

Principles of the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association (MFTHBA) for the breeding of “Missouri Fox Trotter” in accordance with Regulation VO(EU) 2016/1012, Annex I, Part 3

The Original Stud Book for the Breed “Missouri Fox Trotter” (MFT) in Europe is maintained by the Missouri Fox Trotting Horse Breed Association, P.O. Box 1027, Ava, Missouri 65608, USA.

The principles for breeding the Missouri Fox Trotter were developed based on the “Official Rulebook of the MFTHBA”. Wherever provisions in this rulebook conflict with EU animal breeding regulations, adaptations were made to align as closely as possible with the MFTHBA rulebook.

These regulations establish binding principles for all breeding associations maintaining subsidiary studbooks for the MFT breed. When designing the breeding program for the MFT breed, breeding associations are particularly encouraged to follow the principles of the original studbook.

The most current principles for breeding the MFT breed are published on the MFTHBA website (www.mfthba.com). Breeding associations maintaining subsidiary studbooks are informed of changes to the principles through updates published on the MFTHBA website.

1. The System for Recording Pedigrees

Information about the Horse according VO(EU) 2016/1012 in connection with DVO(EU) 2021/963

The Identification must be carried out in accordance with the DVO (EU) 2021/963 (Equine Passport Regulation)

Name, UELN, sex, last breeding date, date of birth, place of birth, country of birth, color, markings, breed, section in the Stud Book, marking with a microchip, name, address and E-mail address of the breeder and owner.

Information about the Parents and at least three more previous generations, if existing:

Name, UELN, sex, date of birth, color, markings, breed, marking with microchip, section in the Stud Book, name of the breeder.

2. Identification and marking of Equidae

The identification and marking of Equidae that are to be entered in a studbook for the MFT breed is carried out in accordance with DVO (EU) 2021/963.

To identify a horse for studbook registration, a DNA profile (DNA microsatellite typing according to ISAG standard) and the result of the parentage verification for sire and dam based on a DNA profile comparison according to ISAG standard must be submitted.

The DNA profile and parentage verification must be carried out by a recognized ISAG-certified laboratory.

As part of the identification and marking process, the markings diagram for each MFT is completed in the equine passport. When assigning the UELN during the initial registration of MFT horses, the MFTHBA registration number, if a Certificate of Registration (CoR) from the MFTHBA exists for the horse, must be integrated into the UELN.

3. Breeding objectives

A breeding program based on these principles aims at breeding progress with regard to the defined breeding objective, improving the characteristics of the breed. It encompasses all measures and activities serving this goal.

The goal is to breed a light, medium-sized, well-shaped, correct, healthy and fertile warmblood gaited horse, with a predisposition to the Fox Trot, a diagonal, broken 4-beat gait. In Walk and Fox Trot the horse should show a natural rhythm with a head shake in the rhythm of the gait, the ears reflect the gait of the horse. High knee actions are unwanted, and each movement should cover ground smoothly and efficiently. The Missouri Fox Trotter is an ideal trail horse because of its great disposition and good-natured character. Because of its versatility, it is also ideal as a leisure (pleasure) horse, which is suitable for riding as well as for driving.

4. **Characteristics and main features**

Breed	Missouri Fox Trotter (MFT)
Origin	USA, Missouri
Height	14 – 16 hands (Height), Approximately 143-163 cm
Color	All colors allowed

Conformation

Head symmetrically shaped and of moderate length (equal or shorter than 1/3 of body length); distance from outside of one eye to outside of the opposite eye should be equal to one-half the length of the head; jawbones should be prominent with adequate space between jawbones where they join at the throat; head should taper to a refined muzzle

Neck sufficiently long, approximately 1/3 of the body length

Body square conformation with a long, sloping shoulder with an angle of 45 – 50 degrees; a short (to moderate length) back, reaching into the withers; adequate length croup with a slight downward tilt; wide deep chest; moderate, not too long legs and moderate muscling.

Foundation correctly formed limbs with adequate size joints; hooves adequate for the size of the horse, well-shaped and hard; the toe direction of the hind legs may be slightly pointed outward (as long as the outward turn comes from the hips and not the hocks or below).

Movement

pure rhythm, harmony, flat, with an active stride; every movement is meant to cover ground; the forehand is to reach out far forward and the hindquarters reach under to at least cap the front hoofprints; any knee action is undesirable

Fox Trot is a diagonal 4-beat gait. The Fox Trot is a stylish gait; the horse walks in an elegant manner with the front legs and trots with the hind legs. This rhythmic motion travels through the whole body from nose to tail. The front legs should not show any high knee action. The hind legs should perform a sliding movement, during which the hind hoof steps into or over the track of the front hoof. The head should be slightly elevated and convey the rhythmic motion of the hind legs. The tail is to be carried in a naturally elevated manner and should also move in rhythm with the gait. The gait should be flat, in good rhythm and must be consistent over distance.

Flat Foot Walk is a 4-beat gait in lateral step sequence. The track of the hind hoof should over stride the track of the front hoof. When executed correctly, one can hear the steady equal four beat cadence of the hooves. The up and down motion of the head in the walk is stronger than during a Fox Trot. The gait should be flat and consistent over distance.

Canter/Lope is a slightly collected three-beat gait. The Lope shows a rhythmic, easy rolling, three-beat movement. The Lope is not a fast pace and the horse should have a relaxed appearance while being ridden with light contact on the reins. Excessive collection, failure to maintain forward motion, four-beat gallop, excessive speed or excessive pumping in the movement with the reins are not allowed. Every horse should be able to demonstrate a correct lope.

Show Canter (required during Performance Classes) is a collected three-beat gait. The Show Canter should be a rhythmic, easy rolling, three-beat movement with more elevation in the front end than the Lope. The Show Canter is not a fast pace and the horse should have a

relaxed appearance while being ridden with contact on the reins. Excessive collection or rein contact, failure to maintain forward motion, four beat cadence, excessive speed or excessive pumping in the movement with the reins are not allowed.

Rideability the rider's aids are easily accepted, harmonious interaction between horse and rider

Spec. Characteristics

good-natured, especially friendly nature; comfortable temperament, with strong nerves and intelligence; hardy constitution and easy maintenance, are the criteria for health and fertility.

Possible Applications

equitation, performance, distance (endurance) riding easy use in cattle ranching (ranch horse), therapeutic riding, leisure riding, driving

5. Selection

5.1 Selection criteria

As part of the evaluation for registration in a class of the studbook in accordance with the registration regulations, the following trait complexes are evaluated with the 12 selection traits of external appearance with special consideration of the movement sequence (conformation performance test):

1. vertical balance
2. horizontal balance
3. conformation
 - shoulder
 - croup
 - chest
 - forelegs
 - hind legs
4. breed specific gaits
 - Walk
 - Flat Foot Walk
 - Fox Trot
5. general impression
 - muscling
 - health

The following measured values are recorded for stallions and mares as part of the evaluation of selection characteristics:

- Stick-measure (height at withers)
- Cannon bone circumference

Selection is also based on the following characteristics:

- motivation
- interior
- rideability

5.2 Selection performances

The evaluation of breeding horses must be carried out by evaluation committees. These consist of at least the breeding director and a breed judge. The breed judge must provide suitable proof that he/she has special knowledge in the evaluation of horses of the MFT breed and is listed on the current MFTHBA judging list.

Evaluations that have not been awarded in accordance with the MFTHBA guidelines do not have to be recognized by other breeding associations. In such cases, each breeding association is entitled to demand that the horses in question must be presented again for evaluation by the

evaluation committee of the respective breeding association before being entered in its studbook for the MFT breed.

The following performance tests are recognized for horses of the MFT breed:

- Performance test conformation for mares and stallions to determine the breeding value part conformation (external appearance) with special consideration of the movement of the horses (in accordance with point 5 of these principles in conjunction with Appendix 12) and
- Riding performance test to determine the riding performance and behavior of the horse (according to Appendix 6-11, 13)
- guided composure test to determine the behavioral part of the breeding value for stallions and mares (according to Appendix 7-8)

All performance tests for MFT are carried out as field tests in accordance with the MFTHBA performance test guidelines for riding (www.mfthba.com).

Passing the riding performance test is a prerequisite for registration in Stallion Book I and Mare Book I. Passing the guided composure test is a prerequisite for registration in Stallion Book II and Mare Book II.

As part of the performance tests for MFT, the individual scores are awarded in whole and half grades according to the following grading system:

Score 10 =	excellent	Score 4 =	inadequate
Score 9 =	very good	Score 3 =	quite bad
Score 8 =	good	Score 2 =	bad
Score 7 =	quite good	Score 1 =	very bad
Score 6 =	satisfactory	Score 0 =	not executed
Score 5 =	sufficient		

5.2.1 Performance Test Conformation

The purpose of the conformation performance test is to determine the characteristics of the external appearance (conformation) and movement, taking into account the breed-specific characteristics and traits of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed in stallions and mares that are presented for registration in Stallion Book I and II or Mare Book I and II.

5.2.1.1 *Evaluation characteristics*

Mares and stallions are evaluated in all 12 selection characteristics (sub-criteria) of the 5 characteristic blocks in accordance with the provisions under 5.1 and 5.2 of these principles.

5.2.1.2 *Evaluation*

For each of the 12 selection criteria, the evaluation committee will award a grade from 1-10 in accordance with 5.2 of these principles. A score of 0 is awarded for non-executed evaluation characteristics of the movement.

5.2.1.3 *Determination of the test result*

The individual grades for all 12 selection criteria in accordance with 5.1 of these principles are the arithmetic mean of the grades of all members of the evaluation committee and are rounded to two decimal places in each case.

5.2.1.4 *Passing the test*

To pass the performance test, all 12 selection traits must always be listed in accordance with 5.1 of these principles and/or be awarded a score of 1-10.

If the number zero (0) is awarded for a selection trait of the movement that is not listed, no overall score is determined for this trait complex and the entire conformation performance test is deemed to have been failed.

5.2.1.5 *The minimum performance requirements for entry in the studbook*

a) To register a horse in Stallion Book I and Mare Book I, all the minimum scores listed in the following table must be achieved in the conformation performance test.

	Stallion	Mare
Vertical Balance	6,00	6,00
Horizontal Balance	6,00	6,00
Body	6,00	6,00
General impression	6,00	6,00
Gaits	7,00	6,00
Minimum average score/total cores	7,00	6,00

b) To register a horse in Stallion Book II and Mare Book II a minimum score of 5.0 must be achieved in the conformation performance test.

5.2.1.6 *Repeating the test*

The test can be repeated several times. All parts of the test must always be repeated. The test result of the last one taken applies.

5.2.2. Performance Test Riding

5.2.2.1 *Evaluation characteristics*

The assessment of mares and stallions is carried out with regard to the disposition of the horses in the following sub-criteria:

- a) Breed specific gaits
 - Walk
 - Flat Foot Walk
 - Fox Trot
 - Lope

- b) Riding qualities / rideability with special consideration of the characteristics
 - character
 - temperament
 - general performance
 - motivation
 - rideability

5.2.2.2 *Examination sections*

In the course of the riding performance test, the performance of all participating horses is evaluated by the evaluation committee in the following test sections:

Section 1: Interieur

In this test section, the interieur is checked in accordance with Appendix 11 in the background during the entire test day. To pass this test, an overall score of at least 6.0 (satisfactory) must be achieved. No individual mark may be below 6.0. If this section of the examination is not passed, the entire examination is deemed to have been failed.

Section 2: Performance

In this section of the test, the characteristics regarding gait and rideability are checked under the rider in the dressage arena / oval track in accordance with Appendix 10. The horses are presented in the section with at least 3 horses. If necessary, the section can be filled up with horses that are not judged. A single breaking in does not lead to disqualification. The evaluation committee may instruct a repetition of partial tasks following this section of the test.

To pass this section of the test, an overall score of at least 6.0 (satisfactory) must be achieved. No individual mark may be below 6.0 and the mark for the gait Fox Trot may

not be below 7.0 for stallions and 6.0 for mares. If this section of the test is not passed, the entire test is deemed to have been failed.

Section 3: Horsemanship

In this test section, the evaluation focuses on rideability in daily handling as outlined in Appendix 9, performed by the rider following the pattern described in Appendix 6. The pattern may be read aloud.

Riding style and equipment must comply with the rules of the MFTHBA Rulebook, particularly regarding the use of permitted bits in conjunction with either one-handed or two-handed rein use.

To pass this section, a minimum overall score of 6.0 ("satisfactory") must be achieved. No individual score may fall below 6.0.

For any task not completed or not fully completed as per Appendix 9, a retry is allowed. The evaluation panel will provide feedback on such attempts with the following (or a similar) statement: "Task not sufficiently completed. A repeat attempt is allowed." If the retry attempt fails, the evaluation panel will comment with the following (or a similar) statement: "No further repetitions allowed."

Failure to pass this test section results in the entire examination being considered failed.

Section 4: Ridden composure test

In this test section, the evaluation focuses on the horse's composure characteristics under the rider, as outlined in Appendix 8. The horse is expected to navigate the course described in Appendix 7 attentively, calmly, and quietly, with a light, loose rein and minimal intervention, successfully passing the obstacles. The course must be completed within 8 minutes. For any task not completed or not fully completed as per Appendix 7, a retry is allowed. The evaluation panel will provide feedback on such attempts with the following (or a similar) statement: "Task not sufficiently completed. A repeat attempt is allowed." If the retry attempt also fails, the panel will comment with the following (or a similar) statement: "No further repetitions allowed."

Reasons for disqualification of a horse from the test:

- Immediate danger due to the horse's lack of adequate response to the rider's aids, or visible risk to the rider, horse, or third parties.
- The horse is fundamentally unpredictable, panics, or repeatedly rears.

A detailed evaluation protocol is maintained for each horse, in which the evaluation panel records remarks about the completion of each task. To pass this test, the course must be completed within the 8-minute time limit, and a minimum overall score of 6.0 ("satisfactory") must be achieved. No individual score may fall below 6.0.

Minimum scores may not be awarded if:

- the horse consistently demonstrates clear disobedience, tension, and/or defiance
- three subtasks have not been completed or not sufficiently completed, despite one repetition each and/or
- the horse is disqualified for the reasons mentioned above and/or
- the specified maximum time for completing the course has been exceeded

If this section of the test is not passed, the entire test is deemed to have been failed.

5.2.2.3 Evaluation

The suitability of the horses with regard to improving the riding qualities of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed is decisive for the evaluation. For each evaluation criterion according to 5.2.2.1, the evaluation committee will award a score from 1-10 according to 5.2 of these principles. A score of 0 is awarded for non-executed breed-specific gaits.

5.2.2.4 Determination of the test result

The scores for the four test sections Interior, Performance, Horsemanship and Ridden Composure Test are calculated as the arithmetic mean of the individual scores of all members of the Evaluation Committee for the respective test section in accordance with Appendices 8 -

11 and are rounded to 2 decimal places. The overall score for the riding performance test is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the rounded partial scores for the 4 test sections and is rounded to 2 decimal places.

5.2.2.5 *Passing the test*

If a score of number "0" is assigned for at least one breed-specific gait, no overall score is determined for that section, and the entire riding performance test is considered failed. To, all 4 test sections must be completed, and all individual evaluation criteria must be scored between 1-10. Additionally, the minimum scores listed in section 5.2.2.2 must be achieved in each section.

5.2.2.6 *Repeating the performance test*

The riding performance test can be repeated several times. All sections of the test must be completed each time. The examination result of the last examination taken applies.

5.2.2.7 *Recognition of Competitive Sport Results*

The Riding Performance Test is also considered successfully passed if the following minimum achievements are demonstrated through competitive sports results at events conducted in alignment with the MFTHBA Rulebook:

- at least 2 placings in the upper half of the number of all horses competing in a 2Gait Performance Class 1 and additionally
- at least one placing in the upper half of the number of all horses competing in a horsemanship class 1 and additionally
- at least one placing in the upper half of the number of all horses competing in a ridden composure class 1

or

- at least one placings in the upper half of the number of all horses competing in a 3Gait Performance Class 1 and additionally
- at least one placing in the upper half of the number of all horses competing in a horsemanship class 1 and additionally
- at least one placing in the upper half of the number of all horses competing in a ridden composure class 1

5.2.3 *Composure Test Guided*

In this test, the characteristics of the horse's composure are checked in accordance with Appendices 7, 8, and 11.

5.2.3.1 *Evaluation criteria*

The mares and stallions are assessed with regard to the disposition of the horses in the following sub-criteria:

- Character and temperament
- General performance ability
- Willingness to perform
- Motivation

5.2.3.2 *Test details*

For the guided composure test, the provisions apply analogously to the provisions under 5.2.2.2 Test section 4 (ridden conformation test).

5.2.3.3 *Evaluation*

The suitability of the horses with regard to improving the characteristics of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed is decisive for the evaluation. For each evaluation criterion according to 5.2.2.1, the evaluation committee will award a score from 1-10 according to 5.2 of these principles. A score of 0 is awarded for non-executed evaluation parts.

5.2.3.4 *Determination of the test results*

The sub-grades for the parts of the test to be completed as part of the guided composure test are calculated from the arithmetic mean of the individual scores of all members of the evaluation committee for the individual parts of the examination in accordance with Appendix 8 and are rounded to 2 decimal places. The overall score for the guided composure test is calculated from the arithmetic mean of the rounded partial scores for the parts of the test to be completed and is rounded to 2 decimal places.

5.2.3.5 *Passing the examination*

In order to pass the guided composure test, all parts of the test must be passed and a minimum score of 6.0 must be awarded, so that the average of all partial scores for the individual parts of the test is also at least 6.0. If the number 0 is awarded for at least one part of the test to be completed, the entire performance test is deemed to have been failed.

5.2.3.6 *Repeating the composure test*

The composure test guided can be repeated several times. All sections of the test must be completed each time. The examination result of the last examination taken applies.

6. **Breeding method**

The breeding objective is pursued using the pure breeding method. The studbook is closed. Selection is carried out in a closed breeding population, meaning that the inclusion of stallions and mares from other populations/breeds is not permitted.

7. **Subdivision of the studbook and requirements for entry in the studbook classes**

The studbook for the MFT breed consists of a main section and is kept separately for stallions and mares.

The main section for stallions is divided into the classes

- Stallion Book I
- Stallion Book II
- Appendix Stallions and
- Foal Book Stallions.

The main section for mares is subdivided into the classes

- Mare Book I
- Mare Book II
- Appendix mares and
- Foal Book Mares.

7.1 **Stallion Book I (main section of the stud book)**

Stallions of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed that are at least 3 years old are registered,

- whose parents are registered in the main section of a studbook of the breed (except foal book) of a recognized breeding association,
- for which a Certificate of Registration has been presented (if available),
- which have been presented for verification of identity,
- whose paternal and maternal parentage was confirmed at the time of initial registration by means of DNA profile matching in accordance with the provisions under section 2 of these principles,
- which have a proven pedigree over 3 generations,
- which have received an overall score of at least 7.0 in a conformation performance test in accordance with 5.2.1, whereby the minimum scores specified under 5.2.1.5 have been awarded,
- for which a positive breeding suitability test has been submitted in accordance with Appendix 3a,
- for which a negative PSSM test was submitted,
- who have passed the riding performance test in accordance with 5.2.2.

7.2 Stallion Book II (main section of the stud book)

Stallions of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed that are at least 3 years old are registered,

- whose parents are registered in the main section of a studbook of the breed (except foal book) of a recognized breeding association,
- for which a Certificate of Registration has been presented (if available),
- which have been presented for verification of identity,
- whose paternal and maternal parentage was confirmed at the time of initial registration by means of DNA profile matching in accordance with the provisions under section 2 of these principles,
- which have a proven pedigree over 3 generations,
- who have received an overall score of at least 5.0 in a conformation performance test in accordance with 5.2.1
- for which a positive breeding suitability test has been submitted in accordance with Appendix 3a,
- for which a negative PSSM test was submitted,
- who have passed the composure test in accordance with 5.2.3,
- who do not fulfill the other requirements for registration in Stallion Book I.

7.3 Appendix Stallions (main section of the stud book)

Stallions of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed are registered,

- whose parents are registered in the studbook of the breed of a recognized breeding association or registered in the MFTHBA studbook,
- for which a Certificate of Registration has been presented (if available),
- who have been presented for identity verification,
- whose paternal and maternal parentage was confirmed at the time of initial registration by means of DNA profile matching in accordance with the provisions under section 2 of these principles,
- for which a positive breeding suitability test has been submitted in accordance with Appendix 3a,
- for which a negative PSSM test has been submitted,
- which do not fulfill the other requirements for registration in Stallion Book I or II.

The transfer of horses from the Stallions Foal Book to the Stallions Annex is automatic if offspring are registered from these horses and the offspring fulfill the registration requirements for entry in the Stallions Annex.

7.4 Foal book stallions (main section of the stud book)

In the year of birth, all colts of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed bred in the respective breeding association are registered on the basis of the breeding and birth registration,

- whose parents are registered in the studbook of the breed of the respective breeding association,
- which have been identified and marked in accordance with animal breeding and animal disease legislation,
- whose paternal and maternal parentage has been confirmed by means of DNA profile matching in accordance with the provisions under 2 of these principles,
- for which a PSSM test is submitted (unless a negative PSSM test is available from the parents).

7.5 Mare Book I (main section of the studbook)

Mares at least 3 years old of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed are registered,

- whose parents are registered in the main section of a studbook of the breed (except foal book) of a recognized breeding association,
- for which a Certificate of Registration has been presented (if available),
- which have been presented for verification of identity,
- whose paternal and maternal parentage was confirmed at the time of initial registration by means of DNA profile matching in accordance with the provisions under section 2 of these principles,
- which have a proven pedigree over 3 generations,
- which have received an overall score of at least 6.0 in a conformation performance test in accordance with 5.2.1, whereby the minimum scores specified under 5.2.1.5 have been awarded,
- for which a positive breeding suitability test has been submitted in accordance with Appendix 3b,
- for which a negative PSSM test has been submitted,
- who have passed the riding performance test in accordance with 5.2.2.

7.6 Mare book II (main section of the studbook)

Mares at least 3 years old of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed are registered,

- whose parents are registered in the main section of a studbook of the breed (except foal book) of a recognized breeding association,
- for which a Certificate of Registration has been presented (if available),
- which have been presented for verification of identity,
- whose paternal and maternal parentage was confirmed at the time of initial registration by means of DNA profile matching in accordance with the provisions under section 2 of these principles,
- which have a proven pedigree over 3 generations,
- who have received an overall score of at least 5.0 in a conformation performance test in accordance with 5.2.1
- for which a positive breeding suitability test has been submitted in accordance with Appendix 3b,
- for which a negative PSSM test has been submitted,
- who have passed the composure test in accordance with 5.2.3,
- who do not fulfill the other requirements for entry in Stud Book I.

7.7 Appendix Mares (main section of the studbook)

Mares of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed are registered,

- whose parents are registered in the studbook of the breed of a recognized breeding association or registered in the MFTHBA studbook,
- for which a Certificate of Registration has been presented (if available),
- who have been presented for identity verification,
- whose paternal and maternal lineage was confirmed at the time of initial registration by means of DNA profile matching in accordance with the provisions under section 2 of these principles,
- for which a positive breeding suitability test was submitted in accordance with Annex 3b,
- for which a negative PSSM test has been submitted,
- which do not fulfill the other requirements for entry in Stud Book I or II.

The transfer of horses from the Mares 'Foal Book to the Mares' Appendix shall take place automatically if offspring are registered from these horses and the offspring fulfill the registration requirements for entry in the Mares Appendix.

7.8 Foal book mares (main section of the stud book)

In the year of birth, all fillies of the Missouri Fox Trotter breed bred in the respective breeding association are registered on the basis of the breeding and birth registration,

- whose parents are registered in the studbook of the breed of the respective breeding association,
- which have been identified and marked in accordance with animal breeding and animal disease legislation,
- whose paternal and maternal parentage has been confirmed by means of DNA profile matching in accordance with the provisions under section 2 of these principles,
- for which a PSSM test is submitted (unless a negative PSSM test is available from the parents).

8. Use of reproduction techniques

The following reproduction techniques are permitted as part of a breeding program for the MFT breed:

- Artificial insemination (collection and use of fresh and frozen semen)
- Embryo transfer

Horses conceived by means of a non-approved reproduction technique (e.g. cloning, ICSI) are not entered in any studbook for the MFT breed and do not participate in any breeding program for the MFT breed.

8.1 Artificial insemination

Stallions used for the collection of semen for the purpose of artificial insemination must be registered in Stallion Book I or II of a studbook for the MFT breed.

8.2 Embryo transfer

Mares used as donor mares for embryo transfer must be registered in Mare Stud Book I or II of a stud book for the MFT breed.

9. Consideration of health characteristics and genetic defects and peculiarities

Stallions are only eligible for registration in Stallion Book I, II and mares only in Mare Book I, II of a studbook for the MFT breed if they have a positive certificate of breeding suitability test in accordance with Annex 3a or 3b.

For animal welfare reasons, animals carrying the dominant genetic defect PSSM in homozygous or heterozygous form should not be bred.

All carriers (homozygous and heterozygous) of the PSSM gene are entered in the foal book for stallions / mares and cannot be entered in a higher class of the studbook for MFT.

All carriers of the PSSM gene receive a special marking in the equine passport, in the association studbook and in the stallion/mare distribution plan.

Stallions and mares with a positive homozygous PSSM test are excluded from breeding.

Mares with a positive heterozygous PSSM test do not take part in any premium breeding program (premium mare, elite mare). They may only be bred to stallions that have tested negative for PSSM.

All offspring of mares with a heterozygous positive PSSM test must present a PSSM test prior to registration. If the offspring are PSSM-free, they can be entered in the Stallions/Mares annex of a studbook for MFT. If both parents have a negative PSSM test, no PSSM test must be submitted for the offspring.

10. Special provisions for the MFT breed

Breeding suitability test of stallions and mares for entries in the studbook made before 2017 are recognized and do not have to be repeated. Horses registered in another studbook of the breed of a recognized breeding association must be entered in the class of the studbook for MFT of another breeding association under the name they were given when they were first registered and whose criteria they meet.

Appendices to breeding suitability test and performance tests

Appendix 3a	Stallion breeding Suitability Test
Appendix 3b	Mare breeding Suitability Test
Appendix 6	Horsemanship Pattern
Appendix 7	Composure Test Pattern
Appendix 8	Composure Test Score Sheet
Appendix 9	Horsemanship Score Sheet
Appendix 10	Gaits Score Sheet
Appendix 11	Interior Score Sheet
Appendix 12	Conformation Score Sheet
Appendix 13	Final Score Sheet

The appendices can be viewed on the EMFTHA homepage (<https://www.emftha.com/zucht-der-rasse-missouri-fox-trotter/emftha-e-v-zuchtprogramm/>).

The Principles for Breeding of the MFTHBA Breeding Program came into force on December 2024