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Marilyn Little-Meredith Wins Arenus Performance and Conditioning Award At Pro DerbyCross at the Winter Equestrian Festival

Wellington, FL (March 17, 2011) – Grand Prix show jumper Marilyn Little-Meredith has competed on the USET Show Jumping team for the past 12 years, but during the eighth week of the 2011 FTI Winter Equestrian Festival Little-Meredith took part in her newest passion – eventing. The veteran show jumper competed the 10-year-old Dutch Warmblood mare, Udonna, and the pair were part of the winning team in the Pro DerbyCross at WEF. Thanks to Udonna’s stellar performance and level of conditioning, Little-Meredith also rode away with the Arenus Performance and Conditioning Award, and Arenus sponsored eventer and World Equestrian Games competitor Boyd Martin was on hand to present the pair with their prize.

In addition to winning the award and being on the victorious team, Little-Meredith said she was thrilled to take part in the Pro DerbyCross with other eventers. “I started competing in the International Ring at WEF when I was doing the junior jumpers,” she said. “So to be galloping in the arena with a group of eventers was really neat. It was a different crowd of people but you still felt that great atmosphere that you get in this ring.”

Little-Meredith said Udonna, who was originally imported as a show jumper, has taken to eventing with great ease. “I truly think she is a phenomenal eventer and she loves it. She has made the transition easily,” Little-Meredith said. “Good horses make good riders and my goal is to take eventing as far as I can go.”

Little-Meredith and Udonna, owned by Raylyn Farms and Team Udonna, have already earned ribbons in the eventing world, where they are working with Olympic eventers David and Karen O'Connor. "The dressage phase has been the biggest challenge so far," Little-Meredith said, adding that she was pleased to win the Arenus Performance and Conditioning Award and looks forward to trying the Arenus products.

Melissa Bennington, an Arenus Sales Specialist for the Northeast, congratulated Little-Meredith and Udonna on winning the Arenus Performance and Conditioning Award. "Udonna is in fabulous condition which helps her excel whether she is in the show ring or on the cross country course," she said. "The DerbyCross was a great experience and I had a great time watching Udonna's zest for galloping across the field. It was also a great time to catch up with eventer Boyd Martin, who is an Arenus Ambassador and relies on Arenus products for his horses. Boyd hosted the DerbyCross and he is an amazing spokesman for eventing and Arenus."

As the recipient of the Arenus Performance and Conditioning Award, Little-Meredith won a gift certificate for Arenus products. "Show jumpers as well as eventing horses are really benefiting from the Arenus product Steadfast[®] Equine from our joint & soft tissue health supplement line," Bennington said. "If Marilyn has horses that come out stiff or sore then I recommend Steadfast[®] because it is specifically designed to provide total structural support, including healthy joints, bones, tendons, and ligaments, and is designed for horses with a high-demand lifestyle. Eventing horses like Udonna would also benefit from Aleira[®], a respiratory and immune support product from Arenus. Combining an all-vegetarian source of DHA with Vitamin C and an organic mushroom blend, Aleira[®] supports healthy respiratory function and provides protection from dust, mold, and air pollution. In high demand sports like eventing, a healthy respiratory system is vital for a horse's overall health and with Aleira[®] both you and your horse can breathe easy."

The Arenus product of families also includes the Equilite[™] herbal blends, and Releira[™] contains omega-3 fatty acids and other nutrients to support normal reproductive function.

The Arenus Performance and Conditioning Award is sponsored by Arenus, a premier provider of innovative health and nutrition products for pets and horses, and is given to one horse during the show whose conditioning enhances its performance. To learn more about Arenus products, visit www.arenus.com.

About Arenus

Arenus is a premier provider of innovative health and nutrition products for pets and horses. Arenus is a growing division within Novus Nutrition Brands, a global company dedicated to Health and Nutrition Through Science™. To learn more about Arenus products, or find an Arenus event near you, call (866) 791-3344 or visit www.arenus.com.

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Photo: Marilyn Little-Meredith and Udonna won the Arenus Performance and Conditioning Award during the Pro DerbyCross at the 2011 FTI Winter Equestrian Festival. The award is sponsored by Arenus, a premier provider of innovative health and nutrition products for pets and horses. Little-Meredith is joined by Arenus representative Melissa Bennington, Elissa Baertschi, Stacey Small, and Pro DerbyCross host Boyd Martin, a World Equestrian Games eventer and Arenus Ambassador. (Photo courtesy of JRPR—no photo credit necessary)