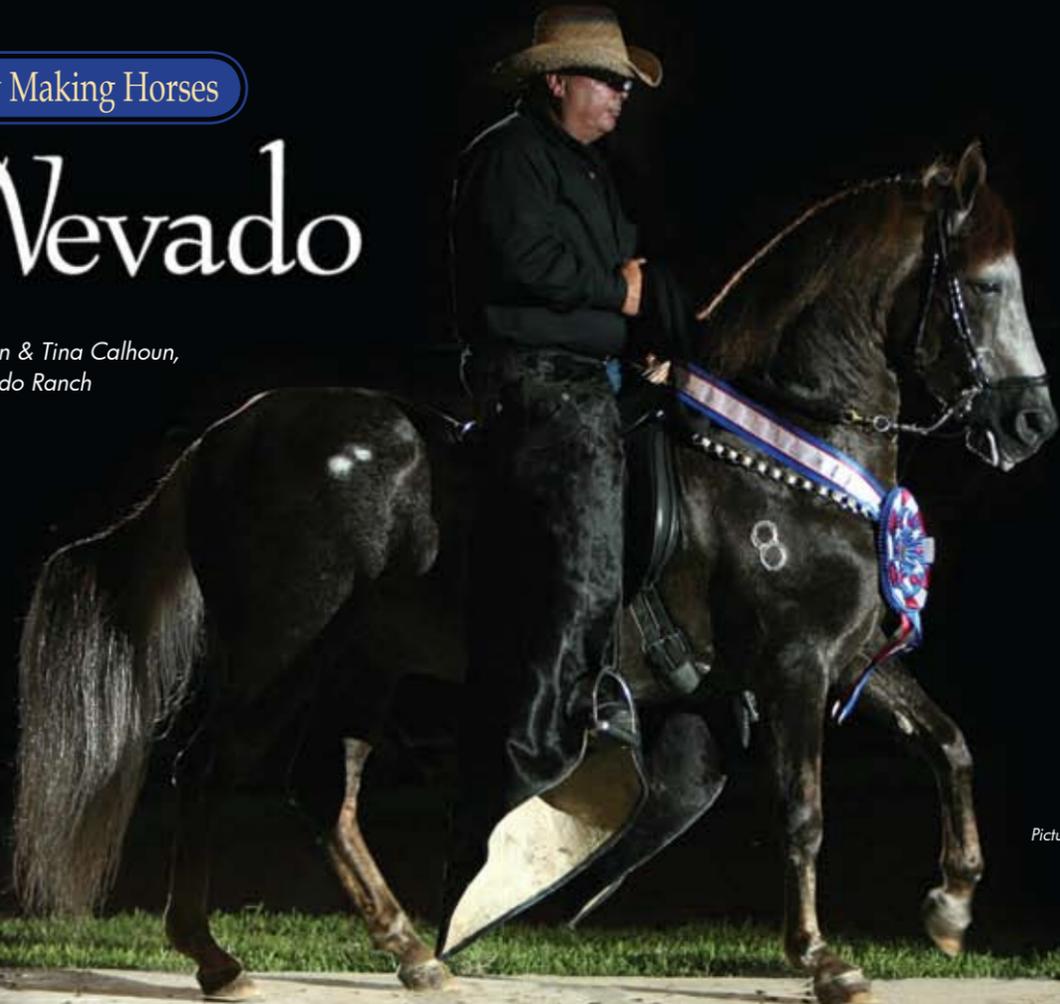


# Nevado

By Gordon & Tina Calhoun,  
The Nevado Ranch



*Pictured: Nevado ridden by Angelo Usategui.*

CHERI PRILL PHOTO

We bought our first horse in 1993 – a 16 month old Paso Fino colt that we named Nevado. The seller of the colt laughed when we said we wanted to name him Nevado. She said there was a very famous stallion in Colombia named Nevado and told us if we ever wanted to compete with our colt, folks would find it humorous. Our response was, “Trail riding is our only interest.” That was the first time we were told of the famous stallion, Nevado.

We bought two more Paso Finos, and then another, you know the drill. Gordon and I had the Paso Fino Fever! The next steps were to buy show horses and compete. Margarita AV was a beautiful Classic Fino mare out of the distinguished stallion, Monarca. Both of us were thrilled to have our trainer compete with her at the 1994 PFHA Grand National Show in Louisville, KY, and she won 5th National Champion in Fino Mares. That did it, we were hooked on showing. Our next purchase was a Classic Fino colt by the name of Springtime Pisorte. Gordon won Reserve National Champion Amateur Owner Classic Fino Stallion on Pisorte, who to this day is still a member of our family. Loving the breed, we wanted to start a breeding operation, and the rest is history.

Two years after buying our first Paso Fino, we bought the Nevado – sight unseen. Funny how our little colt’s name popped into our heads that day of purchase and how the famous Nevado became part of our family after all. This is the story of Nevado now 30

years young.

Nevado was born November 1, 1981, in Medellin, Colombia. His sire is Resorte IV, and his dam is Zarina, a daughter of Pistolero. Renowned breeder Dayro Chica Arias of Hacienda Lusitania bred Nevado, along with other great horses including Retorno, Cognac, Aleli, Castellano, Zodiaco, and Rima de Lusitania. But to this day, Dayro still considers Nevado one of his finest masterpieces.

When Nevado was a yearling, he was sold to Fabio Ochoa who owned him for approximately one year. Even after selling the colt, Fabio followed Nevado’s show ring progress. After witnessing the young colt’s dynamic potential, he knew he had to get the horse back. Once again, Fabio purchased Nevado, and it is said that Fabio Ochoa was so impressed with him that he branded the renowned “8” on both of his shoulders – an unusual ceremony for the world-renowned breeder of Paso Fino Champions.

At an early age, Nevado made his way into the world of competition where he rivaled the best of the best. He won 5 Championships in Colombia before being imported to the USA in 1986. Nevado won the Grand Championship in 1986 in Envigado, Colombia, against Don Paco (Popayan) and was the 1985 Fuera de Concursos Champion. His trainer, Guillermo Chica, rode Nevado to many victories.

During his prime, Nevado won against his own sire, Resorte IV, Bochica, Contrapunto, and his half brother, Capuchino. The crowds always enjoyed watching Nevado and Capuchino compete against each other. They are two brilliant stallions with tremendous gait, electrifying presence, and stamina.



*Above: Nevado (left) and Capuchino (right) in perfect step at Spectrum 1996.*

Nevado’s fame hit both of us when we brought him to the 1996 Spectrum International Show. Nevado was back in the United States, and for the first time in quite a while, he was accessible to the crowds. The crowds came, and we were humbled by everyone’s sincere admiration and respect for him. Nevado followers brought us gifts, cried when they touched him, and celebrated being able to see him perform.

At age 14, Nevado competed for the last time at the 1996 Piedmont PFHA Asheville Show where he took second place to the then Classic Fino World Champion Stallion, Simbolo de Besilu.



*Above: Nevado and Trainer Guillermo Chica 1987.*

Nevado distinguished himself as one of the great breeding stallions of the Resorte line. Throughout the world, Nevado’s famous sons and daughters have won in the show ring and have passed on his traits to their offspring as well. Of the many famous offspring, Profeta de Besilu is the most known. The quiet croup, flawless four-beat gait, powerful hocks, and wonderful temperament are faithfully produced in Nevado’s offspring. His get have established a winning tradition, excelling in both Classic Fino and Performance. Nevado was among the select few stallions that consistently enabled Paso Fino breeders to develop the champions that they desire.

As stated by Joe Pons, distinguished Equine Appraiser, Paso Fino Breeder, and International Judge, “I have found that Nevado is probably one of the strongest producers of the Resorte IV legacy. In addition, I have found that Nevado, in comparison to a number of other Colombian producers, has the prized trait and/or genetic ability of transmitting consistency in gait and “erasing” or “minimizing” the influence of the “Trocha” or “Trote y Galope” genes found in many Colombian bloodlines. This I believe is why Nevado has been so successful and consistent in producing champions. In Puerto Rico alone he has at least three Fuera de Concursos (champions-of-champions) and his apparent pre-potency transmits well down the line. This also explains why his mares are so prized for breeding. Nevado possesses brio, strong gait attributes, good size, and excellent conformation by breed standards. What more could one ask for? There are many pure Puerto Rican and Colombian Paso Finos that I respect and admire, and Nevado is one that is among the top on my favorites list.”

His true fame came to light by the excellence of his sons’ and daughters’ abilities to win in the show ring and produce outstanding offspring. As a result, Nevado was honored as a Top Ten Sire in 1992, 1993, and concurrently from 1996 to 2002. This achievement was extraordinary, because Nevado did not commercially breed from July 1996 through March 2000, and when he did return to the breeding shed, breeding availability was limited.



*Above: Nevado and Profeta exhibit at the Nationals 2002.*

Nevado’s most prolific son, Profeta de Besilu, is a three-time PFHA Classic Fino Grand National Champion (1993, 1994, 1995), an International Fino Champion Stallion (1994), and a Mundial (World) Fino Champion Stallion in addition to being a multiple



Above: Nevado and El Classico exhibit at the 2002 PFHA Nationals.

has amplified, though a Guinness Stout now and then has been known to take the edge off.

After spending 10 years in Ocala, Florida, The Nevado Ranch returned to Charlotte, North Carolina, in 2010. It has been an honor and privilege to enjoy Nevado as a member of our family. We give our very best to all of you who continue to inquire about him and share with us your wonderful experiences with your Nevado offspring, grandsons, and grand-daughters.



The Nevado Story continues.....

Regional National Champion. His World Championship came in 1993 at the first Confepaso World Cup in the Dominican Republic. Profeta's accomplishments in the show ring are surpassed only by his accomplishments as a breeding stallion. With 13 consecutive years on the PFHA's Top Ten Sire list, and holding the #1 spot from 2006 to 2010, Profeta is a consistent and proven sire of Champions. Some of his most important offspring to date include Director de Daguao, Detalles II de Besilu, Jazmin de Isla, and Ricardo IA to name a few.

Profeta was not the only stallion from Nevado to become an accomplished sire. Springtime Radiante made it to the 2001 Top Ten Sire list, and El Duque, during his short lifetime, was a "sire of sires" in Venezuela and a Champion there as well. He created superior offspring that won in the show ring as well as took their place in the breeding shed. El Duque was honored as a 2002 Top Ten Sire.

We must also mention the famous Mensaje del Ocho and Resorte de Selecta of Puerto Rico, who were both Champions in the show ring and prolific as stallions. During his show career, Mensaje del Ocho was said to have won a number of championships, among which are multiple Grand Fino Champion in Puerto Rico, Venezuela, and Colombia from 1989 to 1992 and Reserve Champion Fino Stallion in the 1991 Ponce International Championship. Mensaje's offspring have also done well competing. Of note are Mensajera de JR and Belinda dos del Ocho. Resorte de Selecta is also very well known, due to his long, successful show career that resulted in being named a Fuera de Concurso. He developed laminitis and was put down just last year. Among Resorte de Selecta's notable offspring are El Dandy, La Garantia, and the mare Reina de Selecta.

In 2003, Nevado was inducted into the Hall of Fame by the PFHA Board of Directors for his exceptional contribution to the breed. USEF named him as the 2005, 2007, and 2008 Leading Paso Fino Sire. Nevado offspring are considered to be foundation-breeding stock and are rarely seen available for sale by their notable owners. He was the first Paso Fino horse to have corporate sponsors – Triple Crown Nutrition and Southern States Co-op.

Nevado has been part of our family for 16 years. He demands attention, love, and a good looking mare every now and then. His mind is sharp, almost to a fault. Managing a stallion of this caliber is very challenging because they are driven with such force and determination. As Nevado has gotten older, his drive



Above: Nevado pictured July 2011. Photo by Sheri Lynn.



Above: Nevado getting hugs by Tina Calhoun. Photo by Gordon Calhoun.