

Man of many talents

Davidoff's progeny are making an indelible mark on the performance pony scene

There aren't many sires in New Zealand that can boast progeny succeeding from the show ring to the eventing field, as well as in the arenas of dressage, show hunter and show jumping. Such is the versatility of Davidoff, the German riding pony stallion who has made an extraordinary impact on the New Zealand performance pony scene.

Last season was no different, with Davidoff progeny bringing home Horse of the Year titles and many champion sashes. Among the more notable performers was Star Appeal, who with rider Caitlin Horton won the 1m Pony of the Year title class; and Prima Bella, who with Caitlin Lally was runner-up in the Level 1 dressage Pony of the Year, and fourth in the Saddle Hunter Pony of the Year.

Buckton Dominoff is probably Davidoff's most celebrated and decorated offspring – this superstar is one of the few ponies to reach Advanced level in dressage in New Zealand. In his last season here with rider Sarah Wadworth, he won the paced and mannered Saddle Hunter Pony of the Year to go with his many other titles in both dressage and showing. Dominoff has now been sold to Australia, and is already continuing his success with his new rider, competing (and winning) against hacks at Medium level. The pair have been selected for the Western



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Davidoff with Marion and (top) with Elle Phillips

Australia Young Rider dressage squad.

Also across the ditch is Naboo Destiny, owned and ridden by Zena Alliu. The pair have been extremely successful in both showing and level 3 dressage, and Naboo Destiny has recently been awarded 'first premium status' by the ACE Pony Assessors; a great achievement.

Then in jumping and eventing, there are Ashvale Design, Rangeview Donauperle, Nora, Mr Cappuccino and Kaitake Sirsimmo all doing extremely well, in fact as Davidoff's proud owner Marion Rogerson says, it's getting hard keeping track of it all!

It's no surprise really, as Davidoff himself carries some of Europe's most sought-after bloodlines in both dressage and jumping. His sire, Dressman, was twice individual European pony dressage champion, won his stallion licensing, was four times German national champion and has won more than 100 international dressage tests. Dressman has left more than 30 licensed sons and 20 state premium daughters.

On his damside, Davidoff is equally impressive. His dam, Mona is by the very successful pony Merafic, who was the leading German pony sire from 1983 to 1990. Merafic produced several internationally successful show jumping and eventing champions. Mona's dam's bloodline (via Nazim) brought European dressage champion Nadir and his daughter, Napoli.

Marion says that over the last few years there has been a substantial increase in the number of hack mares coming to Davidoff, so she is especially looking forward to watching them come of age over the years ahead.

H&P



Kraka, by Davidoff out of Winter Sky



Nora showing great scope, ridden by Shayla Hill



Davidoff progeny (l-r): Mr Cappuccino, ridden by Tayla Mason, Prima Bella, ridden by Caitlin Lally, and Buckton Dominoff, ridden by Sarah Wadworth

