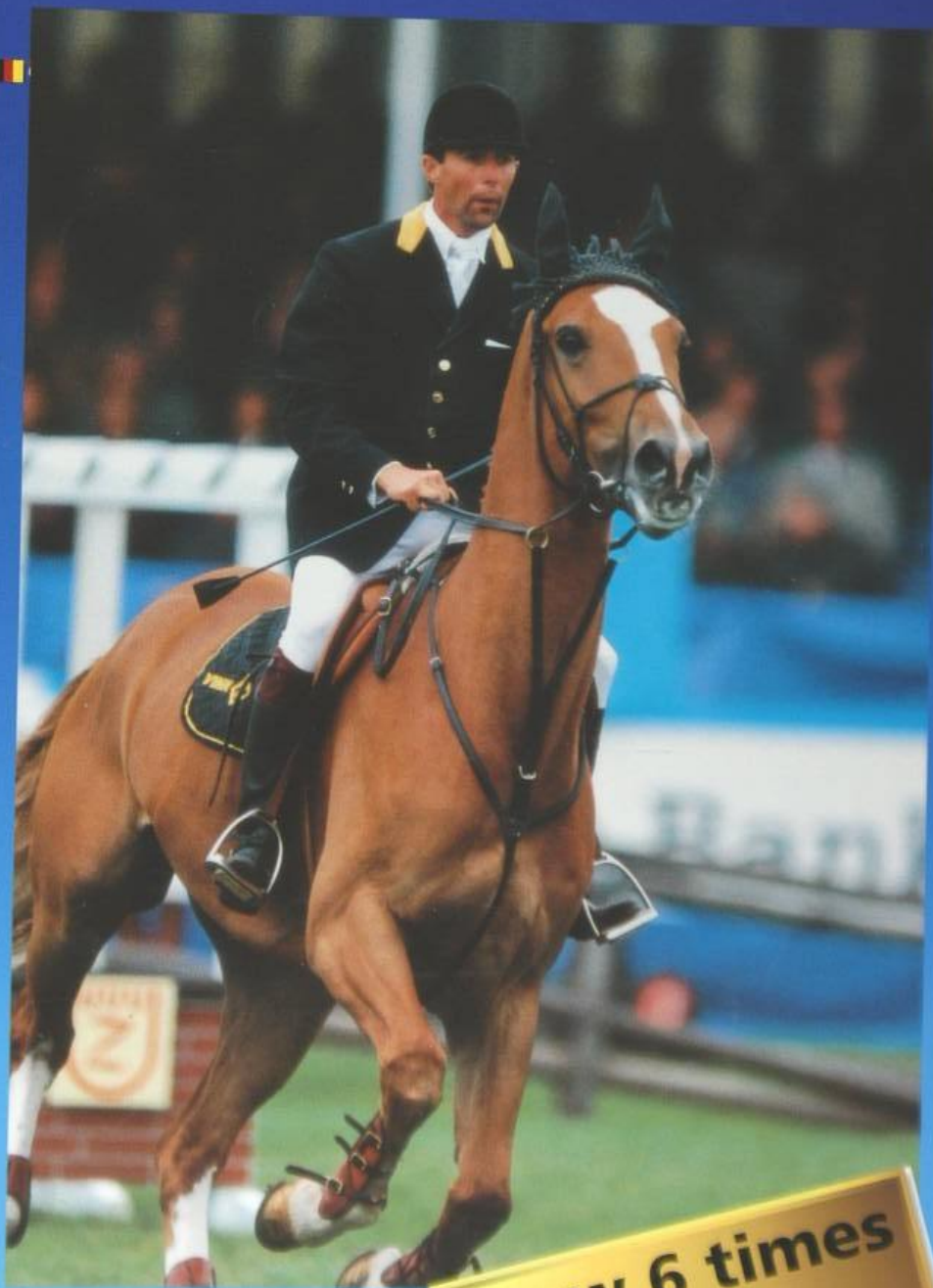
The history of breeding
science

The high-spirited
thoroughbreds of
Carle Vernet

Super breeders
premiums

The renaissance of
the crowned rose

Bachus Z Best Stallion



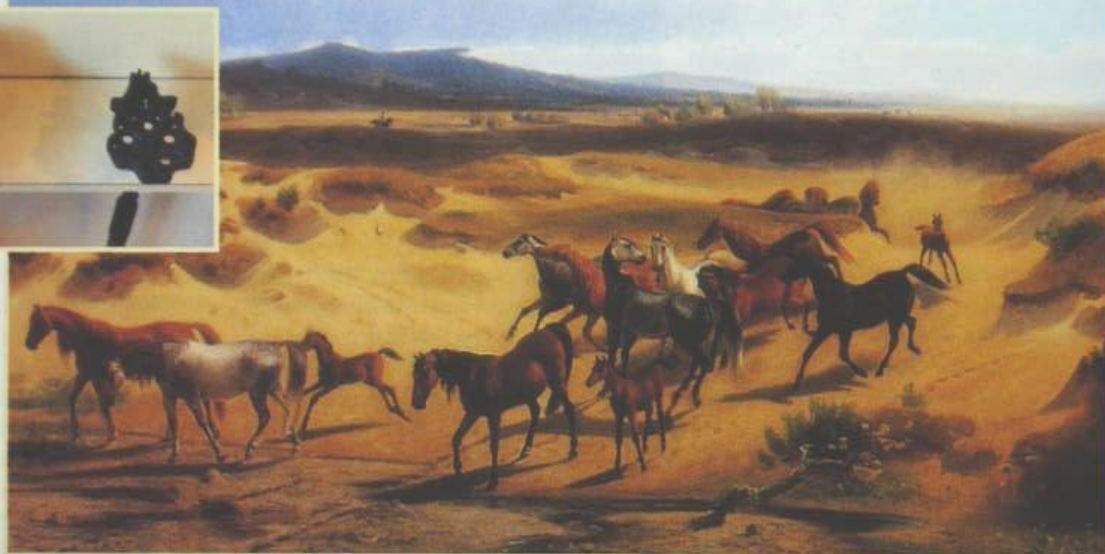
Now 6 times
a year

LAEKHER



The renaissance of the

Karl-Ludwig Lackner wants his Senne horses to roam



BY HENK BOUWMAN.

The French are proud of the Anglo-Arabians; the studbook dates from 1833 and its concentrated performance genes are in demand with other countries (examples: Zeus, Quickstar). At one time Germany, too, had its own home-grown Anglo-Arabians, which they called 'Senner' and branded with a crowned rose. This studbook even dates from 1725 (but was closed in 1947) and their horses, too, were rendering their services abroad. When the country became a republic, the Senne horse disappeared from the scene. But not permanently. One lineage survived the Hitler era as well as the subsequent period of poverty, and formed the small basis from which Karl-Ludwig Lackner revived the Senne horse population. Now that the cold war is over, Lackner wants to have his Senne horses returned to their original environment. The vast heath-lands in the former Kingdom of Lippe (between Bielefeld, Detmold and Paderborn) must have lost their importance as military practice area by now, as the Russian do not seem to be coming anymore. "But it will take some time before they'll be running there again," says Lackner. "A myriad of bodies and organisations all believe they have a say in the matter and they all something different."

Karl-Ludwig Lackner (49) was going to high school in Detmold, when he came eye to eye with a painting. It was love at first sight and the spell was cast for life. "It is hanging in the regional museum in Detmold and gives an impression of what the Senne looked like in the old days. Vast and extensive, a primal landscape, with a group of roaming Senne horses. Noble horses, the oldest breed in Germany, older

still than the Trakehner. There were not any Trakehners left, at least that is what it looked like at the time." Nowadays, hardly anything is left of the royal hunting lodge.

It is located in the middle of what is now military practice grounds, worse still, it is the target area of a shooting range for British tanks. It is inaccessible and therefore fascinating. Was the painting the only

evidence of what once was? If anyone could answer that, it would be Lackner. The degree in which the Senne horses have dominated his life is demonstrated by his brand-new book 'Die Senner', which begins with his first love, the painting. "It was a giant painting, easily measuring 2 by 4 meters," he remembers. In fact, it is 'only' 94 cm high and 144.5 cm wide. The child in the man never dies...

crowned rose

across the heath once more

1

As a 15 year old schoolboy Karl-Ludwig Lackner fell in love with this scene from 1860, hanging in the Lippe Regional Museum in Detmold. Carl Rötteken painted the Senne, Gustav Quentell the horses grazing on it. The Senne horse should roam the Senne again, believes Lackner. The old Anglo-Arabian stallion he is showing is Tallis (1981, 31.25%) by Lionel xx (Herbager xx-Fervent xx) out of Thalie II by Djerba Qua ox-Micipsa xx-Denoustè ox-Verdun xx). Dam's dam Thaya also produced the French state stud stallions Thalian and Thailand (by Djerba Qua ox).

Anglo-Arabians

The horses bred by the princes of Lippe were of legendary quality. So much so that stallions who had nothing to do with these animals were named after them, such as the Holstein studbook-owned stallion and 'Action trotter' Lopshorn (1937, Loretto-First) for example, and the Dutch sport horse dam producer Senner (1960, Sinaeda-Tello). Contrary to the Oldenburg progenitor Menkes Senner (1846) which was indeed born on the heath. "He is, like the son of the English thoroughbred Brother to Rostrum xx by Glaucus xx out of the Senne mare Major Knock by Aurus ox, a very high-blooded bay, whose dam was an Anglo-Arabian. Menkes Senner was, of course, a very noble stallion of slender built, who was used for five years and who has done a lot of good," wrote Claus Dencker in 1941. The long family tree with which Dencker illustrated his article demonstrates that Menkes Senner was not a purebred Anglo-Arabian by pre-



sent day standards. We should respect the standards of the time, however. French Anglo's sometimes have a 'demi sang' in the tail end of their pedigree, as well!

But Anglo-Arabian blood and a noble conformation alone do not make a breed legendary. Nor was a nobleman-breeder in 19th century Europe a guarantee for that. But what was?

"Few areas in Germany are as favourable for the rearing of noble and at the same time hardy horses as the heath- and woodlands of Lippe," wrote general Wolfgang von Unger in 1915, when he was stationed in France. He proceeds: "Nowhere else the

natural, hard way of rearing horses has been preserved so consistently until today. One could easily develop new breeding activities in this area, which would meet the demand for genuine cavalry horses."

Half-wild

Von Unger's father Friedrich was director of Lopshorn state stud from 1852 to 1866. We should not associate the term state stud with beautiful white-railed meadows. Originally, the Senne horses were half-wild horses that had been roaming the Senne area for as long as man could remember. It was commonly believed that



Mrs. Julie Marie Spies-Immink with her children and the Senne mare Ingeborg in the city park's zoo of Detmold, 1928. After the war, her daughter J.M. Amersfoort-Spies would fetch three mares and a stallion to the Netherlands. None of their progeny are still alive today, but Mrs. Immink's son A.W.F. von Balluseck (right) did some eventing on the stallion Muschalli (who was later gelded). Ingeborg, five years old on this photograph, is both dam of Usa (1928) and Ingrid (1931) and is therefore the foundation mare of all present-day Senne horses.



agues and a charming rendez-vous for realizing profitable marriages...

In spite of the fact that the present military practice grounds cover some 12,000 hectares, the Senne still offers protection

to various game in large numbers: 400 deer, 450 stags and 250 boars, all full-grown animals. The interests that the royal foresters were expected to protect were directly the reverse of the interests of the

royal equerry. Whatever the horses ate, the game could not feed on, and vice versa. After the wars of 1864 and 1866 Prussia added three major breeding areas to its territory (Holstein, Hanover and Hessen).

After World War I Lopshorn was expropriated for a while and during that time accommodated a state riding and driving school, which explains the uniform of the man showing Tizian. The grey was standing at stud in Holstein from 1907 to 1919 and then in Lopshorn until 1927, where Erna Greiff von Mach immortalized him in 1922. He was a direct son of Amurath ox out of Lina by Achill-Fritz-Young Altona-Colonel-Koheilan el Ajuz ox (lineage 318d1).





This painting shows that one and a half century ago the Senne horse was a true-blooded Anglo-Arabian. In 1850 Gustav Quentell painted this stallion, Sarastro (born on Lopshorn in 1843, by Mozart xx out of Amazilly by Mirza ox). The rider is the 22 year old Prince Friedrich Karl of Prussia, who apparently preferred a Senne horse to their 'own' Trakehners.

they were the descendants of Roman cavalry horses. In the year 9 A.D. the German general Arminius (Hermann) lured the three legions of the Roman governor Varus into an ambush. The place is called 'saltus Teutoburgiensis' but its exact location is not known. Because the Senne borders to the southern most ranges of the Teutoburger Wald, the link with the Romans is obvious. The first actual documentation dates from more than a thousand years later, from 1160 to be precise. The word Senne comes from the Gothic 'Sinithi', later 'Sinede', meaning 'vast heath'. These 20,000 hectares hunting grounds of the Lippe royalty were where the Senne horses roamed, and until 1809 also during winter. "Water shortages in the hot summers often force these horses to travel for more than three hours before they can quench their thirst," wrote Von Unger. "In winter and in spring, before the grass was growing, the mares graze on the heath. They are looking real miserable then. As soon as the first leaves appear on the trees, they quickly change their diet. They manage to survive somehow, and soon pick up. When the snow is so thick

that no heath can be found, they get some roughage at the Lopshorn stables. Any kind of roughage; hay, oat or wheat straw, or chaffed straw from peas, beans or vetch mixed with chaffed rye straw. The shelters are bedded with a thick layer of peat. The horses are exercised every day in the yard or the paddock."


Hunting

The Senne horse formed an interesting source of income for the Lippe royalty.

Any horses not needed by His Majesty for his own stables at the Detmold residence were auctioned. The auctions were popular with the military, for Senne horses, because of their stoic background, were in high demand by officers. However, "Fürst zur Lippe, which is what the head of state was called, had his Senne horses also for another purpose. His country only covered just under 1,000 square miles (half the size of Luxembourg), had little industry and was therefore forced to live off agriculture and forestry. The 130 square miles covered by the Senne made up one-sixth part of his territory and that is what he had to make do with. So he hunted. The Lopshorn residence, built in the 17th century, harboured an enormous collection of antlers and the hunting lodge. It was a favourite holiday resort for his royal colle-

Originally the Senne horse lived in the wild and was only handled by man to be branded and sold. This litho by Gustav Quentell clearly shows the brand on the neck. It is on the left side, so either the horses were occasionally branded on that side or the lithographer has made a mistake.



Von Unger left for Prussia to become director of the Celle state stud in 1869. The horse population on the Senne was drastically reduced. After the decease of the childless King Leopold III his brother Waldemar ordered in 1876 that a large part of the Senne would be forbidden territory for horses and he had a 6,000 hectare 'Waldweide' fenced in. "The heaviest blow to the studfarm was the 'confiscation' of this wood field. The horses had to make place for the deer. The Senne horse, that had grown up in majestic freedom was, like Kaspar Hauser (1812-1833, the foundling who was believed to be the Prince of Baden, ed.), deprived of the conditions that were essential for the development of physical and spiritual nobility," according to Van Unger. 

(to be continued)

Sources:

- Karl-Ludwig Lackner: 'Die Senner', Kramer Verlag, 1996
- Wolfgang von Unger: 'Die Senner, Beitrag zur Geschichte deutscher Pferdezucht' Verlag DGZ, 1915
- Mathias Vogt: 'Die Senne, Natur- und Kulturlandschaft in Ostwestfalen', Landschaftsverb. Westfalen-Lippe, 1992
- Friedrich Traut: 'Gestütte Europas', Liebhaber Verlag, 1971
- Claus Dencker: 'Das Oldenburger Pferd', (DGZ 1941), herdr. BLV, 198

The Senne is an area of softly undulating foothills of the Teutoburger Wald. This wood engraving by Lindner dates from around 1870. The New Forest in Great Britain still looks very similar today.



The Senne horse had a sound reputation as remount. In 1867 Emil Hüntgen painted major Ernst von Unger on horseback in the battle of Königgrätz (on the headwaters of the Elbe, nowadays called Hradec Kralové) where Prussia beat Austria on 3 July 1866. The original was burnt around 1900 and the same fate befell the copy in World War II, but there is another picture of this horse, in a more peaceful environment. It is the Senne mare Loreley, photographed by a certain Schnäbeli. The Swiss often made these kind of fairly touched-up pictures of Senne horses and were thereby the early predecessors of Ernst, Melissen & Co. About Loreley, born on Lopshorn in 1858, by Florival x (Don Cossack xx-Nassir ox) out of Emma (by Red Rover xx) Von Unger wrote in 1915: "One Senne mare was in the fortunate circumstances of being instrumental in the quick decision to start the seven week war. She is called Loreley, and she carried major Unger on his famous reconnaissance trip on 2 July 1866, hotly pursued by a hostile patrol, back to the safety of 1866, hotly pursued by a hostile patrol, back to the safety of the headquarters of Prince Karl Friedrich, which set the attack in motion. In 1870 she was killed near Sedan by a bombshell."





Magazine

Magazine in four languages

Nr. 2 / April - June 1997

English edition



Ulrich Kirchhoff:
The Olympic flame is
not distinguished

A Dutchman
in Holstein

Strangers through
the backdoor

The flock follows
the bell-wether

Spring selections in
in the Lower Countries

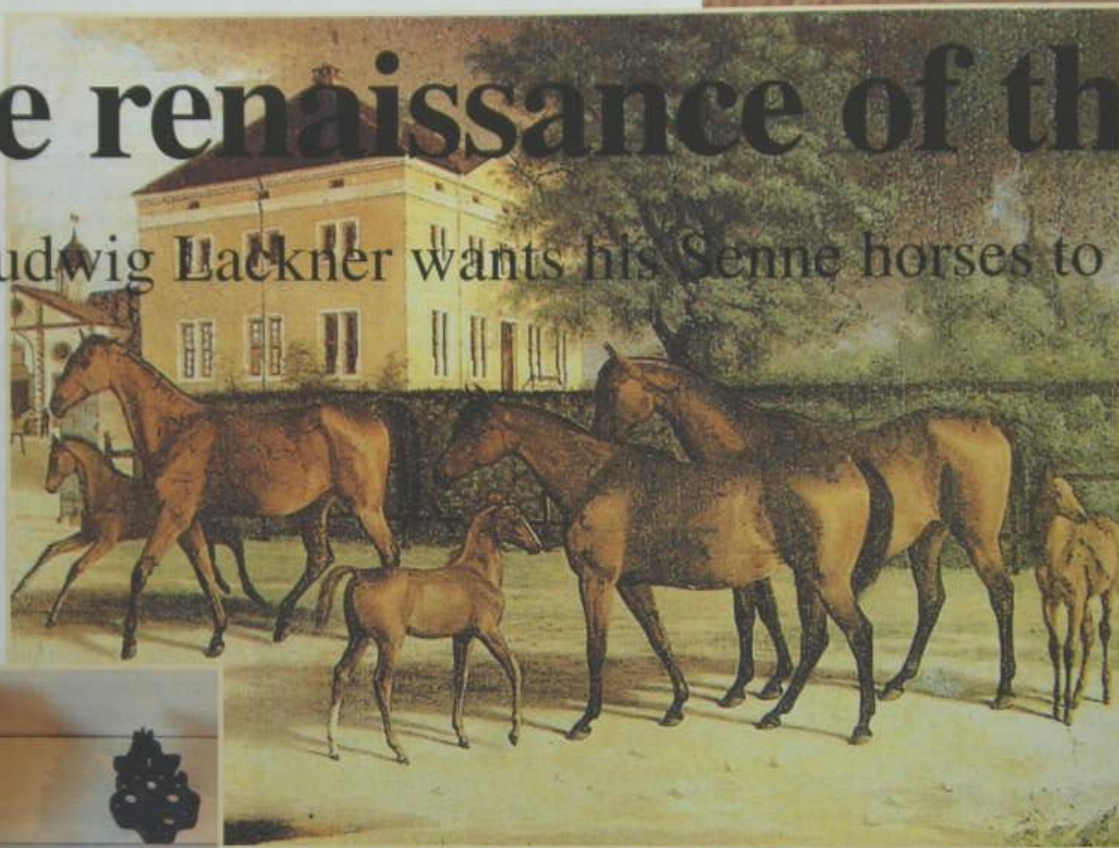


LAEMER



The renaissance of the

Karl-Ludwig Lackner wants his Senne horses to roa



The legendary Senne horses once were the super-weapon of the Prussian war machine. They were Anglo-Arabians of incredible hardiness, for they were born and bred in the rugged royal dominions 'Senne' of the former kingdom Lippe (between Bielefeld, Detmold and Paderborn). But when the tank had won from the sword-flourishing hussars on horseback, the production of Lippe's most popular export product was discontinued by superior orders. As a result, an important source of performance blood disappeared, long before the phenomenon of the sport horse would conquer the warmblood-breeding world. So, that is all history now? Not quite. A persistent Dutch lady helped the Senne horses survive the thirties and forties. And an equally stubborn teacher from Borgerholzhausen managed to retrieve the last remains of the breed in 1971. Karl-Ludwig Lackner is the name of the man who devoted his life to the native Anglo-Arabian. His aim: to bring back a herd of Senne horses back to the Senne.

By HENK BOUWMAN.

PHOTOGRAPHS ARCHIEF LACKNER, GABY KÄRCHER, HENK BOUWMAN.

When Germany stopped being an empire in 1919, the 'Fürst' of Lippe lost his power as well as part of his domain. A small group of Senne horses remained on Lopshorn, which was transformed into a state-owned riding school; 16 Senne

mares found a new home on the Prussian studfarm Bebereck, which was sold to Poland in 1929. The other Senne horses mixed with the other warmblood population. It is due to the efforts of a Dutch lady that some of the Senne horses survived the

Hitler era. During a visit to Detmold in the twenties - her husband gave a concert in that city - Mrs Julie Marie Spies, maiden name Immink, got fascinated by a couple of Senne horses she discovered in the city park's 'zoo' (now a beautiful open air museum). Following the peace treaty, after 1918 Germany was no longer allowed to have more than 100,000 men under arms. This also meant the end of the gigantic production of remounts. The Senne horse was considered too much of a 'blood-horse' in those days, too sensitive for agricultural use or for the new target group, the rural riders. During the wars the Prussian state stud Trakhenen had displayed a growing tendency to breed heavier horses, and now the Senne horses would suffer the same fate. During the Weimar republic, Lopshorn functioned as the provincial riding and driving center, besides keeping a small herd for breeding purposes, for which it attracted the Holstein Amurath ox son Tizian, who was expected to give the Senne horses more

crowned rose

m across the heath once more 2

This painting (left) by G. Quentel is hanging in the regal residence of Detmold. It shows the Senne mares Veil, Freia and Morella with their foals in front of the later modernised hunting lodge in Lopshorn in 1844.

This photograph of Karl-Ludwig Lackner in a combined event at Monsdorf, 1987, proves that the present-day Senne horse is not a museum item and can manage very well in the sport. The grey mare is Komtess (by Kallistos x) out of Norma by Colorado-Ramzes x-Onkel Ludwig xx.

body. But after the power change the Nazi government refused to accept any Senne horses in Prussian studfarm service and in February 1935 the twelve remaining Senne mares were auctioned. Mrs Immink realized that the Senne horse would gradually change into an average warmblood horse. In 1938 she managed to purchase a Senne mare and she stabled her at Lopshorn, which had been vacated ten years before. In 1940 she could afford to buy another Senne mare and in 1942 the first true-blooded Senne foals (by Mandub ox) were born on Lopshorn! This situation did not last very long. The front was getting nearer, and in the spring of 1945 the already fairly damaged Lopshorn was plundered by released prisoners of war, and burnt down soon after. Mrs Immink escaped to a remote part of the Senne, where the vegetation was so scarce that a few horses starved. With one stallion and three mares Mrs Immink's daughter found her way to the Netherlands, but these horses eventually died. Thanks to the Lüpke



family in Lemgo (just north of Detmold) one Senne horse lineage has been preserved, which included Ingrid, a weathered 18-yr-old Senne mare that Mrs Immink had discovered in front of a milkcart and had bought straight away.

A little bit of warmblood

So there is a little bit of warmblood in the Senne horses, after all, and more than just from Tizian's dam. Karl-Ludwig Lackner:

"All present-day Senne horses descend from one family, starting in 1725 with the mare David. After the Tizian daughter Ingeborg (1923) the lineage splits up into Usa (1928 by Lüderbach xx) and Ingrid (1931, by Onkel Ludwig xx). In both branches a single warmblood stallion has been used since the war period. Usa was owned by the Lüpke family in Lage, later called Lemgo. This lineage runs through Kolombine by Mandub ox and Indra by



The royal castle in the former residence of Detmold is at present still inhabited by a 'Prinz zur Lippe'. At the festive first Senne breeding show his Highness Prince Armin von Lippe-Biesterfeld made the opening speech. "Unfortunately, I have never seen the herd of Lops-horn in freedom, which was before my time," said the Prince, "but I am happy that after 60 years the Senne horses are back again." The Prince is doctor of biology but not a real horse-lover. "Which is a shame," says Karl-Ludwig Lackner, "for we could have done with a bit of royalty. Is he a cousin of the father of the Dutch queen? She is a real horsewoman, so I am told. I will send her a copy of my book."

Hanover University Veterinary Department, and placed on the 'World Watch List' of the FAO (World Food Organisation) that same year. Then things began to develop at a fast pace. In 1994 we were recognized by the German Ministry of Agriculture, in the spring of 1995 we applied with the Westfalian studbook to be recognized as an independent subdivision, for which approval was given in February 1996. Where these matters are concerned, the arrival of Marahrens (Westfalian breeding manager, ed.) has caused a far more liberal wind to blow. I never got on with his predecessor Dohmen. I had been looking for a fitting thoroughbred stallion and the French Anglo Kallistos was for sale. He was bred by Baron Von Nagel and was therefore licensed in Westfalia. When the baron died, he was bought by four Dutchmen who presented him to the stallions selection in Holland, which must have been in February 1978. But the Dutch jury had never seen an Anglo before and did not want him. That is when I could afford to buy him, because, after having been rejected, his price had moved considerably more into my direction. I asked the studbook if they would still recognize Kallistos, for at the time, stallions were only licensed in Westfalia as long as they standing at stud at an official station, and I did not have one.

Dohmen told me literally: "If you buy that stallion, then he will not be recognized." I sent a protest to the Ministry, Dohmen was ordered to remove that provision about official stations from the rules and four weeks later Kallistos was recognized again. It went just like the Moltke case, which cost the Holstein studbook a lot of money. They were a little wiser in Westfalia."



Crowned rose

To exist as a studbook inside a studbook makes it easy to catch a lift from the administration of Westfalian warmblood breeding and still follow one's own traditions. The brand is a case in point. When the 15 year old schoolboy Karl-Ludwig Lackner was standing in front of the painting he fell in love with, the authentic branding irons with the crowned rose were hanging below that painting. The rose comes from the coat of arms of the Lippe family, the same as the Dutch Queen Beatrix (her father is Prince Von Lippe-Biesterfeld) is still carrying in her coat of arms. "We don't use the three letters anymore," says Lackner. "And we simplified the crown. We use the same symbol as that of the Westfalian brand. For a while our Senne horses received the Westfalian

brand on the left and the crowned rose on the right side. That is no longer necessary, the two last digits of the life number are sufficient on the left side. The rose remains on the right side of the neck, which was the place traditionally used by all German studs for branding. The brand is also our logo. I had it licensed 20 years ago, as well as the name 'Senne'. Under my own name, of course, for I was the only interested party at the time. But now that we have been given protected status in the Westfalian studbook, I believe I ought to share my right with them."

On the heath

The Senne is what makes a real 'Senne'. That is why Lackner wants to have them roaming the heath again. After all, the breed acquired its fine reputation for the





The Anglo-Arabian Kallistos x (born 1970, 62.50%) produced his first Senne offspring in 1977, after a Dutch combination had bought him from the estate of Baron von Nagel. In the Netherlands, however, the stallion selection jury did not approve Kallistos in the last showing, after which Karl-Ludwig Lackner was able to buy him. Until his death in August 1996 Kallistos would be the pasha of Lackner's studfarm. His original name was Quey you Biss, his sire was Djerba Oua ox (Dragon ox-Kriss II ox) and his dam was Kesybiss x (by Cor de Chasse xx-Daji xx-Denousté ox).

Felsen I, a Westfalian of Hanoverian descent (Fernando). In August 1949 Mrs Immink purchased what would be her last Senne horse, Ingrid. She had her covered by Baron Von Nagel's Ramzes ox and this mating produced Alkmene (1951). The year after, Mrs Immink had Ingrid covered by Ramzes again, but after that she could no longer pay the stud fee and had to abandon her last attempt to save the Senne horse. Alkmene first went to a certain Hoff in Rieseby, Holstein, and was then sold through for four or five times, to end up with Theo Genn in Sobernheim in the Palts. He had her covered by Colorado, standing at stud in his stables, and this mating produced my own foundation mare Norma. This Colorado was not the Oldenburg licensed French-bred Anglo of Paul Schockemöhle, but a Holstein product of Colombo (by Cottage Son xx) out of a daughter of Fax (Ramiro - lineage

776, contemporary of Lord and Moltke, ed.). After a long search I managed to trace down Alkmene in the Palts and in 1971 I managed to buy her foal Norma. She was the start of my Senne horse studfarm." Von Unger describes six lineages (A to F) in his book, four of which were still alive in 1865, and only one today. Lackner's lineage had the letter D (of David). Von Unger once remarked: "Do not be misled by male names given to many dams!"

No male lineages

The first purebred Arabian entering Lopshorn service was Petitmaitre in 1772. He was followed by the first English thoroughbred in 1794, Lothario. No products are known by these two stallions, besides 'Orient' respectively 'racehorse'. The word thoroughbred and the symbols ox and xx had not been introduced yet, after

all! Besides English thoroughbred and purebred Arabians and Anglo-Arabian stallions, also Senne stallions were used in the past, but not to the extent that they produced whole lineages. "The name Senne is linked to the female lines," explains Lackner. "That is why the breed - if one should call it so - managed to survive on such a small basis. It had not been dependant, after all, of its own stallions from the end of the 18th century. With the aid of thoroughbred blood the Senne horse will survive until the end of times. As long as you use fitting stallions, of course."

In his book the ancestry of the present population barely covers one page. "We have some 30 horses by now," says Lackner. "In 1993, thanks to the intervention of Mathias Vogt of the Association of Rare Domesticated Animals, the Senne horse was entered on the list of endangered domestic animals recorded by the



harsh conditions in which they had to find their food and water. That is why Lackner is keeping his horses in open sheds. "During the week I am not at home in the daytime," he explains. "I have a job as teacher at the Münster Agricultural School, in the horse keeping department. At home in Borgholzhausen, my wife and I are running a small riding-school with Senne horses. On an excursion in the Netherlands, I visited the experimental studfarm in Brunssum and I saw that they had open sheds with access to a covered area where the horses could lie down and be fed, as well as paved paddocks in the

Simon Heinrich zur Lippe had the hunting lodge Lopshorn built in 1685. The buildings consisted of a castle, domestic quarters, an inn, a longing hall, stallion stables and large group stables for the rest of the herd, which from 1809 onwards no longer had to stay on the heath all winter, but was sheltered at Lopshorn. The hunting lodge was surrounded by large fenced off heath tracts, where the horses could move freely. During the 750 years of its existence, the size of the herd has varied from 200 to 20 horses.

When Lindner pictured the lodge around 1870 in his series of wood engravings 'Pictures of the Teutoburger Wald', the last renovation in classic style had just been completed. Lopshorn was appropriated in 1919 by the tiny republic of Lippe, but was later returned to the royal family. Between 1920 and 1928 it accommodated both the Senne horse studfarm and a riding school. Then it stood empty for a while, until Mrs Immink stabled her first Senne mare there in October 1938. In April 1945 Lopshorn was plundered by Russian and Polish prisoners of war and burnt out a month later. Just the bare ruins are all that remain today.

Curiously, there are no known pictures of the interior - neither of the castle or the buildings. Karl-Ludwig Lackner collected boxes full of photographs (some still depicting what remained of Lopshorn in 1953) but none of the interior. "A few monumental fragments have been preserved. I know of a contractor who built some of them into his house. He got hold of them, apparently because of some strange bylaw. The left deer is standing in front of his house. The head is missing, but I still think it should go to a museum. And I am told that he's got the pillars in his hall, but I never saw them myself. I never visited him because our views differ dramatically. I think he just nicked the lot, and I have not done with him yet!"

open air. I copied these and our Senne horses have done well by them. They are never ill, they never cough. Besides, it is a good preparation for their eventual destiny - the Senne."

The Senne has foothills in the south that run close to Paderborn, a garrison town since 1820. The 8th Hussar Regiment practiced on the Senne and the traditions of this famous No. 8 are followed until today, by a tank battalion of the Bundeswehr in Augustdorf, just west of Detmold. In 1890 the Prussian Ministry of War - the euphemism 'Defense' had not been invented yet - started to buy up 4,000 hectares of the Senne for its practice grounds. Just before the war a village in the middle of the Senne was vacated for war purposes. After the war the British




In September 1996 the Westfalian open air museum in Detmold - once the city park's 'zoo' where Mrs Immink fell in love with the Senne horse - organised the first breeding show of the new Senne studbook. For convenience' sake the lineage of the Lüpke family (Usa-Kolombine-Indra) is now divided into three 'families', and the lineage of Mrs Immink (Ingrid) is now called the 'Norma family' by Lackner. Twelve horses of six different owners were presented for inspection. "One-third of the population," according to Lackner. Norma (above), age 25, by Colorado Holst., dam's sire Ramzes x, was the foundation for the renaissance of the crowned rose.

Rhine Troops claimed 12,000 hectares of the Senne for training purposes, and this situation has lasted until today. But there is hope.

Stun-gun

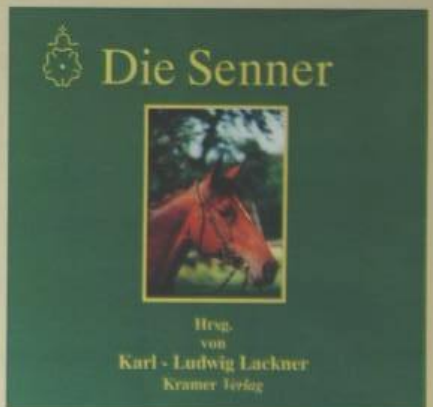
"The Senne is German state property," says Lackner. "A large part has been leased to the British, although the surrounding municipalities have to pay for the upkeep. Nature protection falls under the district council of Detmold, the game is protected by the National Forestry Department and for reasons of democracy private nature protection organisations also have a say in the matter. You can find former small-scale agricultural enclaves all over the Senne. I am trying to get one of these areas, covering 80 hectares, opened for Senne horses. My Senne horses, that is, for there are some ten breeders and I have the most horses. And not even all of them are suitable for such a grazing project. The area will have to be fenced off, and the situation is exactly like a hundred years ago: the nature protectionists

are giving their happy cooperation to having the Senne horses return to their native soil, whereas the hunters are dead-against. So it will all take some time. And don't forget that Senne horses were only man-handled when they were branded or sold. They were naturally shy and had to be tamed before they could be ridden under saddle or worked in harness. There are some among my horse, even now, that I expect I will not be able to catch very easily again once I set them free on the heath. I don't relish the idea of having to track them down with a stun-gun." 

Sources:

- Karl-Ludwig Lackner: 'Die Senner', Kramer Verlag, 1996
- Wolfgang von Unger: 'Die Senner. Beitrag zur Geschichte deutscher Pferdezucht' Verlag DGZ, 1915
- Mathias Vogt: 'Die Senne, Natur- und Kulturlandschaft in Ostwestfalen', Landschaftsverb. Westfalen-Lippe, 1992
- Friedrich Traut: 'Gestüte Europas', Liebhaber Verlag, 1971
- Claus Dencker: 'Das Oldenburger Pferd', (DGZ 1941), herdt. BLV, 1986

Lackner's book gives the description of the breed (a prerequisite for recognition). Behind 'origin' it reads: "Teutoburger Wald and Senne; cross of English thoroughbred, pure-bred Arabian, Anglo-Arabian and Senne stallions with Senne mares". And behind 'ancestry': "Horses that in the direct female line descend from mares registered in the Senne studbook." (State Archives Detmold, marked L99, section B 25).



This book 'Die Senner' is published by Kramer Verlag, Hamlingsdorferweg 28, 33829 Borgholzhausen, Germany. Price: DM 29.50. Order code: ISBN 3-929653-03-6.

