

DRESSAGE FIVE QUESTIONS BENDER *continued from page 100*
cial support.

Sidelines: What advice would you give to an amateur looking for their first dressage horse?

HB: My advice would be to buy a horse for temperament, trainability and rideability. If you're buying a horse for yourself and not for your trainer it would be better to get a little bit less gait and a little more temperament. It will be so much more enjoyable for the rider and they will get better results than by having a big fancy horse that they have trouble riding. Horses need to be suitable for the riders.

Sidelines: What do you look for when selecting Interagro Lusitanos in Brazil for the Collection?

HB: My aim is to have horses suitable for both amateurs and professionals. The Lusitano is a very versatile horse with an excellent temperament perfectly fitting these parameters.

We have so many wonderful horses from which to pick for the Collection I can easily select a group of horses with the desirable qualities and standards for the American market and recommend their inclusion into the Collection. For example, I want horses that are seriously competitive, and this year we're bringing some horses that already have quality show results.

After working with Interagro for a number of years and meeting so many people who are so happy – amateurs and professionals who are sold on Lusitanos – it's a lot of fun. Interagro understands that their best advertising results from people being successful with their Interagro horses. For example, if an amateur rider goes home with a horse that has a strong willed personality better suited for a more experienced professional, then we lose! Interagro has quite a following and a lot of people come back to the Collection year after year.