

Bayo

A bayo horse has a yellowish white color, sometimes known as isabelle. On a historical note, Isabelle, the daughter of king Phillip II of Spain (who reigned from 1556 to 1598) had sworn never to change her white blouse during the end of the Ostende siege (1601 - 1604). The siege lasted eight months and Isabelle kept her promise, at the end of which time her blouse had changed color. From an impeccable white, it had become yellowed and this color was named Isabelle. The conquistadors imported this original term for bayo to Latin America. It was widely accepted and remains current in Rio de la Plata vocabulary.

Over the course of history, all the variations of this bayo color were defined.

Sub-cat gories



Bayo blanco : a white horse with a light yellowish tint. It is the union between a blanco and a bayo.

Bayo huevo de pato (duckshell bayo) : a horse with a creamy yellow color, the color of an egg of a wild duck. Generally, the bayo huevo de pato has mane and feet of this same color.

Bayo amarillo : this is the color of an egg yolk spread out over an ivory white base. The color of this horse is almost more orange than yellow.

Bayo naranjado o naranja : this horse's color is closer to orange than yellow. The color includes around 20% yellow and 80% orange. As with all the bayo colors, it is quite common in nature.

Bayo encerado : this horse's color is darker than the previously noted ones. It is generally of one solid, uniform color. The horse has no stripes of any sort.

Bayo cebruno : also a darker colored horse, that exhibits the same base color as the bayo encerado and the gateado. However, its color is not uniform and is marked by darker brown spots, but no stripes.

Bayo ruano : of a striking allure, this bayo horse has a white mane and tail. A beautiful animal.

Bayo cabos negros : contrary to the ruano, this horse has dark mane, tail and extremities. Very well known in the Americas.

Bayo dorado : the bayo color of this remarkable horse is marked by a golden sheen.

Bayo rodado or with medallions : several regular, light colored spots mark this bayo's color.

Qualities of the bayo horse

The bayo horse is sought-after color, being fairly common in the Iberic peninsula. It most certainly comes from horses brought by the Moors when they invaded the Spanish peninsula, and was brought to the Americas thereafter. Some bayos were horses of kings, and often great warriors. They also won numerous races and enriched their proud owners.

Many stories are related to these horses, reputedly strong, resistant, intelligent and loyal. Among the many colors of horses, the bayo is often considered the best for military troops.