



Only 2,010 are registered in the Falabella Miniature Horse Association (FMHA). Registered animals meet the same specs as mini-American horse breeds - up to 38 in. tall, weighing up to 176 lbs.

“World’s Smallest” Horse Breed

Laurie Stevens was smitten when she saw an article about “the world’s smallest horse breed” in a magazine in the early 1980’s. She appreciated the Falabella’s handsome physique, similar to the Arabian horses she already owned. She liked the idea of having that confirmation in a mini horse that is much easier to handle, so she purchased several Falabella horses. Forty years later, Stevens’s daughter, Lauren Stevens runs Toyland Miniature Horses.

Laurie passed away in 2022, leaving Lauren the business and 75 Falabellas.

“We sell breedable mares and stallions and also show animals,” Lauren says. “Now the big thing is using them for therapy to bring them into hospitals and nursing homes.”

Argentinian Juan Falabella and his son, Emilio, and grandson, Julio, bred native Argentine Criollo horses with other small horses to develop the breed. The first Falabellas were imported to the U.S. in the 1960’s. In 1995, Julio Falabella’s daughter moved to South Carolina with her horses. When she retired in 2006, Laurie purchased the entire herd, which included horses as small as 26 in. tall.

Only 2,010 are registered in the Falabella Miniature Horse Association (FMHA). Registered animals meet the same specs as

mini-American horse breeds - up to 38 in. tall, weighing up to 176 lbs. Fully grown at 3 years old, a Falabella can carry up to 35 lbs., pull up to 264 lbs., run up to 20 mph, and live to 30 or 40 years old. They come in a variety of colors.

“They are intelligent and learn fast. You can housebreak them,” Stevens says, adding they have a gentle personality, so they are natural therapy animals.

They are healthy overall, with a heart the same size as regular-sized horses. One less set of ribs and one less vertebra make room for the big heart. The only common health challenge the breed has is issues with their teeth that may require dental work.

Stevens sells mostly to other breeders. Prices range from \$3,500 to \$15,000. More information can be found on the FMHA website, which Stevens coordinates.

She has sold them to buyers in warm and cold climates.

“In the winter, they even get a beard and thick winter coat and look like a little buffalo,” Stevens says.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Falabella Miniature Horse Association, 33222 N. Fairfield Road, Round Lake, Ill. 60073 (ph 847-404-6201; Info@FalabellaFMHA.com; www.falabellafmha.com).

MoonBike can run for up to 1 1/2 hours on a single charge and at 28 in. wide weighs less than 200 lbs.



This Bike Is Built For Snow

Snow sport lovers have a new option in the French-built MoonBike. Some compare it to dirt biking on snow. Others call it a cross between a snowmobile and an e-bike.

The MoonBike is electric and can travel up to 26 mph. One battery lasts 1 to 1 1/2 hours. A second battery doubles the range. Secured in an insulated and heated box, the battery can handle temperatures down to -13 F. To charge, simply plug the battery charger cable into the MoonBike and a wall socket.

With a front ski and track in the back, it can go through 12 in. of powder snow. Inventor Nicolas Muron recommends riding the MoonBike on a trail up the slope and through the powder snow on the way down. At less

than 200 lbs., the MoonBike is designed to be light and narrow enough (28 in. wide) to take indoors, load in vehicles, etc.

Some assembly is required to mount the ski and add foot pegs and the handlebar. MoonBike offers videos and video chats with a technician to troubleshoot any problems.

MoonBike was introduced to North America at the beginning of 2022 and orders are sent in batches from the Bosch factory in the French Alps. Check the website for information about ordering for January delivery. The MoonBike starts at \$8,900, plus tax and shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, www.moonbikes.com/en-US.

They Make Custom Cowboy Decor

It’s “totally cowboy” at Yocham’s Custom Leather and Cowboy Décor in Bartlesville, Okla. From light switch covers to sofas, Rick Yocham and employee Randy Robinson can add leather to just about anything you can imagine.

Rick has been involved with rodeo and leather most of his life. He and his wife, Rhonda, opened their first business in 1973. A friend created a website and posts photos on Facebook, Rhonda notes, which is a good place to get ideas about the variety of items they offer. But if you don’t live nearby, she suggests calling her at the store to find exactly what you need.

It may be on hand, but if not, Rick can customize everything from briefcases and lampshades to scabbards and saddles to sofas.

An old wingback chair purchased from an antique store started their venture into furniture. Rick reupholstered it in leather and cowhide and soon got requests for more.

He won the Switchback Award at the Cody Western Design Conference with a fainting couch that features leather, cowhide with hair, and a longhorn horn. The combination of materials sets their work apart according to one judge. They’ve shipped furniture from coast to coast.

Rick is also known for making trophy saddles. Besides cowhide leather, he uses exotic leathers such as ostrich, elephant and alligator. From bible covers to diaper bags and gunstocks, he can add a cowboy look to anything with leather tooling and studs.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Yocham’s Custom Leather, 401300 US Hwy. 60, Bartlesville, Okla. 74006 (ph 918-



It may be on hand, but if not, Rick can customize everything from briefcases and lampshades to scabbards and saddles to sofas.



335-2277; yochams@bartnet.net; www.yochamscustomleather.net; Facebook: Yocham’s Custom Leather).



Barbado da Terceira dogs, a rare 500-year-old breed known for cattle handling, are now being reproduced in the U.S.

Bringing Back A Rare Dog Breed

A 500-year-old cattle dog breed known as Barbado da Terceira (BDT), that originated on the Portuguese Island of Terceira, now has its own “club” in the U.S. thanks to dog lover Suzanne Hardy of Lewisburg, Penn. Hardy says the breed had only 34 known dogs in the U.S. when she and her friend Wendy Drees started the BDT breed club. Only about 300 BDTs remain around the world. She hopes to change that with her specialized breeding program. Other U.S. breeders have also joined in the effort to expand the Barbados.

“Barbados are excellent cattle dogs derived from intermingling various breeds that were brought to the Azores in the 15th Century. They’re medium-sized dogs with excellent dispositions and have thick coats which don’t shed,” Hardy says. “They’re extremely smart and have strong herding instincts that require training while the dog is young.” Hardy says the dogs bond well with their owner, are protective of their territory, and are excellent with many types of livestock.

“For many years, Barbados were only

livestock dogs, but they’ve evolved into wonderful companion dogs because of their quirky personality, stable temperament, and protective nature,” Hardy says.

They have high-set triangular ears and almost human-like eyes that give them a lively face and look. The non-shedding coat has a dense underlayer and a wavy but never curly outer coat. The dogs run well and inherently have excellent herding instincts.

The breed’s name has an interesting backstory. In Portuguese, Terceira means third, and Terceira is the third of nine islands that make up the Azores. Barbado means “bearded” in Portuguese, so the complete name means bearded dogs from the third island. The official English translation of the name is the Terceira Cattle Dog. The BDT Foundation Stock Program was approved by the American Kennel Club in January 2021.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Amaro Barbado Kennel (www.amarosobarbado.com).