

THE MAJORITY OF THE FOALS WILL TURN GREY, AS THEY GET OLDER.



INTERAGRO'S RESIDENT VET, ALEX BLOEM.

were preserved. The Lusitano of today is on average a cleaner-moving, braver, and tougher-built horse than the average Andalusian of today, and no breeder has done more to protect and maintain this ancient Lusitano bloodline than Paulo Gaviao Gonzaga and his Interagro Farm.

Founded in the state of Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1975, Interagro is the largest Lusitano stud farm in the world. Interagro has preserved the bloodline of the Lusitano by acquiring and combining horses from the three main lineages – the Andrade, the Veiga, and the Alter Real. Each bloodline has distinct characteristics and by combining the different lines, Interagro is developing their own bloodline.

Cecelia Gonzaga, the director of Interagro, warmly greeted me at the main house. Cecelia has overseen Interagro for several years and knows how a first-rate stallion farm should operate. And much of the success can be attributed to the highly qualified staff that runs the day-to-day operations.



THE COVERED ARENA USED TO BE THE COFFEE ROASTING BUILDING. THE EXPANSIVE TERRACE WAS USED TO SUN-DRY THE COFFEE BEANS.

On-site veterinary care is essential, and Interagro's Alex Bloem makes sure the horses receive the best care before, during, and after breeding. For thirteen years Alex has been the vet responsible for maintaining a top notch breeding environment. From insemination to embryo transfer, controls are in place to insure success and a healthy environment for the horse. In fact, Interagro has the lowest occurrence of Piroplasmosis (tick fever) than any farm in Brazil.

The clinic is connected to a row of open-air stalls that serve as a nursery for mares and their foals. There is a field for every stage of a horse's life at Interagro. Cecelia explained that the most important field is the one between the main house and the offices and clinic. This field is where the foals are born, entering the world on a lush blanket of grass, just the way nature intended.



A "BAND OF BROTHERS."

HERE ARE FIELDS FOR PREGNANT MARES, MARES AND WEANLINGS, MARES AND YEARLINGS, COLTS, YOUNG STALLIONS AND RETIRED STALLIONS.

There are fields for pregnant mares, mares and weanlings, mares and yearlings, colts, young stallions and retired stallions. The layout of the farm is conducive to the natural environment that creates a horse of sound mind and body.

The farm was a former cattle, and then coffee plantation. What is now the indoor arena was formerly the coffee roasting facility. The huge terrace outside of the indoor arena was where the coffee beans would be spread out to dry in the sun. Freshly roasted coffee and horses are two things I enjoy waking up to in the morning, and you can't go wrong with Brazilian coffee.