

SUMMARY

This study aimed to describe the body conformations of the Arabian and Thoroughbred horses with morphometric method, and to determine conformational differences between these breeds in details.

To do these, a total of 100 photos were taken from 50 Arabian and 50 Thoroughbred horses in standard positions. These photos were calibrated on computer and angle and length values were measured. Gathered data were used to investigate the sex-dependent differences within the same breed and differences between Arabian and Thoroughbred horses.

Statistical differences between body conformations of the Arabian and Thoroughbred horses related to pastern angle, all head angles, almost all angles in hind limb and some length measures were found.

In conclusion, these findings could be helpful in selection of horses with appropriate body conformations. In addition, these findings could also be helpful for experts who have to determine whether any given Arabian and Thoroughbred horse is purebred or not.

Key Words: Arabian horse, conformation, morphometry, thoroughbred horse.