

FOREWARD

With the continuous increase in hybridizing of the breed in the past twenty years, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find a family or strain that can reproduce itself in kind with any degree of predictability.

In looking at some old photos of Appaloosas foaled in the early sixties, we see horses with enough substance and APPALOOSA conformation to compare favorably and in many ways surpass the non-colored "winners" of today. When stamina and tractability are considered, along with their ability to reproduce these traits there is just no comparison with the poorer reproductive ability of today's product.

When a scientist wishes to prove a theory, or point, he first begins by removing the variables one by one, testing and retesting. The same approach holds true in breeding programs that are successful. The horse breeding process is somewhat different however, because you cannot physically remove dilutants from a living gene pool. It is a very slow and sometimes painful method of introducing only agents known to be pure (or as pure as possible) to the mix.

In the case of horses, the pedigrees of many great sires show frequent reconcentration and reblending. This is now a most necessary practice, since the doubled and redoubled out-crossing of recent decades has removed what has now become the recessive variable — Appaloosa color, and the character, itself. The "solid-color" issue has arisen directly from these practices, and from no other cause.

Conditions being what they are in the Appaloosa industry, this is an excellent time for serious breeders to initiate long term programs to preserve the identity of the breed while improving it from within. If you remain true to your convictions and adhere to proven genetic laws, the results can be very gratifying.

The major horse market is moving more and more to the quiet, honest horse having recreational potential that the entire family can handle and enjoy. The Toby bloodline is especially blessed with the intelligence and inherent good sense to do almost any job asked of them. This also makes them easy to train, and just plain "nice to have around". They're people horses.

The Toby Breeders' Association individually and as a group are dedicated to the continued selective production of horses that are first and foremost Appaloosa. To do otherwise, with the seed stock we have selected and isolated would be to corrupt the heritage of one of the greatest strains of horses ever developed within any breed. We breed Appaloosa to Appaloosa. We will never breed to identify our product under the names of sires of another breed as a claim to greatness.

The real measure of our program is what our customers will be saying about us after they have followed our guidelines with our product for two or three generations.

THE TOBY BREEDERS' ASSOCIATION