



"Taking a Stand on Responsible Breeding and the necessity of Genetic Testing"

At "**Fieldstone Farm**", we have taken a firm stand on the Quarter Horse Industry and the necessity for Genetically Testing the breeding horse! Are you breeding to one of our Stallions and have a mare where bloodlines go back to Poco Bueno?? **Fieldstone Farm will pay \$100 to have your mare Five Panel Tested!!***

With recent discussions it is widely felt HERDA is traced back to the stallion **Poco Bueno** and his genetics. **If a horse's ancestors didn't carry the gene, they cannot be a carrier. If there's no Poco Bueno in a horse's lines then you are safe for sure.** If your mare does have Poco Bueno in her lines, check to see if her parents were tested (whichever one traces back to him). If that parent didn't carry it, your mare doesn't either.

Latigo Cat, by High Brow Cat, was purchased in 2013! Chi Chic Kaboom by Smart Blackbird was born here on the farm by a son of Smart Little Lena. Latigo Cat, although having stood for many years without any issues, we felt it was important to us as breeders, that we have him five panel tested. We also tested "Kaboom". They are both negative for all but HERDA - where they tested N/H, as were the Sires ~ High Brow and # 1 leading NCHA Sire and his Dam's Sire, Smart Little Lena. Latigo has sired many foals since his breeding career began over ten years ago, not one foal has been afflicted. This has been a blessing, and we are thankful, but we want to make certain none ever do!

Their lineage included the amazing cutting stallion, Poco Bueno. This means they do not have the disease but carry a recessive gene. We want to promote the eradication of the disease and promote responsible breeding.

DNA testing is required for all breeding horses and may be required of others depending upon the rules. Genetic Testing is not obligatory, but to us, it's paramount for our Stallions! To help owners and breeders make informed decisions, AQHA offers a five-panel test for HYPP, PSSM1, MH, GBED and HERDA.

HERDA is characterized by abnormal skin along the back that tears or rips easily and heals into disfiguring scars. The skin is loose, and hyper-elastic in affected horses. Symptoms typically don't appear until the horse is subjected to pressure or injury on their back, neck or hips, usually around two years of age. However foals can show signs when injured, while other horses mature and only show signs in the joints. The expression of HERDA is variable, and the [phenotypic](#) range of expression is still being determined.

After being tested, the results either show "normal", "carrier" or "affected" or can be determined by DNA testing of either a blood or hair sample.

- **N/N** - Normal: does not have the HERDA gene
- **N/HRD**- Carrier: carries one copy of the gene
- **HRD/HRD**- Affected: has two copies of the gene

HERDA is recessive, it's not risky to breed to a known carrier if you are smart about it. Horses who have just one copy of the gene (N/H) are 100% fine, it's not like HYPP where one copy can kill. However, those who breed horses **MUST** carefully check their horse's bloodlines and check for Poco Bueno, and if they find him then they ethically must test their mare for the gene. If they choose to not test their mare, then they **MUST** pick a non-carrier to breed her to, otherwise there is a **25%** chance of producing a HERDA foal if she is a carrier bred to a known carrier.

If you are unsure of your own horse's HERDA status and do not want her tested for HERDA then just breed to a known non-carrier and it will work out perfectly.

At Fieldstone Farm we take eradicating HERDA very seriously! We are determined to educate the horse world regarding the genetics and assist in assuring an ethical choice is made with every breeding! If you're considering breeding to one of our stallions and your mare has Poco Bueno in her lineage, we insist you have her five panel tested prior to breeding! To assist you in doing so, we will reduce the breeding fee by \$100, essentially paying to have the test completed. If she tests positive, we will be happy to refund you all/any deposit that was previously made on a breeding.

We are as determined as you are to have your mare produce an outstanding foal, with a promising future! Please let us know if you have any questions, and if you would like to book your mare for a breeding. As she is a carrier, his breeding fee will be reduced by \$100 to have your mare tested. AQHA provides a DNA kit for this purpose and you can contact them at www.aqha.com or call them toll free at [\(806\) 376-4811](tel:8063764811).

Testing your mare will be one step closer towards the end of this genetic disorder. Thank you for your interest. We would be honored to have the opportunity to breed your very well bred mare!

Please remember, if your mare does have Poco Bueno in her lineage, we won't breed her until she has been five panel tested. Your deposit fee is reduced by \$100

Thank you for choosing one of our outstanding Stallions to breed to your great mare!
Where owning a Fieldstone Farm Offspring is only the beginning of great things to happen!

**** "Booking fee" will be reduced by \$100! Should your mare test positive as a carrier, provide a copy of the result and we will happily return your booking fee in full! Thank you for helping us in our goal to eradicate HERDA!***