

Pedigree profile

by Rommy Faversham

Sanagas and sire Lomitas descend from noted German tribes

German-bred Thoroughbreds, along with their relatives and forebearers, certainly have enjoyed a major influence on international racing at the highest level in 2011.

One of the latest examples is Sanagas (Ger), who easily



SANAGAS
Benoit & Associates photo

handled his first Grade 1 test as he scored an authoritative 3½-length victory in the \$250,000 Hollywood Turf Cup Stakes (G1) at 1½ miles on November 19.

The late-developing five-year-old gelding entered off a half-length victory in the 1%-mile Sycamore Stakes (G3),

setting a track record on the Polytrack synthetic surface at Keeneland Race Course.

Sanagas' sire and dam, Lomitas (Ger) and Scota (Ger), are descendants of key female families developed by two of Germany's most celebrated breeding establishments.

Sanagas was bred by his owner, Dr. Andreas Jacobs, master of Gestut Fahrhof near Bremen.

Our subject hails from the eleventh crop of Fahrhof homebred and stallion Lomitas.

Jacobs' grandfather and stud founder, Walther Jacobs, originally imported Lomitas' third dam, the Crepello mare Love In (GB), in the late 1960s. Lomitas' first and second dams, La Colorado (Ger) and La Dorada (Ire), both were German juvenile filly champions.

Ås a racehorse, Lomitas had to overcome a well-documented fear of the starting gate and later his deliberate poisoning and extortion. In the interim, he was Germany's 1991 Horse of the Year as a three-year-old.

Euthanized in the summer of 2010 due to complications of colic, the Niniski stallion's biggest triumph as a sire came last month, when his daughter Danedream drew off to win the Qatar Prix de L'Arc de Triomphe (Fr-G1) by five lengths.

Sanagas is one of three winners from six starters out of the placed Marju mare Scota.

Of note, his first eight dams all were bred by the Oppenheim family's Gestut Schlenderhan. Founded in 1869 near Cologne, it is the oldest private stud in Germany and has captured at least 38 national breeding titles.

As is customary among German breeders, a Thoroughbred's

Sanagas (Ger), dk. b. or br. g., 2006				
Lomitas (GB) 88 635 fls, 60 SWs SI 1.87 DI=0.38	Niniski 76 6 wins, \$289,507, SW 384 fls, 48 SWs SI 2.08 DI=0.84	Nijinsky II 67 851 fls, 155 SWs SI 5.77 DI=3.00	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
			Flaming Page 59	Bull Page 47 Flaring Top 47
		Virginia Hills 71 13 fls, 1 SW DI=0.90	Tom Rolfe 62	*Ribot 52 Pocahontas 55
			Ridin' Easy 67	Ridan 59 Easy Eight 54
	=La Colorada (Ger) 81 3 wins Champion 14 fls, 3 SWs DI=0.14	=Surumu (Ger) 74 517 fls, 60 SWs SI 1.64 DI=0.29	=Literat (Ger) 65	=Birkhahn (Ger) 45 =Lis (Ger) 60
			=Surama (Ger) 70	=Reliance II (Fr) 62 =Suncourt (GB) 52
		=La Dorada (Ire) 74 7 fls, 1 SW DI=0.16	=Kronzeuge (Fr) 61	=Neckar (Ger) 48 =Kaiserkrone (Ger) 52
			=Love In (GB) 66	=Crepello (GB) 54 =Tudor Love (GB) 57
=Scota (Ger) 99 6 fls, 1 SW DI=0.50	=Marju (Ire) 88 3 wins, \$480,591, SW 974 fls, 61 SWs SI 1.32 DI=0.83	Last Tycoon (Ire) 83 1565 fls, 87 SWs SI 1.44 DI=1.77	Try My Best 75	Northern Dancer 61 Sex Appeal 70
			=Mill Princess (Ire) 77	Mill Reef 68 *Irish Lass II 62
		Flame of Tara (Ire) 80 13 fls, 5 SWs DI=1.00	Artaius 74	Round Table 54 Stylish Pattern 61
			=Welsh Flame (GB) 73	=Welsh Pageant (Fr) 66 =Electric Flash (GB) 62
	=Shona (Ger) 86 1 win, SW 14 fls, 1 SW DI=0.33	Windwurf (Ger) 72 456 fls, 36 SWs SI 0.89 DI=0.09	=Kaiseradler (Ger) 57	=Nebelwerfer (Ger) 44 =Kaiserwurde (Ger) 45
			=Wiesenweihe (Ger) 62	=Birkhahn (Ger) 45 =Wiesenblute (Ger) 56
		=Shantou (Ger) 73 5 fls, 1 SW DI=0.60	=Charlottown (GB) 63	=Charlottesville (GB) 57 =Meld (GB) 52
			=Shura (Ger) 62	=Birkhahn (Ger) 45 =Sabrina (Ger) 55

name begins with the same letter as its dam. Accordingly, Sanagas belongs to the "S" family.

This tribe was initiated in 1921 when Gestut Sclenderhan imported the Black Jester yearling filly and subsequent foundation mare, Schwarze Kutte (GB). She ultimately would serve as Sanagas' ninth dam.

Schwarze Kutte's granddaughter, Sanagas' seventh dam Schwarzgold was declared the best racing filly in German history after she defeated colts by ten lengths in the 1940 Deutsches Derby and then distanced her elders in the prestigious Grosser Preis von Berlin.

Much more recently, the "S" family has been represented by such stars as 1984 Arc de Triomphe winner Sagace, 1985 Eveready Epsom Derby (Eng-G1) winner Slip Anchor, 1989 champion turf male Steinlen, and this year's Beverly D. Stakes (G1) winner Stacelita (Fr), by Monsun (Ger).

Sanagas is inbred to the ubiquitous Northern Dancer, 4X5, and German foundation sire Birkhahn, 5X5X5.

For good measure, he carries a 5X4 cross of full siblings Kaiserkrone and leading German sire Kaiseradler—an auspicious tandem of sister and brother providing some additional structure to the aforementioned pedigree.

Rommy Faversham is a pedigree specialist and author living in Los Angeles. More of his work is available at http://www.equicross.com.