

Icons Squared

The current levels of inbreeding for some breed shapers

by
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In last month's issue of *OBI*, we took a look at the state of inbreeding to Mr. Prospector. Since that time there have been some further developments, Cojet, Princess Muldoon, and Much Faster to be specific, bringing the total of stakes winners inbred to Mr. Prospector to 47, and the percent of group/graded stakes winners so-inbred to 25%.

This month, we'll be taking a look some inbreeding observed in 2003 unrestricted stakes winners, using the same criteria used last time. In an attempt to somehow measure opportunity though, we'll also present the percentage of Kentucky stallions that carry that particular ancestor. For example, 57% of the stallions standing in Kentucky (for a fee of \$3,500 or higher) carry Northern Dancer within six generations, while 41% carry Mr. Prospector.

This year's stakes winners Be Gentle, Attico, and Mountain General (G3) all carry inbreeding to Secretariat. While he never really established a significant male line, Secretariat will obviously be influencing pedigrees for some time to come through his prolific daughters. Three of the 11 stallions standing for \$100,000 or more in Kentucky are out Secretariat daughters (Storm Cat, A.P. Indy, and Gone West) and he now is found in the pedigrees of 21% of Kentucky stallions.

Secretariat's first crop was born in 1975 and the first stakes winner inbred to the late Triple Crown hero appeared 22 years later in 1997. Currently there are 24 stakes winner inbred to Secretariat, with nine of those (37%) group/graded winners and two (7%) group/grade one winners. It should be no surprise to learn that all of them involve at least one female strain and over half (14) involve two.

While the analysis of Belmont Stakes (G1) winner Empire Maker's pedigree has deservedly focused on his great dam Toussaud, he is also the fourth grade one stakes winner inbred to In Reality. Overall there are 32 stakes winner inbred to the son of Intentionally, with over a third of them (31%) graded winners. His first crop was foaled in 1970, and his influence has survived in eight percent of the Kentucky stallion population.

Hail to a homewrecker

Back in April of this year, Halo Homewrecker made a bit of history with his win in the Bay Shore Stakes (G3). That day he

became the first unrestricted stakes winner inbred to his grandsire, Halo. Halo's first crop was born in 1976, and six percent of Kentucky stallions carry the son of Hail to Reason.

Hail to Reason himself is present in 30% of Kentucky stallions, and there are well over 110 Hail to Reason-inbred stakes winners. There has yet to be an unrestricted stakes winner inbred to Hail to Reason's other major son, Roberto, whose first crop was born 28 years ago and who is present in five percent of current Kentucky stallions.

In 2003, there have been two new stakes winners, the Italian group three winner Clifden and the American stakes winner Miss Bridget Jones, inbred to Blushing Groom. Ten percent of current Kentucky stallions carry Blushing Groom and there are now a total of four stakes winners inbred to the stallion, who died in 1992. The first appeared back in 1996, only 17 years after Blushing Groom's first crop was foaled.

If you remember, Mr. Prospector's first crop was 17 when the first stakes winner inbred to him appeared. Also of interest is the fact that all four Blushing Groom-inbred stakes winners so far involve at least one female strain.

Golden Pivotal's win in this year's Premio Alberto Giubilo brought the total of stakes winners inbred to Caro to five. Caro, sire of Cozzene and With Approval, is also the broodmare sire of Unbridled's Song, Maria's Mon, and the promising young stallions Yankee Victor and Tactical Cat. Overall he is found in six percent of Kentucky stallions and his first crop was born in 1973. Night Devil became the first stakes winner inbred to Caro in 1998 and it's worth noting that three of the five Caro-inbred stakes winners are group/graded earners. In fact, two are grade one winners: 2002 Eclipse Champion Turf Female Golden Apples and 2002 Breeders' Cup Female Turf (G1) heroine Stanne.

Just the beginning

Prominent influences Danzig and Seattle Slew are also beginning to appear on the inbreeding scoreboard. There are two stakes winners inbred to Danzig, who is found in nine percent of the Kentucky stallion population and whose first crop is now 21. Seattle Slew (11% of Kentucky stallions) also has two stakes winners inbred to him, with his first crop now 23.

Stakes winners inbred to either Fappiano or Storm Bird have yet to appear, and it will be interesting to see exactly when that changes. The first crops of both stallions were foaled 20 years ago, but Fappiano, is found in only five percent of the Kentucky stallion population, while with Storm Bird it's 13%.

The Storm Bird male line, primarily through Storm Cat, is expanding much more rapidly, however. Based on this evidence we can guess that we'll see the first Storm Bird inbred before the first Fappiano. And for those keeping score at home, Storm Cat's first crop is 14 this year, and he already influences 11% of Kentucky stallions. **JOB**

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"Empire Maker is also the fourth grade one stakes winner inbred to In Reality."

Table I:
Current Inbred Stakes Winners for Selected Stallions

STALLION	# INBRED SWS	% GSWS
Mr. Prospector	47	25%
Secretariat	24	37%
In Reality	32	31%
Halo	1	100%
Blushing Groom	4	
Caro	5	60%
Danzig	2	
Seattle Slew	2	