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**National Foundation Quarter Horse Association**

## NFQHA FOUNDATION - HOW DO WE FIGURE IT?

When AQHA was originally founded by Robert Denhardt to preserve the Bulldog Type Quarter Horse, the blood in the founding stock was a mixture of Barb, Thoroughbred, Mustang, Arab, draft horse, and a myriad of other blood. However, the AQHA registry was closed to all of these breeds except the Thoroughbred. Since Thoroughbred is the only added blood, it is the blood that The National Foundation Quarter Horse Association considers when calculating the percent of Quarter Horse Blood.

The National Foundation Quarter Horse Association's philosophy is if the added blood is taken out, what remains is blood of the original quarter horse foundation stock. NFQHA also believes that generally the more TB in a horse's pedigree, the more TB attributes that horse will likely exhibit, and the more Quarter Horse attributes will be lost. The following is a brief explanation of how The National Foundation Quarter Horse Association calculates the percentage of Quarter Horse blood based on the amount of Thoroughbred blood in a pedigree.

Beginning 01/01/97 the maximum allowable Thoroughbred blood is 20%. (A horse must possess 80% Quarter Horse blood.) It does not matter what generation the TB appears in as long as the total does not exceed the allowable amount. In order to figure the TB percentage, the amount contributed by the first TB ancestor encountered on each line is added together to come up with the total Thoroughbred blood.

Example:

				TB
			TB GGS	12.5%
	Sire 50%	Grandsire 25%	GGD	12.5%
			GGS	12.5%
Individual 100%		Grandam 25%	GGD	12.5%
			GGS	12.5%
		Grandsire 25%	GGD	12.5%
	Dam 50%		GGS	12.5%
		Grandam 25%	GGD	12.5%

$(12.5\% + 6.25\% + 6.25\% = 25\% \text{ TB Blood})$

The horse in this example carries 75% Quarter Horse blood and is NOT eligible for The National Foundation Quarter Horse Association certification.

To establish the TB in a pedigree, The National Foundation Quarter Horse Association researches the pedigree back ten generations (technically eleven counting the individual), or to the parents of the first AQHA registered horse, whichever comes first on each line. The first Thoroughbred encountered on each line is counted with the exceptions of Joe Reed, AQHA #3, and Oklahoma Star, AQHA #6. They were honored with these numbers by AQHA as recognition of their contribution to the breed as Founding Sires. Because of this, NFQHA does not look at the TB in their parents, and they are considered 100% Quarter Horse.

This is a huge research project, covering 2,047 horses in each eleven generation pedigree, but was the only fair, comprehensive, black and white method that the NFQHA Board of Advisors could arrive at. We did not want a high percentage Thoroughbred horse to be considered pure National Foundation Quarter Horse just because it had low AQHA numbers in its pedigree. The NFQHA standards are very high, and when a horse is certified by us it has a concrete and verified claim to the coveted "National Foundation Quarter Horse Association Bred" title.

We hope that this explanation will help in understanding how our research is done. When your horse has been researched, a fact sheet showing all the contributing TB blood, and the position in the pedigree where it was found, will be forwarded to you, and qualifying horses will also be issued a National Foundation Quarter Horse Certificate.