

# International Alliance of Kiger Breeders

## Breeder Selection: Red Flags

- 🚩 **No Health/Medical Documents:** Every responsible owner and breeder should have a detailed document on worming and vaccinations, and any history of medical issues their animals have experienced.
- 🚩 **No Registration Paperwork:** Responsible breeders register their horses at an early age, preferably prior to a sale thus providing pedigrees showing their bloodline history. Without registration paperwork there is no way to verify the breeding of the horse.
- 🚩 **No DNA Testing:** Responsible breeders not only register their horses but also have DNA testing completed and on file with the registry on both the sire and dam for parent verification.
- 🚩 **Perfect Horse:** Every breeder should be willing to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of stock; there is no such thing as a "perfect" horse.
- 🚩 **Eager Sales:** Every breeder should be as selective with you as you are of them. If you feel pressured into a sale, rushed into a sale, or feel like the breeder is not doing their due diligence to ensure a proper fit and home, avoid them.
- 🚩 **Questionable Contracts:** It is normal for breeders to have contracts about their policies with respect to the buyer, as well as any health guarantees they make, however you should always read over the contract prior to signing to ensure you're comfortable with all policies and practices. If you have a question or concern, a good breeder will always discuss the matter with you or alter a contract if a certain term does not apply to you.
- 🚩 **No Facility Visits:** Good breeders always welcome facility visits and are happy to explain their set-up. Be wary of breeders who refuse to let you see the facility or other horses housed there.
- 🚩 **No Take Back:** No good breeder wants to see their stock abandoned or sold to slaughter. If the breeder is unable to take back their horse, they should always be able to assist you in finding a suitable placement should you be unable to continue caring for your Kiger. If the breeder refuses to assist in future placement should the need arise, they are not a breeder that you should do business with.
- 🚩 **No Breeding Program:** Practices and policies of breeders vary but all good breeders have basic guidelines they follow to adhere to the breed standard, and some type of goal for their breeding program.
- 🚩 **Breeder Competition:** All reputable breeders should work towards the common goal of preservation and protection of Kigers. Be cautious of breeders that focus on other breeders as competition or try to convince you that only their Kigers are "true Kiger."
- 🚩 **Multiple Breeds/Cross-Breeds:** While Kiger breeders may also be enthusiasts of other breeds, be wary of breeders who have multiple breeds and cross-breeds with no specialty in one particular area or breed standard they aim for. Cross breeding is okay, but cross breeding with no intent or thought behind it is not.