

A GREAT ENDING TO A HORRIBLE SITUATION

By Karla Sibert, IERAL

As many of you who follow our articles in *Apples n Oats* know IERAL has worked with an on-going neglect/abuse situation in western Iowa for over two years. We now have GOOD news to share... There were three horses rescued by IERAL from that western Iowa location in mid-February, 2008 - two older Spanish Arabian mares and one yearling mare. The yearling has a new home in Iowa, while the two older mares have since been rehabilitated and made a successful trip "home" to New Mexico, to their original home and owner. Those two mares left exactly 60 days after the date that IERAL rescued them. THANK GOODNESS the owner sought IERAL out to find her horses! She paid over \$1500.00 to transport her horses home.

"We are delighted to have them home and still fight back tears, knowing what these two mares have been through for the past several years of neglect/abuse. They have adapted well, and we are grateful to IERAL and their hard work in making this entire situation come to an excellent ending, God Bless you and your organization, in helping us find and bring Hermosa and Mariposa home!" Char...

The person in possession of these horses abandoned 16 horses and then fled the state to Missouri around February 15th, 2008. The owner of the land came back to Iowa to find that the 16 horses had been abandoned on his property. He immediately called IERAL and asked for our assistance. We, along with Harrison County law enforcement tried to capture as many horses as possible that day. Three were all that IERAL could transport back to Eastern Iowa. Hermosa, Mariposa, and Bruja, (now named Sasaki) were extremely emaciated, wormy, and in need of groceries and medical attention. The others were left behind for the sheriff to decide what to with them.

IERAL contacted the Arabian Horse Association (AHA), to transfer ownership to IERAL within a week of the rescue.

We discovered that the previous neglectful owner had pronounced Hermosa "dead on February 15th, 2008." IERAL had to prove to AHA that Hermosa was ALIVE by pulling DNA and sending it



ABOVE: Hermosa and Mariposa when first discovered on the Iowa farmstead.

Hermosa's blanket was found half on and half off. Mariposa's halter was embedded in her face.

BELOW: Hermosa and Mariposa the day they left Iowa

After their rescue, the horses' collective weight gain was over 300 lbs, but you could still see ribs on Hermosa!



in for testing at UC Davis, California. Once that was completed, UC Davis sent the DNA results to AHA, and Hermosa was "reborn."

Mariposa was never owned by the person who had neglected her for the past several years, so papers were not ever in her name.

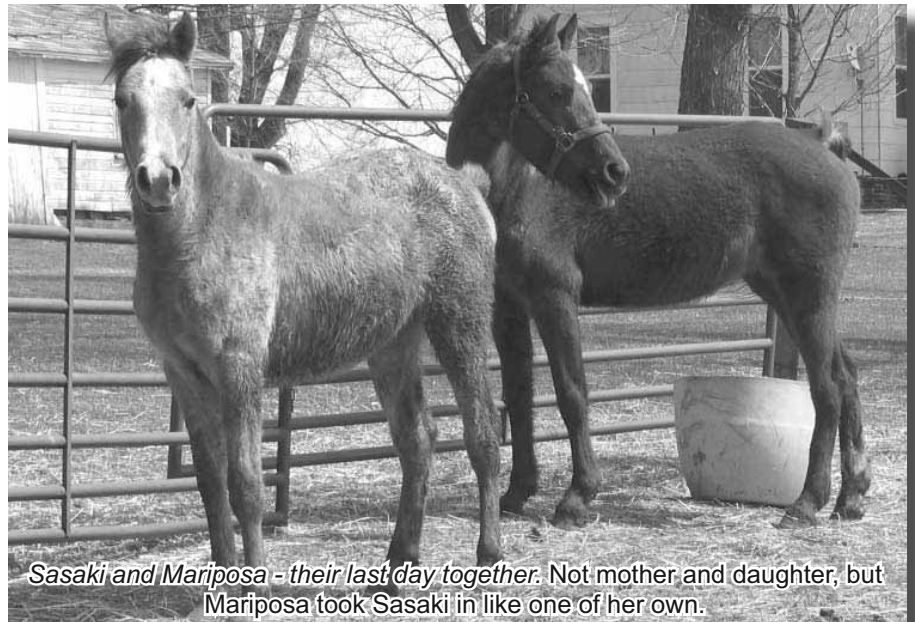
The yearlings (Brujas) "pending registration" was dropped on February 15th as well. The filly was reinstated under IERAL, and given a new name as well (Sasaki). The filly has been adopted and will reside in Iowa. The other two mares, Hermosa and Mariposa, will live the rest of their lives "just being horses" in New Mexico.

This just goes to prove that once again, those who chose to break the law have no boundaries. They will lie, cheat, and try to work the system for their own benefit. We are extremely pleased at the outcome of these three mares. We just pray that Missouri officials, as well as any another individual and groups that removed the remaining horses from the Iowa land have the same outcome as IERAL has had with these!

Karla Sibert
President of IERAL

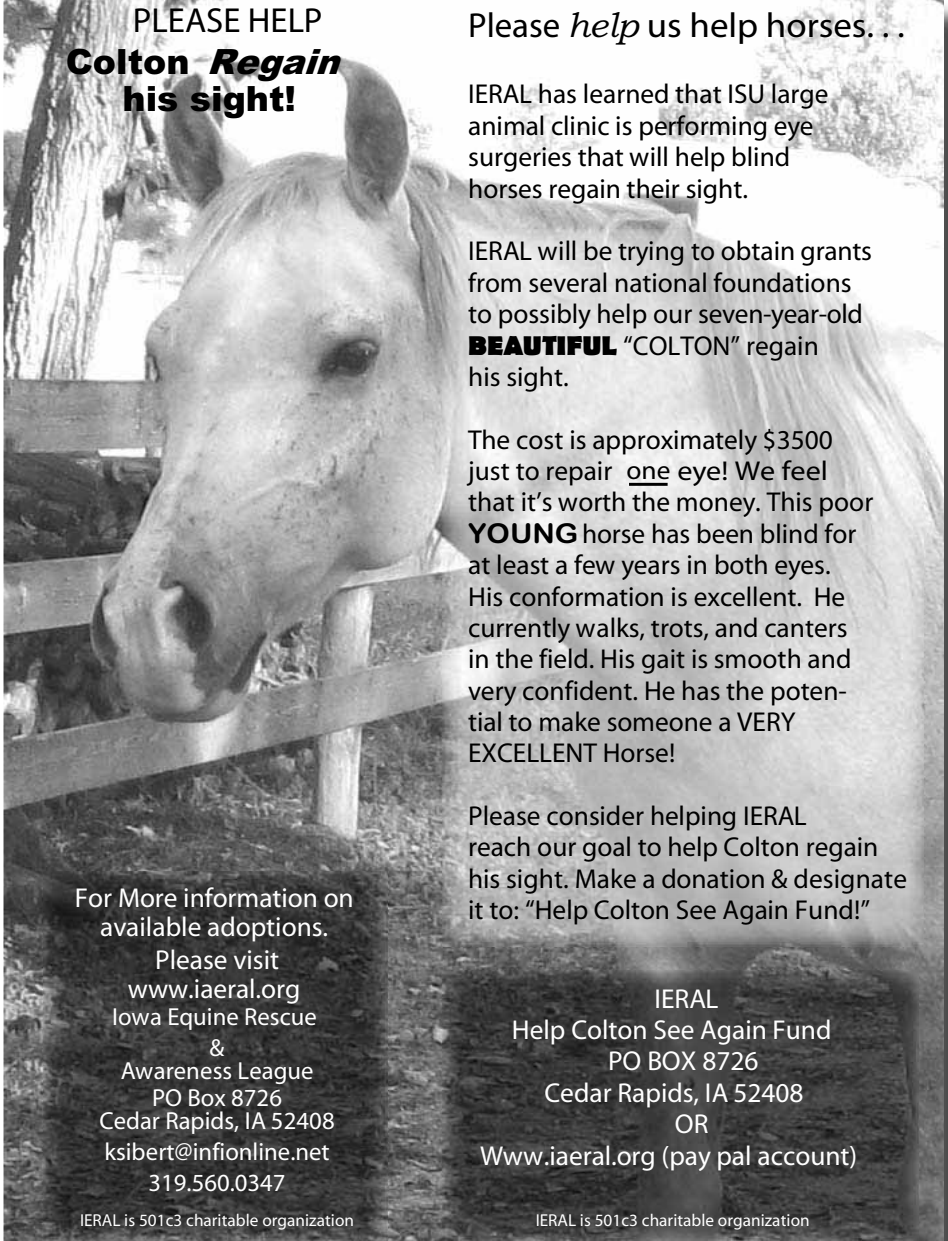


ABOVE: Mariposa Halter photo
When the embedded halter was removed from Mariposa, hide and flesh came off with it.



Sasaki and Mariposa - their last day together. Not mother and daughter, but Mariposa took Sasaki in like one of her own.

**PLEASE HELP
Colton *Regain*
his sight!**



For More information on available adoptions.
Please visit
www.iaeral.org
Iowa Equine Rescue
&
Awareness League
PO Box 8726
Cedar Rapids, IA 52408
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319.560.0347

IERAL is 501c3 charitable organization

Please *help* us help horses. . .

IERAL has learned that ISU large animal clinic is performing eye surgeries that will help blind horses regain their sight.

IERAL will be trying to obtain grants from several national foundations to possibly help our seven-year-old **BEAUTIFUL** "COLTON" regain his sight.

The cost is approximately \$3500 just to repair one eye! We feel that it's worth the money. This poor **YOUNG** horse has been blind for at least a few years in both eyes. His conformation is excellent. He currently walks, trots, and canters in the field. His gait is smooth and very confident. He has the potential to make someone a VERY EXCELLENT Horse!

Please consider helping IERAL reach our goal to help Colton regain his sight. Make a donation & designate it to: "Help Colton See Again Fund!"

IERAL
Help Colton See Again Fund
PO BOX 8726
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OR
www.iaeral.org (pay pal account)

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