

Summary CV

Dr Mariann Klaey

Dr Med Vet (Berne), MRCVS

Mariann has been involved with horses since childhood. Her family home is a studfarm and equestrian facility in Switzerland which is now managed by her sister and co-owner of Swordlestown Little, Kristin Klaey (<http://www.stallklaey.ch>).

Her father Richard had a long and successful riding career before he became the Official Starter for the Swiss Jockey Club. Mariann rode ponies and competed in her first race when she was just six years old. She took part in three day events and show jumping competitions but she always preferred racing and inherited her interest in the thoroughbred from Richard.

Mariann held an amateur licence from the age of 16, rode winners on the flat and competed in FEGENTRI races. After had completing her education in Switzerland, Mariann came to Ireland and took part in the Horse Breeding and Stud Management Course at the Irish National Stud. She furthered her stud farm experience in Gilltown Stud in Ireland and Waikato Stud in New Zealand before joining the world famous Curragh stables of Mr John Oxx on the Curragh where she still rides out. Mariann has also worked for trainers in Switzerland, France, New Zealand and Australia, notably Bart Cummings and T.J. Smith. She returned to Switzerland and was responsible for the Medication Control Program team headed by Dr Alex Atock, MRCVS in the Veterinary Department of the International Equestrian Federation (FEI).

She subsequently qualified as a veterinarian from Berne in 1995. She was awarded her Dr Med Vet degree for her thesis on poor performance in racehorses and gained her membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (London) by examination. Mariann then joined the Troytown Equine Hospital in Kildare where she was the initiator of its foal neonatal intensive care unit before founding Swordlestown Little.

She continues her special interest in foals to this day and is carrying out research into the problems of R. equi disease in foals. She also provides a clinical service for International Racehorse Transport (IRT) Plc of the UK., Australia and the USA for horses travelling long distances by air and for Janah, the transport division of Darley. She has also provided this service for runners at international racing festivals for Mr John Oxx and for Sir Michael Stoute.

Mariann says the work is all too hard, too tedious and the farm costs too much money. She is the world's greatest pessimist but don't be fooled by this as Swordlestown Little is her dream and her passion which she pursues with relentless enthusiasm and dedication!