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Splashed White Overo

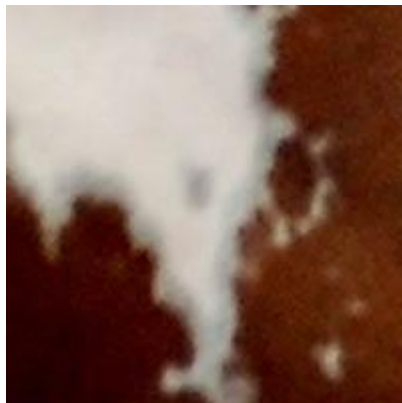
	<p>WHAT IS A SPLASHED WHITE?</p> <p>IS YOUR FOAL A SPLASHED WHITE?</p> <p>ARE ALL SPLASHED WHITE DEAF?</p> <p>HOW CAN I TELL IF MY FOAL IS DEAF?</p> <p>HOW WILL THIS AFFECT MY FOAL?</p>	
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Above: 2 pictures of Gambling Man USA

WHAT IS A SPLASHED WHITE?

Splashed White is a coat colour pattern that usually makes the horse look as though it has been dipped in a bucket of white paint. The legs are usually white, as are the bottom portions of the body. The head and tail are also usually white, and the eyes are frequently blue or blue-grey. The edges of the white are clean, like an overo pattern with a tobiano edge to the pattern, no roaning. *Some* splashed white horses are born totally deaf or with some degree of deafness - tone recognition.

OVERO



SPLASHED WHITE



TOBIANO



Australia's most recognised Splashed White Overo is Shaw's Performance Horse's Imported Reining Stallion - Son of a Gun (imp) (pictured Below)



Son of a Gun (imp) is not totally deaf although, he does have certain tone issues. He sires a high percentage of coloured foals each year. Gail Shaw of Shaw's Performance Horses, is very honest when breeding outside mares, she will inform mare owners of the *chance* their foal may either be born deaf or have some degree of hearing problems. Most owners will not be aware of their horses hearing issues as these horses develop various methods of compensating for their lack of hearing, making it difficult for owners to detect hearing issues.

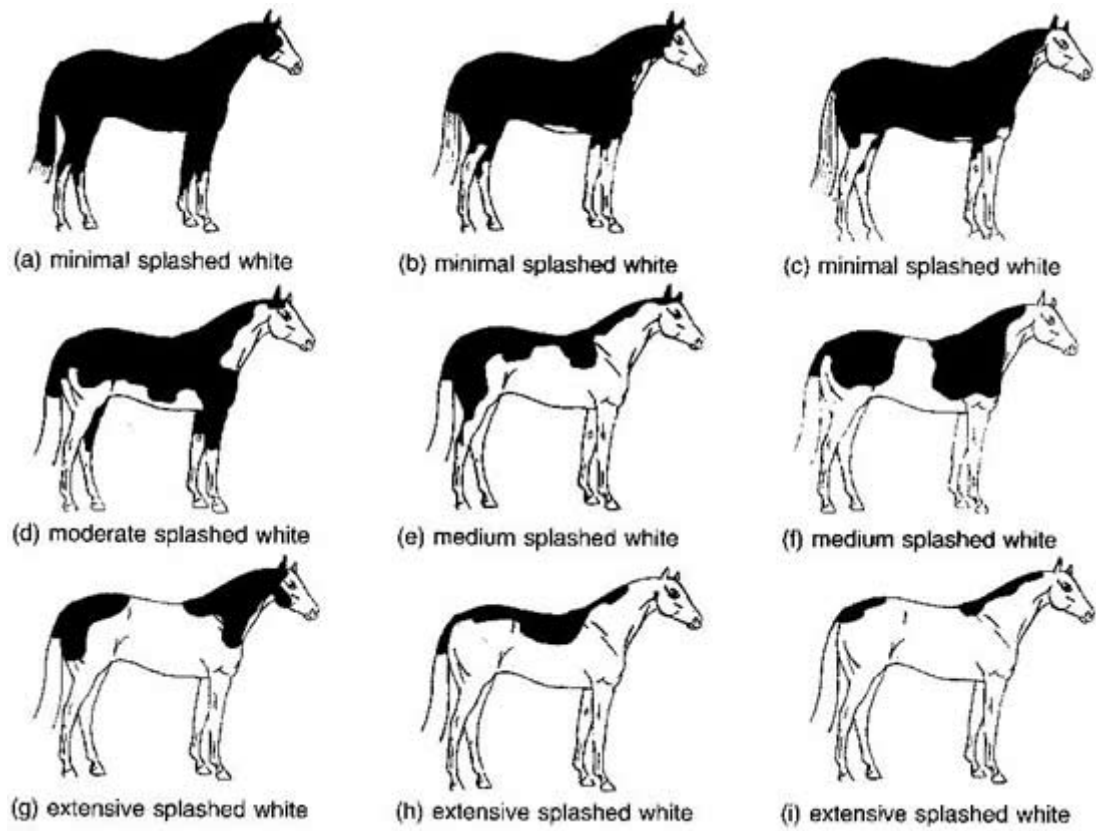
Splashed white is the least common of the overo patterns, although it is increasing in frequency as breeders use more and more splashed white horses in their breeding programs. The reason for the increased use of Splashed Whites in breeding programs is due to their high percentage for producing colour. (Son of a Gun is throwing 85% + coloured foals) Splashed Whites - produce a greater number of coloured horses than overo's, sabino's, tovero's and frame overo's. The Splashed White coat pattern is caused by a dominant gene..

Splashed Whites test OLWS N/N & CANNOT throw Lethal Whites although can throw Viable Whites. Splashed Whites can be accidentally marketed as Sabino.

Splashed white occurs sporadically in a number of widely divergent breeds, such as Quarter Horse, Paint, Thoroughbred, Appaloosa, Welsh Ponies, Icelandic horses, Miniatures etc

IS YOUR FOAL A SPLASHED WHITE?

The coat pattern of a Splashed White is very easy to recognise once you have seen one. The edge of the pattern is distinctly different to an overo. Take a look at the diagrams and pictures below and I am sure you will spot the obvious differences.



All pictures of the Splashed White foals below - supplied courtesy of SHAWS PERFORMANCE HORSES



ARE ALL SPLASHED WHITE OVEROS DEAF?

Short answer is **NO**

A small number are, most are not and some will have a varying degree of tonal deafness, This will become apparent when one day you say to yourself - 'I swear this horse has selective hearing'.....

You may ask him to move out of the way, try using only voice command or call him to come up from the paddock and he will not respond. Then another horse will whinny in a paddock on the side of the farm and the same horse may raise it's head and whinny back.

Below is a picture of a Mare - **Silk N Oak** and two foals.

Silk N Oak is by (Tennessee Ten - *C-Notes*)

The foals are two by Son of a Gun (imp) and out of Silk N Oak.

The foal on the left Silk N Gun has no hearing problems - The foal on the right Jewel N Gun is hearing impaired.



HOW CAN I TELL IF MY FOAL IS DEAF?

- Deaf foals sleep noticeably more often than hearing foals
- They have a lesser or no flight response
- Colts are not bully or rowdy
- They sometimes get a fright when you walk up from behind & touch them - even when you have been talking to them
- Do not always come when you call them - especially if they are facing away from you.

Remember that horses adapt very quickly. Deaf foals will respond in kind - when his peers get a fright and take off all of a sudden, the deaf foal will mimic their reactions - however as they grow, the deaf foal will become less inclined to react at all.

pic below - **Deaf Splashed White Colt**
This foal is not by Son of a Gun (imp)



pic courtesy of Bellreve Stud

HOW WILL THIS AFFECT MY FOAL?

Most likely than not, it won't adversely effect your foal at all. In fact deaf foals make safer riding horses purely because their flight response is all but not existent. They don't balk at or get frightened by loud, obnoxious or sudden noises. They are very trainable and there is no level of sport they can't compete successfully in.

“Son of a Gun’s” sire “Colonel SmokinGun” (aka “Gunner” pictured below) NRHA Hall of Fame, Million Dollar Sire & World Champion Reiner – is a deaf horse.



Their only handicap will be their owners’ lack of experience, diligence and willingness.