



Lubochnia Arabians, by Patrycja Makowska



Lubochnia on the lips of the world

**Arabian horses from Poland
a revelation at international shows!**

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Lubochnia Arabians is a stud farm near Gniezno. A year and a half after the establishment of the stud, the breeders from Lubochnia brought back the silver medal of the senior mares championship from the prestigious All Nations Cup in Aachen. But let's start at the beginning and go directly to the source. We met with Dobrochna Perz-Wawrzyńczyk and managed to do an interview which, we hope, will illustrate the idea, goals and successes of this place.

D Leen (D Seraj - D Maha by Eden C), by Alessio Azzali



AB: Where did the love for horses and the idea for your own stable come from?

DP-W: The stud was established in April last year, although the first Arabians and one of our riding horses appeared earlier. It may have started out a bit trivial, but it all started with children. They awakened in us a passion that we had since childhood. My husband's daughter from his first marriage rides a lot. She is 15 years old and trains regularly 2-3 times a week. The second daughter, 8 years old, also inherited a knack for horses and we started riding together in a

stable near Kalina. Hence the concept that perhaps we should change something in our lives. Instead of "running" one company all the time, we will start another activity, a little less stressful - that's what we thought then (laughs) - horses, nice animals, people spend a lot of time outdoors, treating it as a hobby. You might think so, but in our case it turned out differently. If a person who is an entrepreneur runs a specific business, enters a new hobby, he will always try to turn it into a kind of professional activity, and this is also the case with us.

Was the idea for an Arabian horse stable immediate?

Yes, because our friends have already been involved in Arabian horses. Then we decided that if we go in the horse business, we will not ride them. We wanted horses to show. We are no longer the youngest, so we also knew that we would not be able to win prizes at equestrian competitions. Common sense prevailed here. Horses are beautiful and we want to show this beauty. Poland became famous for Arabians. Our state-owned studs currently have the reputation that they have, so we thought that maybe we could change our perception of Poland a bit - after all, it's not that difficult, theoretically. That was our idea. That's how the first Arabian appeared. When the stables were being built and the first horse here, we had to look deep into each other's eyes and see if we were doing it professionally enough to be proud of it

and maybe leave it to our children one day. If it is not done professionally, you can only keep putting money in this business. We decided that we would be entering with full professionalism. We started cooperating with one of the best centers in the world, Capecci Arabian Training Center, which is located in the heart of Tuscany, in the town of Montone. This is how our adventure began. It was still during the pandemic, so we had to connect with Italy via the Internet. We saw the horses online, pre-selected them and then came the first trips to Italy, where we finally saw them live, and the first serious purchases. The first high-class show horse we bought at the beginning of our adventure is the 2-year-old filly D Narjeseyyah. At the last All Nations Cup in Aachen she won her mares class. It turns out that maybe we don't have such a bad eye and we know a little about this.

D Narjeseyyah (FA El Rasheem - Exxaltress by Excalibur E.A.), by Alessio Azzali





Juwanda OS (WH Justice - Shak Lavanda by ZT Shakfantasy), by Paola Drera

Wajana L (Dominic M - Washa by Kahil Al Shaqab), by Alessio Azzali





The stud at Janów Podlaski, the oldest in Poland, has deteriorated in recent years in terms of breeding and image. Do you think that your actions contribute to saving the reputation of Polish Arabians? Do you have such aspirations, do you want to maintain the prestige that has been associated with our country for years?

Currently, the competition in the world is at a very high level. Only the best, who maintain full professionalism and the highest level of breeding, count in the game. For the Poles, unfortunately, the world got too far ahead. We did not keep up with breeding ideas, the large state studs, which paved the way for Polish private breeders, made too many breeding mistakes, which are currently difficult to make up for. We also partly sold our national treasures. It was visible at the show in Aachen, where horses bred by our Polish studs competed. The best

ones already had other owners, but when it comes to the six final championships, in fact, horses from the Middle East took part in them most often, and in the case of European horses, only us, Lubochnia Arabians and Hanaya Stud from Switzerland. Not yet as breeders, but owners, because we bought the horses from Dubai Stud, a breeding farm in the United Arab Emirates, just like Nayla Hayek, the owner of Swatch Group, a huge watch consortium in Switzerland, who is one of the 100 most influential women in the world. Looking back 8-10 years, it looked completely different. In the final championships, Polish horses appeared, horses of European breeding won medals, fought for gold medals and the highest titles, but because in recent years we have lost both breeding ideas and a sense of management, unfortunately it is the Arabs that rule, not us.

*D Modi, Silver Medal Senior Mare All Nations Cup Aachen 2022,
by Ewa Imielska-Hebda-Hebda*



*D Narjeseyyah, 1st place in the 2-year-old fillies class, All Nations Cup
Aachen 2022, by Ewa Imielska-Hebda*

You focused on quality, not quantity. You have conditions for keeping many horses, but you want to stick to your intended goal. Why?

Currently, we have eight horses in the stable, two of which are intended for riding. There is one more stable where we have 10 boxes and we assume that this is the optimal maximum in our stud. Let's remember that foals will be born in the spring. In fact, the second stable is for an emergency when we wean a 6-month-old foal from its mother. There will be periods when there will be more horses, but in fact

half of them will be juniors. The most important horses are in constant training and are stationed in Italy. There are five show horses there, because two returned to Lubochnia for the winter break. We plan to have about 7-8 high-class horses in Italy that will compete in shows throughout Europe and 8-10 horses for breeding in Lubochnia. We want to leave the best horses and additionally be able to share our happiness, i.e. sell beautiful Arabian horses further into the world. The limitation we have in the form of our buildings is also to help us implement this plan.

D Dawaly (FA El Rasheem - D Danat by SQ Labib), by Alessio Azzali





D Modi, Silver Medal Senior Mare All Nations Cup Aachen 2022, by Ewa Imielska-Hebda-Hebda

You ride horses, you have professional and functional stables, huge paddocks, so it might seem that there are champions "under saddle". However, they are not. You use half-breds that you love for what they are, not how much money they're worth. What horses are these?

We have two riding horses in the stable. For us, it is recreation and good fun, a way to spend free time actively. Thanks to this, the children are calm and don't sit at the computer all the time. We have Harley the pony, he is 19 years old and is quite moody, but he is great with children. We also have a Hanoverian who is very calm,

patient, even understanding and thanks to this we are improving our skills calmly. We are not at the equestrian level to ride Arabian horses in the field. We know that people also appreciate them for riding, but for now we use the calm horses we have. Besides, these are show horses, when they come to Lubochnia, they are supposed to rest and give birth to good foals. We prepare them for handling, because when they go to Italy, we have to do various treatments, such as haircuts. They are also lunged, washed, use a lot of cosmetics, neck sweats, etc. Yearling horses already take part in shows and train 5-6 times a week.

*left: D Modi, Bronze Medal Senior Mare, Purosangue Arabi a Bergamo 2022, by Sunny
right: Happy owners of Lubochnia Arabians - Dobrochna, Maria and Przemysław, by Sunny*



What successes have you had so far? What have you managed to gain after a year and a half of operating, i.e. a very short period of time?

We are surprised by what we have achieved. A month ago we were at the All Nations Cup in Aachen, which took place after a year of pandemic break. It is a big event for the world of Arabian horses, because the entire elite comes to Europe. We went there with 2 year old D Narjeseyyah and 4 year old D Modi. Our plan was for our horses to be in the top five of their class. That would make us very happy. It is known that breeders from all over the world come there with horses worth millions of euros. The horses go there a week earlier, some arrive by plane. It's a different world. We thought about this performance for a long time and we were glad that we had something to show during such an important event. The difference between showing up and winning something is a whole different topic. On the first day it turned out that our 2-year-old won her class. It was crazy, something amazing. We made a name for ourselves in this world, we also defeated horses from Polish state studs. It was a confirmation that it was worth it and we are going in the right direction. This is really uplifting. On the second day, the 4-year-old won second place in her class, another success. A horse brought from Dubai, which in Palermo won the highest score in the history of this show - 94 points! – was a revelation upon arrival in Europe. In the afternoon were the finals. We listened to our senses: remember, you have no chance, this can't happen, you've only been in the industry for a year and a half. We sat quietly during the championship of the

2 and 3 year old mares. There were 12 horses in it and of course we didn't make it into the top three. We were happy anyway because we achieved more than we wanted. The next championship included our second mare, who was second in her class. When it comes to the senior championships, all horses over 4 years old compete in them. It is known that the senior mare classes are always the most numerous and the best. The bronze medalist was read out, and while our minds told us something might happen, we didn't get that third place. We sat down at the table but were still very pleased. Then the silver medalist was read out and we heard: Lubochnia Arabians. At this moment, euphoria, shouting at the whole table, the stands are going crazy, everyone is applauding, tears are rolling in our eyes. We did it - a silver medal in the championship of one of the two most important shows for Arabian horses in the world. Decoration, congratulations from international judges, from Dubai sheikhs, the Qataris, the Saudis. Lubochnia was on the lips of the world. From the stable, which was built somewhere on Lake Wierzbiczany, it turns out that we have done something that is difficult to understand. Statistically, this should not happen for a long time. It's really a huge success. And from the most current events, in the last days of October we bought two new mares at an auction in Dubai; D Leen and D Dawaly. They are daughters of the best Arabian sires in the world, D Seraj and FA El Rasheem. We believe that as very interesting young mares, they will bring us a lot of joy on the show rings, as well as prove themselves in terms of breeding, as mothers of future champions.



The stable is primarily on your head, but it is a family business and passion. Does your husband share your interest in horses?

Yes, my husband fully shares the passion. He also rides horses, although probably less often than we do, due to work and obligations. However, he very often has accurate comments about the stud, because he does not spend as much time on it as me and our team. He looks at it a bit from the outside. His remarks are often so accurate that I even feel a little silly because I looked at it for so long and didn't notice. In addition, he is a person who knows how to manage people. He has had a company for 24 years and knows how to create it from the inside. We don't always have time to take care of everything ourselves, which is why we have advisers, Krzysztof Kapala and Mateusz Jaworski. We have staff on site who take care of the stables. In addition, we are in such a cool region, permeated with horse ventures, that it was simply impossible to create a company here



Lubochnia Arabians Team and Susy & Paolo Capecci, by Sunny

dealing with anything else but horses. Because we are not experts, although both my husband and I have completed horse breeding technician courses - we surround ourselves with people more experienced in this field than we are and we are not afraid to say so. We like to listen to others, although we don't always do everything they ask of us. We are stubborn, but there is something in our "stubbornness". We do things that seem impossible. You can change the world even on the outskirts of Gniezno, but only because almost every corner has a horse and I bet that if something should happen and we need help, or someone needs our help, then in the middle of the night everyone is ready to give this help, regardless of the circumstances. The world here is friendly.

D Modi (FA El Rasheem - D Nawal by Royal Colours), by Alessio Azzali





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