

MO FOXTROTTERS

MORLIN AND BECKY OLDHAM

SPANISH FORK, UTAH



“I think I was a great disappointment to my mother”

I was a horse crazy tomboy who made paper horses instead of paper dolls.... AND never outgrew being horse crazy! I saved up and bought my first horse when I was about 16 years of age. “Whampus Cat” was a little Appy mare that did an “Indian Shuffle”/ running walk. So I fell in love with gaited horses at an early age!

Luckily, I married a wonderful man who loves to HUNT (Big time!) and ride horses! He has been great in supporting my hobby/ habit! (He always asks—“Why can’t you have parakeets for a hobby?”) REALLY?

After owning several different breeds of horses over the years, I settled on Missouri Fox Trotters. I love that you can find any size, body type, and disposition within the breed. Because I trained (when I was younger), doctor, worm, and vaccinate my own horses, I wanted a horse that was easy to handle, people friendly (Our horses mob you!) and forgiving. AND the smooth ride! (I am old!) Missouri Fox Trotters were a great fit!

Over the past 20+ years I have “collected” some really nice straight haired fox trotter mares. I was putting on miles and spending a lot of time hauling my mares to outside stallions. Always on the lookout for the right stud, I found him in 2006 at Zion’s Gait Curlies aka Lisa Perry. “ZGC Dallas” was a few months old and still on his momma. I really liked the looks and breeding of “Dallas” and his dam--- so I purchased them both! (Thank-you Lisa!) This was the start of our dual registered dominant curly (ICHO) fox trotter (MFTHBA) program.

Right, a Dallas baby, MO Vegas Show Girl.



“ZGC Dallas”---ICHO 878-D, MFTHBA 06-89252, has matured into an awesome dark chestnut stallion! He is super easy to handle—I, by myself, breed him to the mares. “Dallas” is the right combination of heart and go, with a great disposition. He has an amazing smooth ground- covering gait. (He was tested homozygous for the gait gene) Because dual registered curly fox trotters are rare (About 150 in the world) most of the mares that “Dallas” is bred to are straight haired. “Dallas” is producing about 70% curly foals! All with great gait, conformation (long legs included) and disposition! Also this outcrossing of straight haired fox trotters to “Dallas” brings new bloodlines into the curly fox trotters.

When “Dallas’s” first curly palomino colt shed out his yearling year, dark spots were showing up. Because he was out in a large mountain pasture with his dam, I thought the spots were dirt or rub spots. More spots started showing up in patterns and similar size, even on his head! The curly palomino colt looked like a leopard Appaloosa! But I knew that this was a “Dallas” colt as I, myself, had bred his mom to “Dallas”!



Dallas as a foal, right,
with his dam, Sassy,
above and right.



Dallas curls!



After looking this up on the internet, I concluded that “Dallas” has “Bend Or” / “medicine spots”! Because “Dallas” is a dark chestnut with tons of curls, it was hard to see his spots! So this was “Icing on the cake”—“Dallas” puts medicine spots on his chestnut and palomino offspring!

I am especially excited about curly fox trotters because of their hypoallergenic properties. Since my five children have grown up, moved away and married, two have become more allergic to horses! Also, several of our grandchildren have negative reactions to horses. (What we do for our grand children! Don't you just love them!?) They have no reaction to my curly fox trotters!

It is so rewarding to introduce horse allergic people to our wonderful curly horses---- the joy and excitement they feel when they can include curly horses in their lives. One horse allergic gentleman even cried as he had his arms wrapped around “Dallas's” neck and he had no allergic reactions.

We as a family, mainly use our horses for trail riding and hunting. Our mature horse can be ridden, packed, and will haul out game. (DEAD stuff—most horses freak at the smell of blood). Some of our familys' fondest trips have been weeklong pack trips into the Wind Rivers, Wyoming mountain range. I think this is my favorite spot in the WORLD! It is such a blessing to be able to ride into places that would be hard to get to by foot. Miles of gorgeous mountains with valleys dotted with pristine lakes and meandering streams! Just amazing!

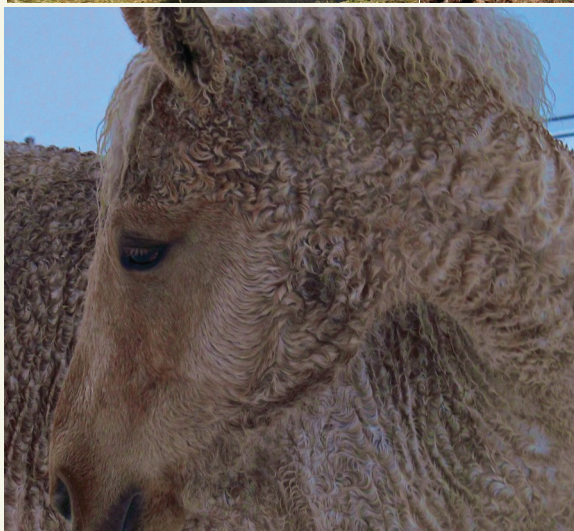
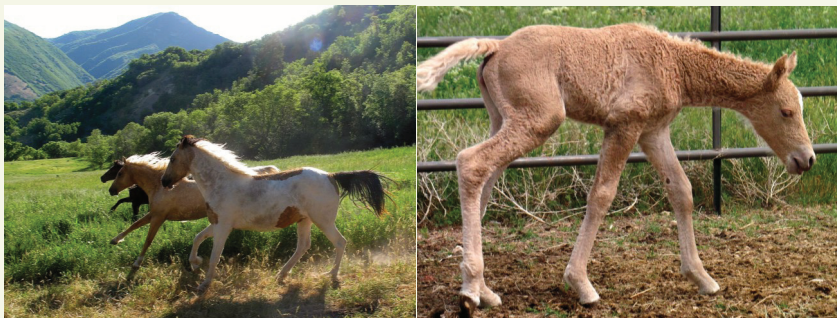
Below left, Dallas, gaited stallion and below right and next page is his lovely filly, MO Star Fire.





We live up Spanish Fork Canyon in the state of Utah, at 5,500 feet with mountain trails around us. This gives us an opportunity to ride our horses in the mountains all summer! Morlin, my hubby, uses our horses to ride and pack on deer and elk hunts from September to December. This puts good work and miles on them. We are excited for this summer as “Dallas” first foal crop will be 5 this summer! Ready to ride hard! Fun!

I thought fox trotters were the best ... until I added CURLY to my fox trotters! We love giving horse people the “curly bug” and now have a waiting list on some of our unborn curly foals! Yes--- CURLY FOX TROTTERS are the BEST! Love those curls! Becky Oldham



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