



American Quarter Horse

American Quarter Horses are America's first breed and are famous for their quarter-mile sprints. They compete in a multitude of horse show competitions around the world and are in demand for horse racing, ranch work, rodeo, recreational riding, and many other activities. Identifiable characteristics of the breed are heavy muscling, sprinter's speed, versatility, keen cow sense, and a gentle nature. Coat colors of the Quarter Horse may be one of 16 common colors with white markings frequently seen on face and legs. Texas raises more Quarter Horses than any other state, with over 450,000 horses registered with the American Quarter Horse Association in 2004. The U.S. has about 3 million registered Quarter Horses.

Source: American Quarter Horse Association



American Paint Horse

American Paint Horses were once wild horses that roamed the Western deserts and plains. The Indians were the first to capture and use them. There are 3 patterns of Paint Horses: Overo, Tobiano, and Tovero. Each Paint Horse has a unique combination of white and any color of the equine spectrum. Paints are used in almost all equine activities such as: Western pleasure, halter, driving, reining, cutting, barrel racing, roping, jumping, horse racing, and ranching. In 2004, the American Paint Horse Association had nearly 46,000 registered paint horses in the U.S., Texas being #1 with nearly 6,000 registered horses.

Source: American Paint Horse Association



Appaloosa

Appaloosa Horses are descendants from Spanish explorers' horses that passed through Texas. These horses were bred and refined by the Nez Perce and Palouse Indians of the Northwest. They are usually noticed and recognized because of their spots and splashes of color. Appaloosas excel in many disciplines including western pleasure, working cow horse, horse racing, and dressage. The Appaloosa Horse Club is the international breed registry who has over 16,000 appaloosa horses registered in the U.S., Texas being #1 in number of appaloosas. Source: Appaloosa Horse Club



Arabian

Arabians evolved in what is now known as Central Asia and the Middle East thousands of years ago. They are the oldest known riding horse. Its energy, intelligence, and gentle disposition allow riders to excel in English and Western disciplines, horse racing, and as a work horse. Arabians are marked by a distinctive dished profile; large, lustrous, wide-set eyes on a broad forehead; small, curved ears; and large, efficient nostrils. The American Horse Registry of America, Inc. has over 600,000 Arabian horses registered in the United States. Texas ranks second with nearly 30,000 registered Arabian horses. Source: Arabian Horse Association



Thoroughbred

Thoroughbreds were originally developed in England and are considered the supreme equine athlete. They are used primarily for horse racing, jumping, dressage, 3-day events and driving. Thoroughbreds usually have short, slim bodies and long, strong legs. Coat colors of Thoroughbreds are mostly solid with white markings frequently seen on both the face and legs. There are approximately 148,000 registered Thoroughbreds in Texas with Texas ranking second in number of Thoroughbred Breeding Stallions. There are about 1.3 million Thoroughbreds registered in the U.S. Source: Texas Thoroughbred Association