

WAIKATO BREEDERS'

BLOODLINE



New Zealand Bloodstock *Breeders'* *Stakes Day*



Dane Julia returning to scale after her Breeders' Stakes win

PHOTO BY JENNY KAIN

New Zealand Bloodstock Breeders' Day at Te Aroha in early April was once again a great success, even if a South African bred mare trained by an Australian did win the feature race. **Kathy Graham** reports

But Dane Julia couldn't be denied her class, taking out the Group One New Zealand Bloodstock Breeders' Stakes in fine style and reminding us in coming all the way to New Zealand that the race is a highlight of the race calendar for filly and mare owners.

A good sized crowd enjoyed the hospitality on offer in the Waikato Breeders' trackside marquee with one of the highlights of the day being the opportunity to win a free service. This year The Oaks Stud kindly donated a service to their new stallion Sakhee's Secret. We would again like to thank the Oaks Stud and The Sahkee's Syndicate for their generosity.

Well known and long time Waikato breeder and owner, Jeanette Broome, was the lucky winner of the service. Although Jeanette hadn't drawn winner Dane Julia, the person who had was unfortunately not on course. Therefore, as determined by the rules, Jeanette, who had drawn the second horse, Shanzero, was awarded the prize.

Jeanette has been a staunch supporter of the NZTBA, having previously served on the Waikato committee for some 20 years. The breeder of 1998 Melbourne Cup winner, Jezabeel and 1991 Aintree Grand National winner, Seagram, Jeanette was also

named the BMW New Zealand Breeder of the Year in 1991.

Jeanette says she hasn't decided which mare she will send to Sahkee's Secret but has asked The Oaks Stud General Manager Rick Williams to assist in the decision.

Jeanette has written an account of her memorable day with one of the highlights being her foray into the Fashion in the Field competition. See inside for Jeanette's account of her superb day at the races.

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Waikato Stud Australasia's leading G1 Stud



Registered publication •

Waikato Branch New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Incorporated



President's report

Nicholas King – President
Waikato Branch of NZ Thoroughbred Breeders' Association

As we enter the winter months, we can look back on what has been a challenging year so far. But what has come through in recent months and the recent breeding stock sale was no exception, is that our industry in New Zealand has stood up well in what are tough economic times.

Obviously the main part of the May Sale was very tough but did have a good clearance rate meaning there were at least buyers available and they have purchased stock at very good prices, creating a chance for a profit down the line. The clearance rate was also very good with the weanlings but what was most pleasing was the strong presence of pin-hookers and end users who brought strongly through the day and a half of weanlings. This meant that good quality weanlings had competition on them in the ring and showed confidence in both the product and our markets.

Our branch will have a busy time in the next few months with the NZTBA Annual General Meeting in June, Cathay Pacific Group One Awards in July and our Stallion Parade at the end of August – all key days on our calendar and we look forward to seeing our members at these up-coming events.

welcome

new members

Kirsty Sue Brown	Tracey Flooks	Michael Nooyen
Casey Dando Bloodstock Ltd	Terlen Grove	Michael Wallace
Dale and Sheryl Ertel	Toia Milner-Hicks	
Natalie Fitzgerald	Elizabeth and Philip Johnston	

dates to remember

- **31 July 2009** Cathay Pacific Group One Awards Dinner
- **29/30 August 2009** Waikato Branch Stallion Weekend
- **18 June 2009** NZTBA AGM Novotel Ellerslie 4:00pm

condolences

The Waikato Branch would like to extend its deepest sympathy to Mags and Luke Redwood on the recent death of Mag's mother. Mags and Luke, currently at Dormello Stud are known to many in the industry and our thoughts are with them and their family at this sad time.

cathay pacific group one awards dinner

Awards dinner hosted by the Waikato Branch of the NZTBA
Friday 31 July, 6:30pm onwards. Kingsgate Hotel, Te Rapa, Hamilton
Tickets on sale from 1 July.
Contact Justine Sclater 027 629 7055 just.dave@xtra.co.nz



CATHAY PACIFIC

what's hot

- Easy to open feed bags
- Brisbane
- Waikato Stud
- Jenny Kain's photography

what's not

- Non-recyclable feed bags (move with the times)
- Watering of racetracks
- Jump Racing in Oz
- Price of hay
- Better filly or mare weight allowances in rating races

Editorial team Kathy Graham, Nick King, Justine Sclater, Arthur Payze, Jo Griffin, Jeremy Rogers

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Mike Kneebone to Singapore

Waikato's rock music fans can breathe easy. Lead singer of the legendary Smelly Rock Band, Mike Kneebone may be leaving the green green grass of Cambridge for the bright city lights of Singapore, but he has promised to hook up with the band on his visits back to these fair shores. Kathy Graham reports

Mike, a well-known face to many through his long standing involvement with both the Waikato Thoroughbred Breeders' and New Zealand Bloodstock, is heading to Singapore in June where New Zealand Bloodstock are opening an office to cater for their existing clients throughout Asia as well as looking into developing new markets.

"I am looking forward to the change and the challenge," Mike said. "It will be a great experience for the whole family, but it is also huge for the New Zealand Thoroughbred industry."

Mike says in opening the office, NZ Bloodstock have "outlined clearly their commitment to the industry and the forward thinking they have shown is remarkable in the current times."

Mike will be sorely missed in many roles, but none more so than that of MC for the Waikato Breeders Group One Dinner, a role he has played for a remarkable 17 years.

Having MC'd at many functions including high profile charity events, the Group One dinner is his favourite he says. "It is the best function of the year for breeders," he says. "They are totally relaxed and everyone genuinely celebrates each others successes. I love the way many of the studs and businesses bring along their staff for



Mike Kneebone

the dinner and the sponsors love it too. It is the closest thing to a family function you will get, it's a lot of fun." Mike remembers how Phil Leishman had the job prior to him. "They got Phil Leishman to do the job at Te Rapa before me, but he was expensive and my price was just right. I have charged the same since I started, although nowadays I get two bottles of wine!"

In his new role Mike will be looking to build on the already strong market in Hong Kong and Singapore. "We already have a strong presence in Hong Kong where John Cameron is held in very high regard, but places like Korea and China are on the radar, it would be fantastic

to find a market for our young fillies, that's high on my list."

The Waikato Branch would like to sincerely extend their best wishes to Mike and Adele and children Nick (11), Brianna (8) and Sam (5) as they embark on what will no doubt be something of an adventure.

Fans of the Smelly Rock Band (so named apparently in a play of words on the Maori translation of Karapiro (foul smelling rocks!) will just have to keep an eye out for Mike's return. "We intend to get together when time allows," he says. "We have a lot of fun... but I won't be giving up my day job, that's for sure!"

Mike can still be contacted on the same e-mail of mike.kneebone@nzb.co.nz

The Waikato Branch of the NZTBA would like to thank Mike for the time and effort he has put into the committee and the Group One Awards Dinner over the years. A certain secretary will miss his organisational skills and 'she'll be right' attitude. His ability to pull the night together from his notes on a piece of scrap paper never failed to amaze. Mike may you continue to wear that gold suit (you didn't cut the mustard) and drink "Mills Weef" wine and hopefully you can convince Cathay Pacific that is would be a good idea to sponsor a trip home to continue your MC roll.

Waikato Branch Stud Groom Course lecture dates

Anyone who is interested in attending these lectures with our students are more than welcome please phone Sally Waters 07 823 1595 or 0274 942 850 for more details.

Year One

Monday 8 June: DKO. Nature of horses, Leigh Wills

Thursday 18 June: Block course, Tractor course.

Commence 9am - 4pm

Year Two

Thursday 11 June: DKO, Educating Horses, Leigh Wills

Tuesday 30 June: Kim Hughes - farrier

Wednesday 22 July: Tony Smith, IRT - airfreighting horses

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BH

Winter Mixed Bloodstock Sale
2 August 2009
Entries Closes: 5 June

South Island Sale
7 August 2009
Entries Closes: 27 May

Ready to Run Sale of 2YO's
17 & 18 November 2009 – Karaka

2010 National Yearling Sales Series
1-8 February 2010
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Food for thought old mares are for life

Earlier this month United Kingdom based bloodstock agent and frequent visitor to New Zealand sales, Grant Pritchard-Gordon made his thoughts known on the sale of older mares. Mr Pritchard-Gordon says the issue is one that is very dear to him and he is keen for the subject to be debated as widely as possible. This is his view on the subject. **Grant Pritchard-Gordon**

If a mare of eighteen years or more is still resident on your farm, then you will know that these aged ladies can be extremely rewarding. The very fact that they have reached this old age suggests that they have already produced good winners, so will have stolen a piece of your heart along the way. Attending to their likes and dislikes, quirky habits, physical imperfections and veterinary requirements is part of the everyday tapestry of the stud's daily routine. The thought of abuse to such matrons should be abhorrent to you. While many countries have initiated some excellent programmes for the "Retraining of Racehorses", there is another area of industry welfare that deserves serious attention from you and breeders of every nation.

In times of recession, there is more likelihood of financial duress for breeders, the consequences of which may necessitate the selling of additional breeding assets at auction to raise much needed funds.

One category of breeding stock that is now more likely to be considered for sale are the "aged mares" that in better times were more likely to be pensioned off to a quiet corner of the farm. It is a little known fact that few auction companies around the world have age restrictions on lots to be catalogued. They all purport to make endeavours to ensure that all horses through their sales rings are in appropriate condition to endure the stress of the auction process. However, is that enough? There is a strong groundswell of opinion that a worldwide age limit for mares should be imposed

immediately by auctioneers.

We need to keep that wave moving. We need to persuade all auction houses that lack of a recognised age limit could result in old mares suffering untold stress while being shipped to and from sales (sometimes a matter of days rather than hours) as well as enduring the actual proceedings of the sale itself. By the very nature of auctions, the eventual destination of an aged mare cannot be guaranteed... nor the extra standards of care required for an aged mare.

I have been prompted to write this message in response to witnessing the inclusion in the "Australian Easter Broodmare Sale" held by WM Inglis on April 14-16 last month of two aged barren mares. Lot 111 was a 22-year-old mare who had been barren for two years. Lot 134 was a 20-year-old mare who had also been barren for two years. And this was the SELECT sale!

The relevant question is to define an "aged mare". A clause from the wording of the current Keeneland Entry form gives a pertinent starting point, but not the full protection that I would like to see. "Broodmares which are 18 years old, or older, and which are presently not in foal, will not be accepted for this sale. Broodmares which have not been in foal for three consecutive years, including the present year, will not be accepted for this sale."

We must all be focused on the need to educate breeders on the adage that "Old Mares Are For Life". An imposed age limit for auction sales would concentrate

the minds of breeders who are not prepared to spend the additional time and money on the welfare of their aged mares.

At the stroke of a pen, their mares would move from being tradeable commodities to a welfare liability. These people need to know their responsibilities. And often this entails making difficult decisions about dignity, life and death.

The British TBA representatives have agreed to raise this matter at the International Breeders Meeting in Paris in mid May.

It is hoped that they will promote global awareness of the problem.

The next target must be to get the message over to the auction houses of the world.

Tattersalls have been persuaded to raise this matter with SITA at their next meeting in mid June.

However, the only way to get a meaningful response from this forum of auctioneers would be to have a strong message in place for them to consider. The International Breeders may deliver such a message. Even better would be for any Australian auctioneer to go to that meeting with an awareness of the depth of feeling amongst breeders on this matter.

I therefore urge you to make known your opinions to any Inglis or Magic Millions directors as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time in reading this.

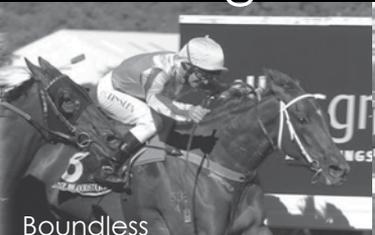
Footnote: we asked NZ Bloodstock what their policy is on the sale of older mares. They advised that recently they have reviewed their policy in relation to sales entries and being effective immediately NZ Bloodstock will no longer accept any entries for broodmares aged 20 years or older that are not in foal.



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congratulations bred stakes winners March - May

group one

Daffodil - AJC Australian Oaks; No Excuse Needed - Spring; GJ & MJ Chittick

Fiumicino - STC The BMW; Zabeel - Latte; GW DeGruchy & Sir Patrick & Lady Hogan

Markus Maximus - WATC Western Australian Derby; Pentire - Shaftly Lady; Waikato Stud 2001 Ltd

Metal Bender - STC Roshill Guineas; Danasinga - Jacqwin; Waikato Stud 2001 Ltd

Vision And Power - STC George Ryder Stakes; Carnegie - Escada; GJ Chittick

Group Two

Bird Of Fire - SAJC Queen Of The South Stakes
Stravinsky - You Beauty; A & Mrs BC Smith

Divine Rebel - AJC Chairman's Handicap; Don Eduardo - It's My Sin; GM Bell, Mrs SM Hare, JF Marks & JS Nuttall

Fulmonti - GCTC Hollindale Cup; Montjeu - Grosvenor's Pride; PA Smithies

Harris Tweed - STC Tulloch Stakes; Montjeu - Sally; PHP Bayly

More Joyous - STC Reising Stakes; More Than Ready - Sunday Joy; Strawberry Hill Stud

My Astron - BOP RC Japan NZ International; Trophy; My Halo - Salute; CW Sturt

Veloce Bella - Cambridge JC Travis Stakes; Volksraad - Wave To Lottie; Mrs MA Hardy

Group Three

Ballack - BTC Chairman's Handicap; Montjeu - Trepina; Windsor Park Stud Ltd

Geeza - Cambridge JC Breeders Stakes; Ishiguru - Blazing Bridles; CJ & JW Campin & MW Fraser-Campin

Miss Maren - MRC Easter Cup; Stravinsky - Deebee Lady; DA & Mrs NH Bell

Princess Pulse - SAJC Auraria Stakes; King Of Kings - Surprise Offer; CO Scott

Listed

Bird - NZB Warstep Stakes; Danasinga - Quiescent; MJ Chittick

Centennial Park - STC Darby Munro Stakes; Thorn Park - Trepina; Windsor Park Stud Ltd

Del Toro - CJC Great Easter Stakes; Deputy Governor - Phantom's Lady; JW Campin

Divine Rebel - STC Epona Stakes; Don Eduardo - It's My Sin; GM Bell, Mrs SM Hare, JF Marks & JS Nuttall

Joey Massino - ARC Champagne Stakes; O'Reilly - Rationable; Waikato Stud 2001 Ltd

Juice - Rotorua Stakes; Bertolini - Call Minder; JF Marks

Kroner - AJC Hall Mark Stakes; Viking Ruler - Monroe Magic; Whakanui Stud Ltd

Scarlet Vanhara - NZB Air Freight Stakes; Van Nistelrooy - Fiddle De De; Trelawney Stud

Tiger King - Macau Derby Trial; Colombia - Bay D'Ore; Mrs JP Scott

The Centaine award update

For racing up to and including Saturday, 23 2009

Zabeel	\$11,708,540	Danasinga	\$4,834,951
O'Reilly	\$11,468,381	Volksraad	\$4,479,163
Montjeu	\$6,674,717	Shinko King	\$4,341,548
Stravinsky	\$6,562,724	Pins	\$4,294,607
Pentire	\$4,861,745	Cape Cross	\$3,495,741

Criteria: The sire whose NZ-conceived progeny for the season under review has accumulated the highest stakes earnings worldwide.

Grosvenor award update

For racing up to and including Saturday, 23 2009

Stallion	NZ earnings	Best performer
Volksraad	\$2,061,155	Sir Slick - \$245,500
Pentire	\$1,517,516	Mufhasa - \$992,437
Pins	1,437,5036	Megapins - \$282,350
Scenic	\$1,411,125	Coniston Bluebrid - \$1,309,500
Encosta De Lago	\$1,404,536	Princess Coup - \$1,296,000
O'Reilly	\$1,265,728	MacO'Reilly - \$389,440
Montjeu	\$1,104,889	Mr Topsy - \$263,925
Tale of the Cat	\$1,062,772	Tell A Tale - \$994,550
Van Nistelrooy	\$977,658	Ruud Van Slaats - \$280,875
Golan	\$792,590	Sarge in Charge - \$170,000

Criteria: The sire whose progeny has accumulated the highest combined stakes earnings in New Zealand for the season under review.

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- Sales preparation
- Colt agistment
- Mare agistment
- Racehorse agistment/stabled
- Injury care

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www.timberleethoroughbreds.com

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Fertco diary

Arthur Payze BSc – Fertco Consultant Waikato

If you have sown down new grass this autumn either by fully spraying out and cultivating a paddock or just drilling into the existing sward an application of fertiliser containing phosphate and nitrogen three weeks after germination will greatly improve the initial growth and vigour of the young grass and clover plants.

If you have applied a base dressing or your annual fertiliser prior to sowing then 60-100 kgs/ha of urea should be sufficient to improve growth and tiller numbers giving a denser sward with less gaps for weeds to fill. Those new or improved pastures should be ready for a light grazing as soon as you can grab a handful of grass and break it off without the roots pulling out.



... lack of sufficient sunlight for photosynthesis to occur fast enough to convert nitrate to proteins in the plant"

Be aware however that rapidly growing new grass, especially annuals (or brassica crops) can have very high nitrate levels and stock eating this pasture may get nitrate poisoning.

Every year around The National Fielddays week animals are lost from nitrate poisoning because there is a change in the weather from fine and clear to dull and overcast conditions. As a result there is a temporary lack of sufficient sunlight for photosynthesis to occur fast enough to convert nitrate to proteins in the plant. When animals eat this high nitrate grass their blood is unable to carry sufficient oxygen and they get sleepy and often sit down and don't wake up. Keep an eye on the weather; if you are about to graze a paddock of annuals and the weather is dull (especially after a period of good growth) then grab a sample and get it tested for peace of mind. If the results show elevated levels of nitrate then feed the animals some hay or silage first and introduce them to the new grass slowly, keeping an eye on them or wait until there have been several clear sunny days and re-test.

The winter is a good time to get your soil testing done and have a chat to your local Fertco consultant over some tea and scones so give us a call on 0800 337 826.

A birthday at the races

New Zealand Bloodstock Breeder's Stakes Day at Te Aroha – Friday night saw me pondering what to wear. My hair really needed a blow wave but my darling daughter and long time hair dresser, had been so busy with her merchandising job that I was reluctant to contact her and so decided to... just wear a hat instead. Jeanette Broome

Saturday dawned a lovely day and I reached for the outfit I'd worn to my grandson's wedding last year (on that occasion, minus the hat). Consult the hat cupboard in search of a suitable black hat. The only one, had red flowers (one of which was missing). Not on! The next was miles too big and elaborate. No, not on! Then next, one I'd had made especially to go with that Thai silk suit I'd worn a few times some six years ago. Too old! Can't wear that! Probably won't fit anyway. In desperation, I climb into the suit. Yes, it still fits! OK! That's it then. Get the face on, although the pancake make-up is almost finished and barely enough there to cover all the blemishes. Need the magnifying mirror to make sure there is no clogging of bronze tint on one side and not the other. God it's awful being half blind! Now to get Tessa (my dog) ensconced in my car. (She is, for some reason, happy to stay home as long as she is in the car).

We are travelling in Moss' car which I almost need a mounting block to get into. My skirt is so narrow that I have to hitch it up past my hips in order to get in. Down the drive – damn – I have to get out and open the gate. More hitching and rearranging and we are at last under way. Arriving late on course, I try to walk in with as much grace and elegance as I can muster in my over-tight skirt and high heeled "David Elmans" (also five or six years old) to the FLAIR designated area where there is thankfully a table and chairs. Maureen offered to get me, my glass of complimentary bubbly, but it seemed they'd run out. But, within five minutes Mark Baker (committee man) arrived with a complimentary bottle of Sauv for me! I am then presented with lovely flowers, wine and a birthday card from The Girls – also a gift from Gaye and Malcolm. A glass or two more wine!! Then Trish and Barbara arrived with a birthday cake the size of a

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hasn't got any... period!

I am greeted by the young radio guys, none of whom are much older than my grandsons. There's a fourth guy, with a fashionable four day growth, directing proceedings as no one really seemed to be sure what to do. I need not have worried about being there, as it seemed that you simply picked a number out of the hat, which corresponded to a horse in the next race. If the horse wins, you win!!

A quick glance at the semaphore

board tells me my horse, like me, is an outsider. For some reason, they seem to be an entrant short and there is a spare number so, as it's my birthday, they give me a second chance. BINGO! The horse runs second and that, girls, is how I got runner-up in the Fashions in the Field. I won a bottle of wine and some lovely hair products from Robyn's Hairstyles in Morrinsville.

breakfast cup, beautifully covered with chocolate icing, pink flowers and 70 years inscribed on the top plus three candles. So kind and much appreciated.

It's not long before Andre Neill arrives with microphone and cameras, so before long, all in sundry on course (and off-course I hear) know it's my 73rd birthday. From then on, I am inundated with kisses and hugs from all my many, many friends. The hat takes a bit of a hammering and gets knocked askew with every second kiss. I am tempted to remove it but needless to say the hair must now look even worse than when my day started. Next thing, two or three young people from MORE FM Radio arrive – no doubt attracted by the kingfisher blue outfit, and urge me to enter the Fashions in the Field. NO... WAY!! You've got to be joking!! But... somehow I find myself committed to turning up at their gazebo at 2:20pm. I am ably escorted by Moss and Barbara to the appointed place and all the while overwhelmed by visions of a bevy of young things in skimpy dresses, long blonde hair, all boobs and cleavages, yards of beautifully tanned legs, strappy stilettos and painted toenails (and none belonging to me!) I'm ready to bolt at this stage. Have you noticed how boobs are definitely IN (or OUT!) at the moment? And guess who hasn't got any on show... make that...

Next on the racing agenda, is the Sweepstake draw for the Group One Feature with first prize being a free service to the new stallion at The Oaks – "SAKHEE'S SECRET" (service fee \$15,000). Well, the announcer goes through the draw and comes to the last runner which is the favourite "SHANZERO" and a sure bet... the birthday girl has drawn her! As the runners passed the post, she was second, beaten a neck. But from where we were situated she appeared to be in front. I was feeling a bit faint but not disappointed as I was having a great day anyway. I found out half an hour later that there was a second prize and I received a lovely bunch of flowers, a Racing Annual, a free foaling (courtesy of Seaton Park)... AND... another bottle of wine!

Time to totter off home. But first I needed to borrow Pam's carry-all bag to put all the "loot" and flowers in. Moss somehow managed to survive the booze block on

the main road and we arrived home safely. We were met in the driveway by my tenant holding a parcel of snapper already filleted and just caught that afternoon.

I did not fare too well with my punting and did not have a collect all day but came home much, much richer from all the love and kind wishes received throughout the day.

The last thing to do, was to light the three candles on my tiny birthday cake. This will be a piece of cake (excuse the pun) says I. Would you believe it? The first two went straight out but the third flame went horizontal and refused to go out! Oh well, you can't win them all!

The video of El Nadia's win on Thursday, had arrived in the letter box, so I poured yet another glass of wine, kicked off the "David Elman's" and settled down to watch and relive that wonderful win. What better way to end a perfect 73rd birthday... STOP PRESS!! STOP PRESS!! STOP PRESS!! BUT WAIT THERE'S MORE!

There is a twist in this tale (excuse the pun again). The gentleman who drew the winning horse "DANE JULIA" in the sweepstake was not on course on the day which makes him ineligible to collect the prize!! The Waikato Branch of the NZTBA works very hard to put on this day and get bums on seats and the rules must be strictly adhered to. Nevertheless although I feel a little sad at winning the free service by another's disqualification, WHAT A GREAT DAY FOR ME!! I'm absolutely wrapped.



PHOTOS BY JENNY KAM

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Ready to Run Sale of 2YO's
17 & 18 November 2009 – Karaka

2010 National Yearling Sales Series
1-8 February 2010
Entries Close: 15 July 2009

NZTR ownership update



Jo Griffin Industry Marketing Coordinator – NZTR

This month I'm going to use extracts of the chairman's address regarding the proposed Governance Report for my article. I do so as it is vital that everyone at least reads the report summary and asks some questions of NZTR both the management team and the Board regarding this monumental undertaking. Guy Sargent writes:

We (NZTR) agree with the principal recommendation of the Governance Report and fully support the development of a 'new enterprise' which we believe will place us in the best possible position to meet current and future challenges – both strategic and operational – that face our industry and outlined in the report.

It is anticipated that the taskforce will report its findings in July 2009"

We believe that the new enterprise approach would provide direct access between the industry's governing body and its stakeholders by reducing the two tiers that currently exist to only one.

While, at one level, implementation of this approach might be seen as simply absorbing certain NZTR functions within the NZRB, we do not believe that would be acceptable to our member clubs and stakeholders, nor would it succeed in a fundamental sense. Consequently, we see the best option is to create a completely new entity combining the best of both organisations.

It is likely that a new enterprise approach would consist of one board and one management team, which would govern the racing industry – rather than the four separate boards and management teams currently operating. While this is the preferred outcome, we do not believe that the support of the greyhound and harness codes is necessary for the new enterprise concept to be successful.

It is anticipated that the taskforce will report its findings in July 2009. NZTR will then be holding a number of regional forums to seek feedback from its member clubs and stakeholders. We encourage you to participate fully in this process as it is your feedback and opinions that will help to form any final recommendations.

Please get on to NZTR's website www.nzracing.co.nz and read the report or pick up the phone and ask for a copy of the Governance report in full or the summary to be posted in hard copy.

Advancing the onset of the breeding season in the mare

The mare is a seasonal breeder, and in the Southern Hemisphere her natural breeding season is from October to March. For the Thoroughbred industry we plan to start covering mares as early as 1st September each year, which suits the racing schedule but puts physiological pressure on our mares to start cycling earlier than they would naturally. Lee Morris explains

Therefore to improve the chances of our mares conceiving in September, we need to advance the onset of the breeding season for them to be cycling spontaneously. An added advantage of doing this is that we gain an extra month in which to cover the mare in an already short breeding season. This alone will benefit young maidens and mares that foaled late or had problems conceiving in the previous year.

With increasing daylight in Spring, mares will start to produce follicles that produce oestrogen but fail to result in ovulation. These mares may exhibit signs of oestrus and be receptive to the stallion but will not conceive. Repeated covering of these mares will result in uterine infections and reduce the chances of conception by the time she ovulates later in the season. Ideally, we would like each mare to have a natural ovulation prior to the cycle in which we plan to cover her with the stallion. This will facilitate the management of her breeding programme and ensure that her follicle development is predictable and result in ovulation. However, given the time restraints of the Thoroughbred breeding season we do not always have this luxury and we may need to cover the mare on her first cycle for the season.

There are several different treatments that allow us to advance the onset of the breeding season. One method that you can do at home, or organise with your stud or other facility, is to simulate the increasing daylength by putting the mares "under lights" from July onwards. For 6-8 weeks prior to the start of the season, if the mare is exposed to 16h of light each day she will start to cycle prior to the 1st September. Practically, you need to bring the mare into a stable (with enough light to read a newspaper) at 4pm each day and turn the lights out at 11pm each night. The mare can then go out into a paddock at 7am each morning. While she is stabled she is kept warm and fed. Alternatively you can keep the mare in a yard and use a bright outdoor light. You will notice her coat changing and she should also be on a rising plane of nutrition. There are other variations of this theme, but this system is fairly simple.

There are also hormone treatments that can be superimposed on the management of these mares under lights to enhance the synchrony of ovulation around a

predictable time. Your local vet can advise you on what is currently available and what will suit your mare's needs. However, one of the most simple treatments is to administer daily Regumate (oral treatment) for 10 days in the second half of August. It is important that your vet examines the mare 3 days after stopping the Regumate to evaluate her ovaries and in many cases book her in to the stallion. There are other progestagen / progesterone treatments on the market which may also suit your programme. There are also non progesterone treatments such as "Domperidone" or "GnRH agonists" that may be more suitable for your programme and these can also be superimposed successfully on the light management regimens.

The variability in the timing to the onset of oestrus and the day of ovulation are illustrated by the results of the trial outlined below. In this trial, 50 mares were divided into 2 groups and either exposed to lights or not. They were all treated with 10 days of Regumate. The major factors influencing the predictability of the synchronisation of oestrus was the stage of the oestrous cycle at the start of the programme and exposure to artificial lighting early in the breeding season.

Table one – response of mares to ten days of Regumate treatment early in the season:

	Days from end of treatment to service (average)	Days from end of treatment to ovulation (average)
No lights	11.3	13.1
Lights	6.28	8.7

At this time of the year it is worthwhile planning to get your mares cycling early next season to give them the maximum opportunity to conceive early or to treat any problems early in the season.

For more information contact: Dr Lee Morris EquiBreed NZ Ltd phone: 07 827 9312.

Lee H.A. Morris BVSc DVSc DipACT. Registered Specialist – Veterinary Reproduction. EquiBreed NZ Ltd, 673 State Hwy 1, RD 4 Cambridge. www.equibreed.co.nz



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indepth with agent **barry lee**



Q What is the best horse you've brought?

A Piko

Q Who is the person you most admire?

A Tiger Woods

Q What is one thing you couldn't live without?

A My computer

Q What would you consider a good night out?

A Top Chinese restaurant and good wine

Q What qualities do you admire in a person?

A Honesty integrity and a good work ethic

Q What is the best racehorse you seen?

A Mainbrace

Q What two people you would like to invite to dinner?

A President Obama and Bart Cummings

Q What model of car do you drive?

A Ford

Q What would you do if you weren't an agent?

A A farmer

Q What book is on your bed side table?

A 'the snowball' the story of Warren Buffet

Study on exercise during yearling preparation – update

With the yearling sales at Karaka over for another year, the data collection for the industry funded study on Early Exercise and Future Race Training and Performance has come to an end. Charlotte Bolwell, from Massey University, would like to thank all the studmasters and their staff who agreed to participate in this project and worked so hard to accurately record the information.

Charlotte Bolwell explains

Without them and their careful recording of data, the study would have been impossible to undertake.

The response from the industry was very positive and resulted in a total of 25 stud farms across the North Island taking part. Each day, the stud farms recorded the type and duration of exercise and the number of hours spent at pasture, for each yearling enrolled in the study. The yearlings that were not sent to the sales have also been entered into the study as a comparison group. At this stage, there are over 600 yearlings

enrolled in the study. These yearlings will now be tracked through their time at the breakers and then on to the trainers, to be followed through the coming two-year-old season.

The intention of the study is to determine if the exercise undertaken by young horses has an effect on their later performance. So another step toward this goal has been reached with the assembly of this impressive dataset, which is now being entered ready for analysis. So again, many thanks!!







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Contact Dr Lee Morris, Registered Specialist – Veterinary Reproduction
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www.equibreed.co.nz

Winter Mixed Bloodstock Sale
2 August 2009
Entries Closes: 5 June

Ready to Run Sale of 2YO's
17 & 18 November 2009 – Karaka

South Island Sale
7 August 2009
Entries Closes: 27 May

2010 National Yearling Sales Series
1-8 February 2010
Entries Close: 15 July 2009



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news in brief

STRONG COMPETITION THROUGHOUT NZB MAY SALE

Despite good competition on the sought after lots, purchasers at New Zealand Bloodstock's National Weanling, Broodmare and Mixed Bloodstock Sale were treated to some outstanding value over the course of the Karaka Sale which concluded on 6 May.

Highlighted by a healthy clearance rate of 86%, the Sale concluded with a top price of \$100,000 for Lot 207. The weanling colt, by first season sire Darci Brahma, is a half-brother to dual Group One winner Hail and was purchased Papakura-based Ballydoyle from Esker Lodge.

A top broodmare price \$72,500 was paid by Wentwood Grange for the well-bred Danehill mare Entrancement (Lot 636). Offered by Curraghmore Stud, she was positive to One Cool Cat.

Of the total 768 lots catalogued over the course of the past three days, 585 lots were sold, for an average price of \$6,897 (down 45% from 2008).

MASSIVE BOOST TO NEW ZEALAND STALLION RANKS

Sir Patrick Hogan has announced that Stravinsky will return to Cambridge Stud for the coming season after a shuttle run absence of two years.

The return of Stravinsky is seen as a massive bonus for the New Zealand breeding industry. The Nureyev stallion is utterly-proven and his progeny continue to be highly commercial in the selling arena. Stravinsky is the sire of 521 winners from 750 runners and his success is spread across no fewer than 29 countries. His 55 individual black type winners includes seven Group One winners.

The fee for Stravinsky has been set at \$35,000+gst (live foal guarantee) and his book will be limited to 110 mares.

STALLION PLACEMENT SCHEME

It is timely to recommend to breeders the Te Aroha Jockey Club's Stallion Placement Scheme. This scheme provides serious funding to the Group One Breeders' Stakes every year and ensures that the race retains the level of stake required for such a prestigious event on the New Zealand racing calendar.

The scheme is based around the very generous donation of stallion services by studs or share holders in stallions. Forms setting out the available stallion nominations are sent out to all members of the Thoroughbred Breeders' Association before the stud season.

These donated nominations are then applied for by breeders who decide on the price they would like to pay to go to their choice of stallion. The details of the price nominated and the mares concerned are discussed with the donors and a decision made as to whether to accept an application. There are quite often a number of stallions that don't receive applications in any year and a few for which the price does not get to the required threshold. This is very disappointing for the Scheme's organisers and the donors and we would encourage all breeders to at least look at the list and if an available stallion is on their mating list give the scheme a try. By securing a nomination through the Stallion Placement Scheme you will be ensuring the future of the only Group One race for fillies and mares in New Zealand.

If you have any queries about the scheme don't hesitate to contact any member of our committee below

David D'Abo	07 884 9033
Jock Wilson	07 887 1760
John O'Flaherty	07 884 6817

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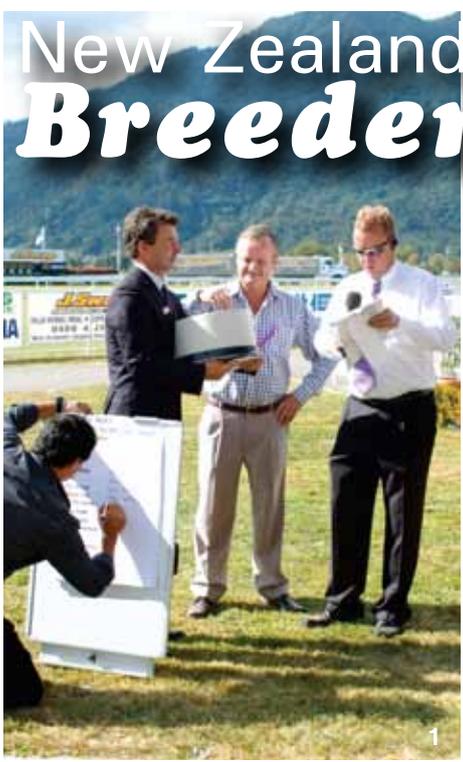
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New Zealand Bloodstock **Breeders' Stakes Day**



PHOTOS BY JENNY KAHN

1 Sakhee's Secret service draw | 2 Sponsor's product | 3 David O'Keefe 'man with best tie' winner, with MC Bruce Slade | 4 Members enjoy marquee | 5 Sakhee's Secret service winner Jeanette Broom with Waikato president Nick King

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Rank	Stallion	Earnings	SWs
1	Volksraad	\$2,016,493	7
2	Scenic	\$1,411,125	1
3	Pentire	\$1,406,853	2
4	Encosta de Lago	\$1,399,461	1
5	Pins	\$1,370,492	5
6	O'Reilly	\$1,200,603	5
7	Tale of the Cat	\$1,062,772	1
8	Montjeu	\$973,161	0
9	Van Nistelrooy	\$972,970	5
10	Golan	\$784,090	2

* statistics courtesy of Arion Pedigrees

RODNEY SCHICK 021 798 901
STEVE TILL 027 479 8901
MICHAEL MORAN 021 326 276
EMAIL - horses@windsorpark.co.nz



Waikato Stud

Australasia's leading Group One Stud

Waikato Stud has achieved a remarkable milestone in breeding six individual Group One winners for the season, an Australasian record.

"It's a tremendous achievement for the stud,"

Garry Chittick says. Kathy Graham reports

"We were very surprised. You start the year off and are always grateful if you get one Group One winner!"

With around 140 broodmares, Waikato Stud has four of the six dams responsible for the Group One winners still on the farm.

Two of the mares Escada and Lodore Mystic are by Waikato Stud's foundation stallion Centaine.

Escada is the dam of Vision and Power, winner of the AJC Doncaster Hcp (G1) and the STC George Ryder Stakes (G1).

The dam of eight foals with six winners from seven runners, Escada has also produced Group winning fillies Glamour Puss and Rare Insight.

"She has a Pins two-year-old which we have retained and a Pins yearling," Gary says.

Two of the Group One winners are by resident stallion O'Reilly in Alamosa (ex Lodore Mystic) and Swick (ex Crème Anglaise). O'Reilly also features as the dam-sire of Daffodil (No Excuse Needed ex Spring).

Daffodil, owned by Waikato Stud has won both the AJC Australian Oaks (G1) and the New Zealand 1000 Guineas (G1), which Garry says has been a "big thrill."

The two remaining Group One winners adding to the tally are Markus Maximus



Garry Chittick and Escada

(Pentire ex Shafty Lady) and Metal Bender (Danasinga ex Jacqwin).

Garry is particularly impressed with the fact that all bar one of the nine Group One races won by the six individual horses have been in Australia.

"I'm not taking anything away from New Zealand Group One winners, but the Aussies often regard us as second best," he says.

Dams Jacqwin, Lodore Mystic and Escada are all in foal to O'Reilly this season.

"We are very lucky. I think his fillies are going to be very good broodmares as well so we are very keen to put quite a number of mares to him to try and retain fillies by him."

"In 2005/06 we had five Group One winners worldwide, which we were really chuffed about," Garry says. "But to set an Australasian record three seasons later really is a great endorsement for the stud."

With the season not yet over, Garry says he hopes the exceptional run is not over yet. "We'll have to wait and see."

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