

Criollos in Germany



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To preserve all the good points of the breed, the German Criollo Breeders Society, CRZVD, was founded in 1994. Today the CRZVD has about 100 members. Its main task is to act as platform for Criollo enthusiasts, represent Criollos within the different horse registries and to promote the breed. The CRZVD runs a website (www.criollo-crzvd.de), is present at different shows and exhibitions, organizes events and festivals and is a first contact point for interested persons or the media.

Criollos are well suited to various kinds of riding and working equitation, be it long-distance-rides, trekking, reining, working cow-horse or cattle work... In our country, Criollos are mostly used in the non-professional, hobby sector for recreational riding. Their typical stamina, hardiness and remarkable surefootedness, along with their reliability and frugality, make them eminently suitable for trekking and more demanding long-distance-rides. The CRZVD tries to foster the breeding for these characteristics and to make them and the breed known to the wider public. Although the Criollo's prime advantage is his stamina, he is also, within limits, useful in various disciplines of Western Riding.

Well-schooled and ridden, the Criollo can be competed successfully in reining or cow-work. However, only very few Criollos have made it into the top ranks of German Western Competitions. Some Criollos participate in Endurance rides. Promoting Criollos for sport remains an interesting challenge.

Last but not least, many Criollos or Mestizos are lovable family-members and friends, in spite of their sometimes dubious reputation. This was originally – and still is – a result of the many disturbed and unstable horses that came to Europe in great



Toms Ranch;
Geronimo and
his mother
Alada



Engano
und Püero
Vencedor at
EQUITANA



numbers by ship, and which were traded on cheaply as reliable Western or beginners' horses. Here is another task for CRZVD, namely to support only transports complying with animal welfare regulations. Besides passing on addresses of various stud farms in Germany, CRZVD is also willing to establish contacts with importers of quality animals.

In Germany, there are an estimated 1000 purebred Criollos. There are about 30 registered stallions, 130 mares, and annually, about 60 pure Criollo foals are born. Purebred Criollos are registered

in official stud books, which have formally adopted the FICCC standard.

Since 2010, the CRZVD is an associate member of FICCC. Good working relationships were established with the Criollo Breeders Associations of Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay. We are very grateful for South America's strong support, especially from Uruguay. Together, we enjoyed numerous visits, courses, inspections, foal-registrations and the participation in EQUITANA 2011.



Seminar for
judges at
La Cimarrona
with Juan
Montans



Best filly of the regional Criollo show in 2011



Two kids relaxing on a show day

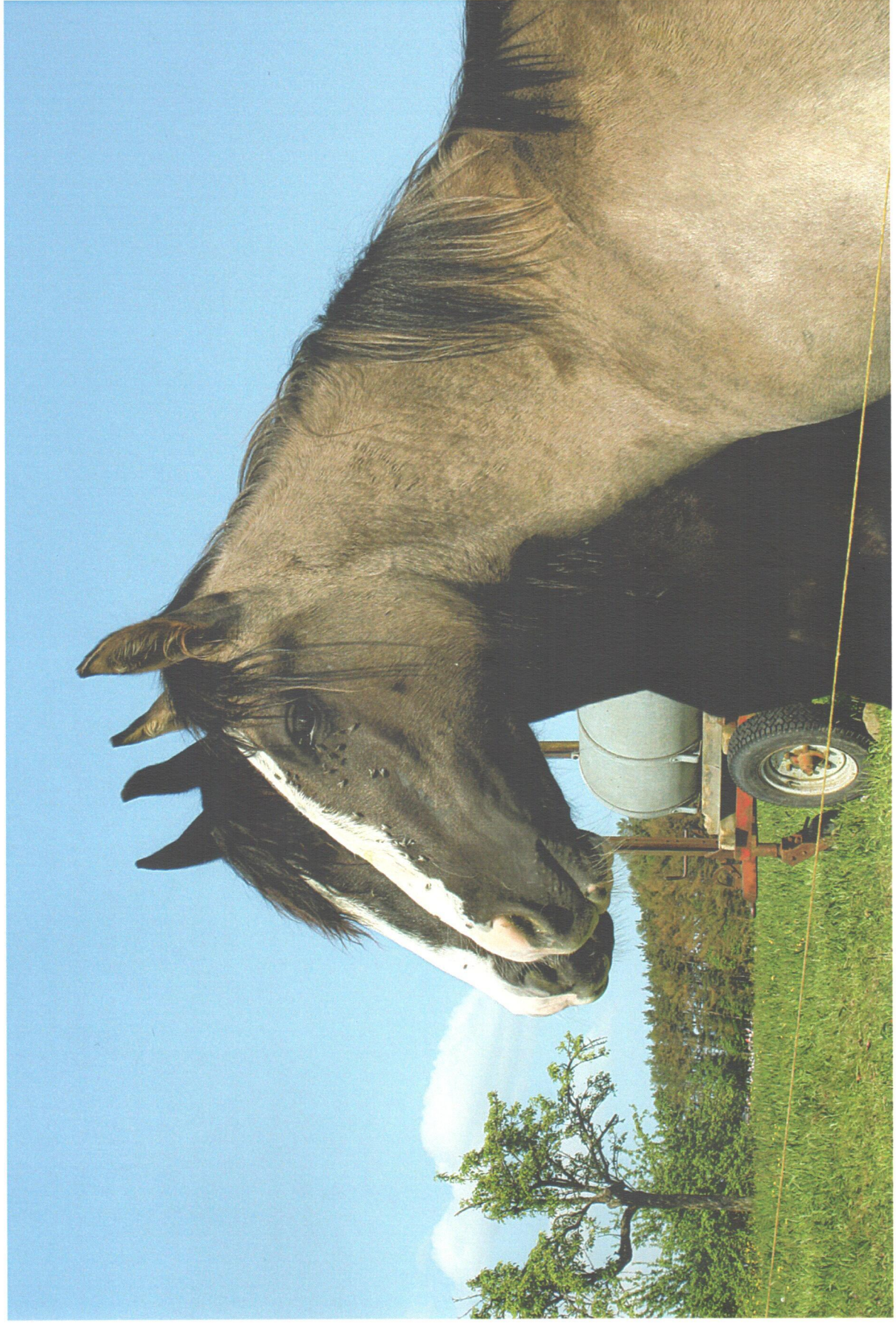


Horses in all colours...



Caramelito, best foal of the regional Criollo show 2011

Tom's Criollo Ranch



Carantono as
yearling, now
to become
a sire in
Switzerland



Our premium breeding stallion Spirit at 5 years



Western Show with Thomas Hoffart on Berrin

We are breeding Criollos in the Odenwald, a beautiful rural area approx. 50 km from Frankfurt. Our whole family is fascinated by these robust, kind and versatile horses with their great cow-sense. The sure-footed and enduring Criollo with his nerves of steel is our beloved partner on trail-rides through our scenic region. On this occasion, we would like to thank all South American Criollo breeders for these wonderful horses! They are great partners and enrich the German horse scenery.

We are pleased to announce that 2011 has been very successful for our stud. We had best filly foal, and overall foal champion at the regional Criollo show. We are also very proud that our young colt Carantono is destined to become a sire in Switzerland.



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