

# AL ZAHRAA 2010 WITH MOUSTAFA EL MASRY

By Bridget McKinney

ONLY FIVE YEARS INTO HIS ARABIAN BREEDING PROGRAMME, THE RESULTS ACHIEVED THIS LAST FALL AT AL ZAHRAA BY BREEDER MOUSTAFA EL MASRY, ARE TRULY IMPRESSIVE. EL MASRY TALKS TO HORSETIMES ABOUT HIS EL NADIM STUD, HIS CHAMPION THE EPITOME, AND HIS LOVE FOR THE BREED.

**For how many years have you participated at Al Zahraa events with your horses?**

This was the first time for us to participate at Al Zahraa events with our horses and the results we achieved are proof that we are on the right track.

**What are your thoughts on Al Zahraa competitions today versus those dating ten years back?**

Every year we see a lot of progress; they are trying to improve the event. The numbers of horses are increasing during each competition each year and the organisation has improved especially with the sponsors that come along.

**Over the years, Al Zahraa horses have changed in terms of "looks", i.e., improved upon, as many would say. What are your thoughts on that?**

Al Zahraa is very well known for its good quality horses and I don't think that with only five years of a breeding background I can't really comment on that!

**From your own personal perspective, explain to us how you as a breeder see Al Zahraa as a governing body of the Egyptian Arabian horse?**

Al Zahraa is one of the few places which still takes on and carries the complete responsibility for keeping Egyptian Arabian horses as pure as they are; it has a long documented history. I hope that the government will give them what they need in terms of budget; I mean a genuine budget which will allow them to keep going and to preserve the treasure they own.

**Tell us a bit about your background as a breeder?**

We started our breeding programme in

2005 when we established our breeding stud, El Nadim Stud for the Arabian horse on the Cairo Ismailiya highway. We have always focused on the quality of the breed rather than quantity.


**Tell us a bit about El Nadim?**

El Nadim Stud farm is located in Ahmed Orabi. We have a total of 22 pure Arabian horses. Stallions from our farm have become quite well known since the last beauty competition held at Al Zahraa this past fall due to the good results we achieved. On the international level our stallion, The Epitome (3 years old), took third place in the rankings, as did our colt, Moataz. It was a really tough competition but we managed to achieve these results through our planned breeding programme over the last five years.

**Many controversies around the the Egyptian Arabian have occurred in the past years in terms of the desert Arabian versus the beautified Arabian we see today at shows; what would you say to that?**

I totally agree with this statement but while all breeders now focus on beauty shows, in fact I still believe that purity is the most important thing and that is why we are very proud of our horses.

**Finally, why and how did you get involved in Arabian horse breeding?**

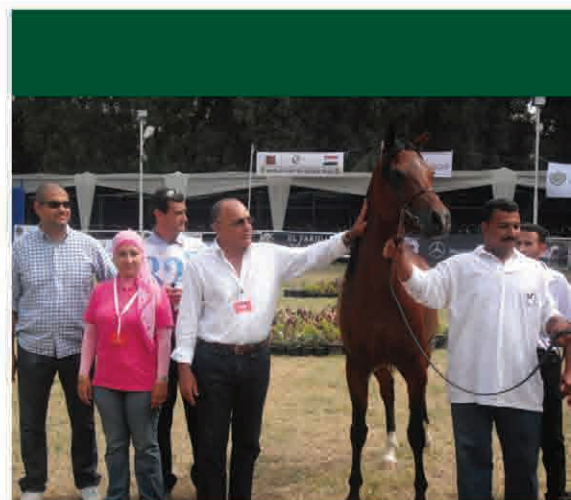
The simple answer is the secret of the beauty of these horses; the moment you see these pure Arabian horses you fall in love with them; they attract you. They are nice, kind and grateful; qualities that are hard to find in humans anymore these days. 



▲ El Masry with his stallion Epitome



▲ El Nadim Stud



▲ At Al Zahraa 2010