



1089 Nesbitt Road Colora, MD 21917
410-658-9898 410-658-9228 fax
info@hilltopfarminc.com www.hilltopfarminc.com

2-Season Equine Breeding Agreement

This Equine Breeding Agreement (the "Agreement") is entered into as of _____ by and between Hilltop Farm, Inc., a Maryland corporation with its principal place of business at 1089 Nesbitt Road, Colora, MD 21917 ("Hilltop") and the breeder identified below (the "Breeder") for the purpose of breeding the Stallion identified below (the "Stallion") to the Breeder's mare identified below (the "Mare"), with the goal of producing one Live Foal, defined as a foal that stands, nurses, and survives the first 72 hours after birth.

1. BREEDER'S REPRESENTATIONS:

BREEDER INFORMATION		
Breeder's Name:		
Address:		
Phone:	(Primary Phone)	(Alt. Phone)
Email:		

- (a) Breeder represents that Breeder is either the owner or lessee of the Mare and has the authority to enter into this Agreement. Breeder acknowledges that Breeder has no right to assign or otherwise transfer any right under this Agreement;
- (b) Before submitting the Agreement to Hilltop, Breeder has read this entire Agreement and understands and agrees to the terms set out herein;
- (c) By submitting this Agreement to Hilltop, Breeder represents that Breeder has not ever been convicted of, pled guilty to, nor is Breeder currently under investigation for animal cruelty.

2. STALLION.

STALLION INFORMATION (the "Stallion")			
Stallion's Name:	Popeye	Breed/Registration Number:	Westfalen / 41-08721-02

(a) The Mare Owner shall have no right, title or interest in the Stallion except for the breeding rights expressly set forth in this Agreement. All breeding under this agreement is to be by artificial insemination with frozen semen from the Stallion. This contract allows for a maximum of six (6) doses of semen from the Stallion to produce one foal. Should the Mare fail to produce a pregnancy within the available doses of frozen semen from the Stallion, the Mare Owner may then elect to switch to a *Hilltop-owned* stallion. The Breeder's selection of a *Hilltop-owned* stallion is subject to availability.

(b) Frozen semen may be shipped January 2, 2024 to August 4, 2024.

(c) After the first shipment of semen, there will be no refund of Breeding Fees. All refunds are subject to a 10% office fee.

3. MARE.

MARE INFORMATION (the "Mare")			
Mare's Registered Name:		Mare's Barn Name:	
WILL THIS BE AN EMBRYO TRANSFER BREEDING? Yes or No (circle one)			
Age:	Breed:	Registration #:	
A COPY OF YOUR MARE'S REGISTRATION PAPERS MUST BE ATTACHED.			
Registries Mare is Approved with:		Preferred Registry for Foal:	
Mare's Breeding Status:		Planned Month of Breeding:	
Has your mare been tested for Warmblood Fragile Foal Syndrome (WFFS)? Yes or No (circle one) Results: _____			

(a) The Breeder may substitute a new mare that is owned or leased by the Breeder if the above Mare is no longer suitable for breeding. Complete information on the new mare must be supplied to Hilltop prior to requesting or using semen. The substitution of a replacement Mare does not extend the original terms for the Agreement.

4. EMBRYO TRANSFERS AND ICSI. (a) Hilltop must be notified at the execution of this Agreement if the Breeder intends to use Embryo Transfer as a means of producing a foal from this breeding. It is the responsibility of the Breeder to arrange for the Recipient Mare or Mares and the Breeder bears all costs, responsibility, and risk associated with them.

(b) In the case that multiple embryos are recovered from the Donor Mare on a single breeding attempt, the additional embryos may be transferred to multiple Recipient Mares or frozen for future implantation at the Breeder's discretion. The Breeder must notify Hilltop of any additional embryos at time of implantation or freezing. An additional Breeding Fee equal to 50% of the Total Breeding Fee will be due for each additional embryo at time of implantation or freezing. There is no additional guarantee offered on the additional embryos.

(c) Permission to transfer multiple embryos from one breeding of the Donor Mare does not in any way imply the right to breed any mare other than the identified Donor Mare to the Stallion with semen shipped pursuant to this Agreement, or to re-breed the Donor Mare with semen shipped pursuant to the Agreement while there is at least one viable pregnancy or if a Live Foal has been produced. If the Breeder wants to rebreed the Donor Mare to achieve additional pregnancies while there is a successful surrogate pregnancy in progress, a new Breeding Agreement must be executed.

(d) Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI) is not permitted under this agreement.

5. FEES.

Total Breeding Fee Due:	\$950
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(a) Payment of Fees. The Breeding Fee is due upon execution of this Agreement. Should Hilltop decline to accept a submitted Agreement for any reason, any charges applied to the Breeder's credit card upon submission will be credited back to Breeder's credit card within two business days.

(b) Collection and Shipping Fees. Collection and shipment of semen for Hilltop stallions is performed by Select Breeders Service, Inc. ("SBS"). The collection of semen and shipping expenses (which together comprise the Distribution Fees ("Distribution Fees")) are set out in SBS's Schedule of Breeding Fees for the current breeding season and are payable to SBS. The Distribution Fees will be charged to the Mare Owner's credit card prior to each semen shipment.

(c) Container Security. Semen is shipped in specialized containers which shall at all times remain the property of Hilltop or SBS. For each shipment of semen, the shipping container must be returned to Hilltop or SBS in good condition within the timeframe listed on the container and by the method specified in the container documents. A Late Fee, as set out in the Schedule of Breeding Fees, may be assessed for late return of the shipping container. Any loss of or damage to the container will be the responsibility of the Breeder and will be charged to the Breeder's credit card.

(d) Credit Card Required. Hilltop requires that the Breeder provide valid credit card information to SBS for securing the semen shipping container deposit and for the billing of Distribution Fees prior to each shipment of semen.

6. **SEMEN SHIPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION.** (a) Upon payment of the Breeding Fee the Breeder is entitled to shipments of semen from the Stallion during Hilltop's 2024 breeding season until the Mare conceives and sustains a pregnancy. The Breeder is eligible to receive a maximum of 6 doses of frozen semen over the duration of the contract. Should the Mare fail to achieve a pregnancy or produce a live foal as result of the 2024 breeding season, the Breeder may rebreed the mare during the 2025 breeding season, pursuant to the terms of the Right Of Return set out in Section 9, below. Should the Mare fail to achieve a pregnancy within the available doses of frozen semen from the Stallion, the Mare Owner may then elect to switch to a *Hilltop-owned* stallion for the remainder of the duration of the contract. The Breeder's selection of a *Hilltop-owned* stallion is subject to availability.

(b) Hilltop Farm recommends mares to be bred by a licensed veterinarian. In order for Hilltop to issue a Breeding Certificate for the breeding a Mare Breeding Passport must be submitted by the person completing the insemination and pregnancy checks.

(c) Cooled semen may not be frozen for future use, and semen provided under this Agreement may not be used to breed any mare other than the Mare identified in this Agreement or to re-breed the Mare once a Live Foal has been produced or a Recipient Mare is confirmed in foal under this Agreement.

(d) The Mare Owner assumes the risk of missed breeding opportunities due to problems with timing of the Mare's ovulation, the Mare's fertility, shipping or handling of the semen after it leaves SBS.

(e) If frozen semen is utilized and unused straws remain after the mare is confirmed in foal 60-days post ovulation, all unused frozen semen must be returned to Hilltop Farm. Frozen semen that is not returned will be charged to the breeder at the listed per dose price. Failure to respond regarding unaccounted for frozen semen doses will result in your card being charged for the unaccounted doses.

(f) Semen is typically available Monday through Friday. Whenever possible, semen is shipped overnight via Federal Express or UPS.

(g) Requests for semen must be made by 9PM Eastern Time of the day preceding shipment or pick-up. Frozen semen must be sent Monday thru Friday. ALL requests for semen shipments must be made via TELEPHONE. *Late notifications will be accommodated if possible, but cannot be guaranteed and there will be an additional late fee assessed by SBS.*

SHIPMENT DESTINATION INFORMATION			
Attention:			
Address:			
Special Delivery Instructions:		Waive Signature:	YES or NO
Phone:	(phone)	(email)	
Preferred Airport for Shipping if Same-Day Shipment Needed:			

VETERINARY INFORMATION (if different than Shipment Destination)		
Vet's Name:		
Clinic Name:		
Address:		
Phone:	(work)	(cell)
	(fax)	(email)

7. **PREGNANCY CHECKS.** The Mare Owner agrees to submit to Hilltop confirmation of the mare's pregnancy at 14-16 days post-ovulation and at 55-60 days post ovulation. Hilltop recommends additional pregnancy checks at 28 days post-ovulation and between 35-40 days post-ovulation. The completed Mare Passport must be received by Hilltop not later than September 15th. If pregnancy checks are still pending at that time, the Mare Passport should be returned and written confirmation of additional checks should be sent following each pregnancy check that occurs after September 15th.

8. **BREEDING CERTIFICATE.** Upon written confirmation of pregnancy at 60 days, Hilltop Farm will issue a Breeding Certificate for the appropriate breed registry. In the case of Embryo Transfers, no Breeding Certificate will be issued for additional pregnancies until any additional Breeding Fees due have been received by Hilltop.

9. **RIGHT OF RETURN.** (a) The Breeder may breed the Mare under this Agreement during a second consecutive season under the following conditions: (a) a Mare Breeding Passport signed and submitted by the person completing the insemination and pregnancy checks and indicating that the Mare has not become pregnant during the first breeding season; or (b) the Mare fails to produce a Live Foal, Hilltop is verbally notified within 72 hours of the foal's death, miscarriage or discovery of reabsorption, and such verbal notification is followed within ten (10) days by a signed written statement from a licensed veterinarian stating the details of the loss of the pregnancy or foal. If such notification is not received within the period required, the Right of Return provided herein becomes null and void. Distribution Fees for the return season will be at the rates in effect during that subsequent season.

(b) In the case of Embryo Transfers, the Right of Return shall apply only if there is no Live Foal produced from any implanted embryos. Loss of additional foals from multiple implanted embryos does not entitle the Breeder to the Right of Return if there is at least one Live Foal produced under the Agreement.

10. **TERM AND TERMINATION.** This Agreement shall continue until both parties have met their obligations hereunder. The last date for Hilltop to provide semen for breeding under this Agreement is August 4, 2025 for cooled semen and August 4, 2025 for frozen semen.

11. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK, WAIVER OF CLAIMS, INDEMNIFICATION.** The Breeder assumes all responsibility for the care, custody, control and condition of the Mare throughout the breeding, pregnancy, foaling and suckling period, including all veterinary and other additional costs of breeding the Mare, and assumes all risk of loss or damage to the Mare and to any resulting foal, whether by death, disease, injury, infection or otherwise. The Breeder acknowledges that breeding provides heightened physical risk to a mare and agrees to waive any claims against, indemnify, release and hold harmless Hilltop, SBS, their directors, agents, employees and assigns, from any and all claims, demands, damages, actions, suits, attorney's fees and costs, obligations or liabilities of any kind that are in any way related to the Mare or to the breeding or insemination of the Mare.

12. **GENERAL TERMS.** Hilltop's waiver of any breach or failure to insist on complete performance of any term under this Agreement is not to be construed as a general waiver as to the other terms or as to ongoing waiver of the same term of this Agreement, and will not impair Hilltop's future right to enforce its rights hereunder. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with regard to the subject matter addressed herein, and there are no other understandings, representations, warranties or agreements, oral or written. This Agreement may not be changed, modified or amended in whole or in part, except in writing, signed by both parties. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the State of Maryland without regard to conflict of law principles, and the courts of the State of Maryland shall have exclusive jurisdiction over any disputes arising hereunder, except that the parties agree first to try to settle any disputes arising hereunder through mediation using a neutral mediator familiar with both the applicable law and the customs and practices of the sport horse breeding industry.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties enter into this Agreement upon acceptance of Breeder's submission by Hilltop.

HILLTOP FARM, INC.

BREEDER

By: _____
Its Breeding Manager, as duly authorized

By: _____
Accepted and agreed by Hilltop Farm, Inc. as of this date:
_____.