

by Betty Finke

The Crabbet influence in some European countries is well documented. Everybody knows that the Russian Arabians have a high percentage of Crabbet blood. There have been many publications on this subject, as well as on the Crabbet lines in Spain and even Poland.

However, there is Crabbet influence in other countries as well, both more recent and less obvious. During the second half of the 20th century in particular, many Crabbet or high-percentage Crabbet horses were sold abroad from England to practically all-European countries, with some never heard of again. But many did leave their mark, even if it may not be apparent at first glance, most often in performance breeding, and also in Anglo- and part-bred breeding. And, if you look closely enough, in quite a few high profile show bloodlines!

FRANCE

There are quite a few Crabbet horses in France.

The unique aspect regarding France is that there were three cases in which entire studs and breeding programmes were relocated from England to France, all of them with Crabbet horses: the Brethertons, Carol Carpenter, and Courthouse. In two of these cases it was difficult to determine exactly which horses went to France, because there is no record of their export in the AHSB, presumably because they didn't change hands.

In other words, this is a tentative list of the Bretherton imports:

PRINCESS AIDA	*1980	Ahmoun x Princess Alia	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SILVER OPAL	*1983	Sadi x Silver Mantle	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SILVER TEMPTRESS	*1983	Silver Gauntlet x Celestial Magic	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SILVER MYRACLE	*1984	Silver Gauntlet x Sun Dance	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SILVER KALEVALA	*1985	Silver Gauntlet x Kisima	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
THEIA	*1987	Sadi x Silver Temptress	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
ZAQUA	*1988	Golden Scimitar x Zaharif	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
IGUANA	*1989	Golden Scimitar x Silver Ingot	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
SILVER MAHARANEE	*1989	Silver Cascade x Silver Mantle	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SILVER SCERZO	*1989	Silver Gauntlet x Celestial Magic	<i>100% Crabbet,</i>
CROWN OF THE UNIVERSE	*1990	Silver Gauntlet x Amazing Crown	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SCYROS	*1990	Golden Scimitar x Silver Sirocco	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
TSIGANE	*1990	Silver Flame x Silver Temptress	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
AMANHA	*1991	Sadi x Princess Aida	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
GUARANI	*1991	Silver Cascade x Princess Gaila	<i>100% Crabbet</i>

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The stud was apparently disbanded some years ago, and some of the mares, Silver Scerzo and Tsigane, never produced any registered offspring in France. However, several mares went to the stud of endurance rider Jean-Noel Lafaure and have been breeding very successful endurance horses there. These include Silver Opal, Silver Maharanee, Iguana, and Guarani. The sire of most of their foals was a stallion named Kalhan, who has a good dose of Crabbet breeding himself. His sire is Moulouki (Amri x Izarra) and his dam is the English mare Shadeekha, by Scindian Magic (Indian Magic x Scindia) and out of Autumn Bronze (Listopad x Castanea), who was $\frac{3}{4}$ Crabbet/OE and $\frac{1}{4}$ Russian.

The stud farm of Carol Carpenter also relocated to France, and again this is a tentative list of horses; one stallion and 12 mares:

SILVER BLUE LUDO	*1985	Silver Blue x Golden Ludo	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
INDIAN QUEEN	*1973	Indian King x Indian Dream	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SAILA	*1974	Ludomino x El Arabella	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
PEARL OF WISDOM	*1980	Hanif x Platinum Pearl	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
BADRYA	*1981	Ben Rabba x Bright Gleam	<i>Crabbet/OE/CMK</i>
LUISSA	*1981	Ludomino x Iridissa	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
DOMINO ROSE	*1986	Blue Domino x Shadow Rose	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SENGALA	*1984	Roxan x Sengamina Sal	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
VELVET WINGS	*1984	Ludomino x Platinum Pearl	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
WINGS OF PEARL	*1987	Ludomino x Pearl of Wisdom	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
LUSARAH	*1988	Ludomino x Masarah	<i>100% Crabbet</i>
SILVER LILY	*1988	Tribune x Silver Dream	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
PEARL SILVA	*1991	Silver Domino x Pearl of Wisdom	<i>100% Crabbet</i>

Carol's Crabbet breeding programme has apparently stopped, but there are still some 100% Crabbet horses around in France, with some horses of this breeding returning to Britain in recent years. Another 100% Crabbet stallion that emigrated to France, rather than being exported, was Indian Banner (Silvadoris x Xarifa), who sired some 100% Crabbet offspring there from the Carpenter mares.

Last but not least, there are the Courthouse imports. This is an intriguing case. The entire stock of Courthouse at the time was sold to France, and the new owners named their stud Courthouse and bred them pure; two stallions and six mares:

RAMOTH	*1982	Shammar x Rosa Maria	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
SALTRAM	*1982	Samhan x Sceptre	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
ROSA-MARIA	*1977	Samhan x Rosemary	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>

SIGNORINETTA	*1978	Samhan x Salome IV	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
ROCKDOVE	*1979	Samhan x Rosemary	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
SAREK	*1983	Bend Or x Signorinetta	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
CAVITA	*1984	Shammar x Calpurnia	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>
SUMERIA	*1987	Ramoth x Signorinetta	<i>Crabbet/OE</i>

While the stud itself has since been disbanded, there are still pure Courthouse horses in France, and since none of them carry the blood of the Polish mare Celina, they are in fact Crabbet/OE. The stallion Siroco Courthouse (Saltram x Signorinetta), although he was injured as a young horse and never competed, is a sire of successful endurance horses in France, some of them of straight Courthouse breeding.

Ramoth, who was foaled in England and to my knowledge never used for breeding there, has been called “one of the greatest endurance stallions of our time” in France. He has sired many very successful endurance horses, both pure-bred and Anglo Arabs.



Ramoth Ch. 1982 (Shammar x Rosa-maria)

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Please also see The Crabbet Influence in Belgium, Holland, Germany, Sweden & Denmark

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