

The semi – wild horses in Greece

John Menegatos DVM PhD

Associ.Professor

Agricultural University of Athens

The semi-wild horses in Greece belong to Pindos breed (1.25-1.35m height). There is a slight difference in the size of these horses. Horses which live near rivers where there is plenty of food all around the year, are a little bit taller than the horses living on the mountains.

Most of these horses come from the abandoned ones during the civil war 1944-49 and some other from the immigration of people to foreign countries. On the other hand tractors and new methods in agriculture made their presence in the villagers useless. Town councils as well as individuals who adore horses take care of them.

Locations of semi-wild horses in Greece

Green arrow indicates location of Ainos pony

Purple arrow indicates location of Delta of Acheloos river

Red arrow indicates location of Amphilochia and Agrinio

White arrow indicates location of Pagaio mountain (Drama)

Blue arrow indicates location of Kalama region near Igoumenitsa

Yellow arrow indicates location of Axios and Aliakmon rivers near Thessaloniki

Black arrow indicates location of Delta of Evros river



- Mountain Ainos (1628m) in island of Cephalonia, about 25 horses (7 mares and 18 stallions).
- Delta of Acheloos river, about 40 horses.
- Mountainous region between cities of Amphilochia and Agrinio, about 200 horses.
- Pagaio mountain near city of Drama, about 400 horses.
- Delta of Kalama river near Igoumenitsa city, about 30 horses.
- Delta Axios and Aliakmon rivers near Thessaloniki, about 30 horses
- Delta Evros river, about 30 horses.



Looking at us in front of the top of mountain Ainos (1628m height) on the island of Cephalonia. The mountain is covered by the unique black pine tree (*Apies cephallonica*)



Trotting on the banks of Acheloos river.



Semi-wild horses of Acheloos river



Greek indigenous shorthorn cattle live together with horses in the Delta of Acheloos river.



Galloping in Pagaio mountain

Thank you for your attention!