

sleeping dogs lie. It is true that where these studies, spanning a fifty year period, show familiar expression of cardinal Appaloosa traits in two branches of a family, a competent breeder and geneticist can strategically rematch the right animals in the proper generational interval to greatly increase the odds of again gaining a desired response, without the dangers attendant to inbreeding.

There has been notable success by many breeders in blending these bloodlines with others, of like appearance, to create a potent breeding animal with much more than average ability to transmit character. This is basically true because Knobby sprang from animals having an infusion of leopard characteristics.

The leopard pattern is expressed in a more subdued fashion in the Toby line, because of the color phase of the mares used in the immediately preceding generations. This pattern has the advantage of averaging to a blanket, where a blanket can average (in an outcross) to much less, such as a snow spot pattern, or in some cases no color at all. The more color and color potential you have to begin with, the more you are apt to have in the product; and that, many breeders' opinions to the contrary, is a matter of mathematical probabilities. It is often the difference between success and complete failure in the first outcross.

When these probabilities are historically identified, you can strongly rely on success, because the odds are increased for the given possibility you are seeking to express in a given mating.

The Toby line blends well with Patchy products, those of Red Eagle and Morgan's Leopard. Those descendants of Apache 730, even though quite plain in some instances, having leopard forbears in the female line, also produce excellent colored quality brood stock when mated with Toby studs.

We aren't saying exactly what we are doing, but we wish to point out, we are producing the type of brood stock that a purchasing breeder has the right to own at today's prices.

It is not enough to say that Toby III sired a Bear Step Katouche colt, one of no more than six before he was gelded to go into pictures. One must be able to produce quality that begets quality consistently. Blue Bear, a Toby III grandson, carried both the spotted blanket and the Morgan Leopard pattern (from his sire) and gets all colored stallion colts and half colored fillies at birth. His counterpart, Toby II's Patchy Cochise, carried the



BLUE BEAR

leopard pattern only on a Toby frame, acquiring the pattern and spot shape from the female line, yet the pedigrees of these two horses are very similar.

Most Appaloosa horsemen know you can find exceptional horses in most first families in the Appaloosa world today, be they Toby, Patchy, Apache, Comanche, Sundance, or any other. You can also find relatives of these animals that are "dogs" in any of the aforementioned families. In rare instances the genes may not fall right, but it is generally the fault of the breeder and not the horses if such or similar matings are repeated.

If you study the pedigrees of your own horses, you may be surprised at the influence of the genes of old Knobby. It is doubtful if any other Appaloosa antedating the stud book, has done more to lay the foundation of many present day herds.

Many horses were sold in his time into the Central California area. Since no registry or name records were kept, 20 years before the first stud book, the specific relation to many famous horses has been lost but family



POLKADOT TOBY



TOBY II'S PATCHY