

Our Congratulations go out to
the winner of our First Annual
Beautiful Foal Contest!



"Rosie" is shown here at one-day old with her mother Roxanne.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF
FEATHERED GOLD STABLES

Feathered Gold Irish Rose (Feathered Gold Moe x Roxanne) was one of the 11 foals born and raised at Feathered Gold Stables in the summer of 2011. This beautiful filly is the product of a breeding program that stresses correct type and temperament in addition to stunning conformation. Denise Krause, who owns Feathered Gold Stables with her husband Derek, explains, "We only breed horses that we believe will be a betterment to the breed. It's important for us that the foals we raise will grow up to be successful in their field, whether that be in the show ring, trail riding, or really whatever their owners would like them to do."

When buying a foal from Feathered Gold Stables, new owners are often pleasantly surprised with their foals' level of training and exposure. Denise tells us, "We make sure to handle our foals daily from the time they are born until they leave for their new home. We work on leading, picking up feet, clipping, and bathing, really everything that you can think of."

In addition to the daily handling and training, Denise and Derek Krause try to make the transition to the foals' new home as seamless as possible. "We really worry about them when they leave us," says Denise. "It's really important for us that the foals are ready for their new adventure. We try to expose them to as many different things as possible; we take them on walks down the road, introduce them to traffic, to dogs, anything that we can think of. We know that moving to a new home can be stressful, and we want to give our foals the tools to be able to cope with their new environment."

Everything at Feathered Gold Stables is done for the good of the horses. The weaning process is done gradually, at the needs of each mare and foal. Denise says, "We always wean the foals when they are ready, usually sometime between four and six months. We never wean before four months, but we find that some foals really benefit with a later weaning...it really all depends on their independence level." Weaning begins along a shared fence line, and then the mare is slowly moved further away from her foal until she is on the other side of the property. "We've found that this method really works well for us, the foals rarely go off of their feed and they seem to acclimate to the change well," says Denise.

There is a high demand for the limited number of foals that Feathered Gold Stables produces each year. The large majority of the foals are sold before they turn one month old. For these owners, Denise and Derek regularly send photos to the new owners until the foal is ready to travel. "It's really great," says Denise. "Each foal ends up with so many photographs of them, it's like they have their own little baby book." But don't think that the communication ends when the foal leaves their farm. Denise says, "We are there for our clients. Whether they took their new foal home a month ago or 10 years ago, we are always there for questions and are thrilled to get updates and photos as these equine "kids" grow and mature. The horses that come from our farm always have a piece of my heart."

For more information on Feathered Gold Stables, visit their website at www.FeatheredGold.com or call Denise and Derek at 715-445-5345.