

Haunui Farm Update

August 2009

Timely Result for Elusive City

Arriving in New Zealand on the last weekend of July to prepare for his sixth season at stud, Haunui Farm stallion **Elusive City (USA)** (Elusive Quality) received a welcome boost through the deeds of exciting two-year-old filly **Lamington Vegas (NZ)** (Elusive City).

Trained by Andrew Scott, Lamington Vegas was making just her second race day appearance at Otaki after finishing a very close third on debut at Avondale at the end of June. Lining up in the Listed Ryder Stakes (1200m) against some well accomplished opposition, the filly is undoubtedly held in high regard by her trainer with the confidence to line her up at stakes level at only her second start.

Jumping from barrier eight in the all familiar Wexford Stables colours, Lamington Vegas was quick to be up outside the leader and race favourite **Regal Flame**

(Aus) (Not A Single Doubt), in the first 200m of the contest before settling nicely on the fence in the trail. Swinging for home, Opie Bosson moved Regal Flame toward the centre of the track giving Lamington Vegas a clear run for home and with four or five strides, the filly had put the race beyond doubt eventually crossing the line an emphatic three lengths clear of the second-placed **Oakwood (NZ)** (Spartacus).

Out of **Piece Of Cake (Aus)** (Snippets), Lamington Vegas was bred by Joan Egan and was sold as a weanling for \$35,000. Purchased by Te Mania thoroughbreds, she was subsequently sold at the 2008 New Zealand Bloodstock Select Sale where she was knocked down to the bid of Lance O'Sullivan for \$110,000. After initially being unable to on-sell the filly, she was placed

with Hong Kong owner Benjamin Kwok who will have been more than happy with the Ryder Stakes result. "Benjamin is a great client of the stable and he will be very excited about this win," said Andrew Scott after the race. A three-year-old type, Andrew will prepare the filly for the upcoming Hawke's Bay Spring Carnival with further spoils undoubtedly on her agenda later in the year.

Lamington Vegas became the fourth winner of the time honoured Ryder Stakes to have a Haunui connection with her sire standing at the Auckland-based farm. Haunui bred 1983 winner **Beechcraft (NZ)** (Sea Anchor) in partnership with Charlie Roberts and in 1987 **Weston Lea (NZ)** (Sea Anchor) carried the HF brand to victory whilst 1993 winner **Waihora's Lass (NZ)** (Tights) was also bred by Haunui Farm. "With the emphatic nature of this filly's win and the success of past winners of the Ryder



Ryder Stakes-winner Lamington Vegas

Stakes, this filly looks set to be a leading contender for higher honours this season," said Mark Chitty of Haunui Farm. "Our Marketing Manager Shannon Taylor was at the track to see the filly run and reported that the filly was a lovely, athletic, lusty type and said she looked like she will furnish into a lovely three-year-old," he said. "Given that she was so impressive in just her second start, that bodes well for the season ahead," said Mark.

The last twelve months has seen the emergence of Elusive City as one of the most exciting stallion prospects in New Zealand. The first stallion with New Zealand ownership to be crowned Champion First Season Sire of Europe, his first Northern Hemisphere crop have shown they will train on as three-year-olds with a Group One winner and Group One performer to date. His second crop have



also continued the momentum with nine individual winners to date.

Elusive City ended the 2008/2009 Southern Hemisphere racing season with five stakes performers including stakes winners **Metropolitan (NZ)** and **Lamington Vegas**, Australian stakes performers **Ahdashim** and **Returntosender**

and, Group Two two-year-old **Spirit Of Unicorn**. "It is certainly an exciting time in the career of **Elusive City** and everything has really started to fall into place over the last twelve months," said Mark Chitty of Haunui Farm. "We're delighted

for our partners in **Elusive City** – **Fairdale Stud**, **Goodwood Stud** and **Trelawney Stud** – and also for those breeders who have supported the stallion," said Mark. "The momentum looks set to continue with some very nice horses about and it would be nice to think that this filly will be putting her foot in the till in some of those early spring races," he said.

Elusive Wave Best 3YO Miler In France

Three-year-old filly **Elusive Wave (Ire)** (**Elusive City**) put in an outstanding performance at Deauville on the 2nd of August finishing second to Breeders' Cup Mile-winner and Champion mare **Goldikova (Ire)** (**Anabaa**) in the Group One **Prix Rothschild** (1600m), the latter claiming her second successive victory in the race.

Elusive Wave's effort in the Group One event, combined with her win

earlier this season in the French equivalent of the 1000 Guineas, prompted regular race rider **Christophe Lemaire** to proclaim **Elusive Wave** as the best three-year-old miler in France. "It was the best performance of her career," said trainer **Jean-Claude Rouget**. "The ground was much softer than we



Elusive Wave

had hoped for and although she was second, there were some very good fillies and mares behind her," he said.

Further black type success was also gained on the same day for **Elusive City** with three-year-old filly **City Dancer (Ire)** (**Elusive City**) placed in the Listed **Queensferry Stakes** (1200m) at Chester.

"The win of **Lamington Vegas** in the **Ryder Stakes** was very timely and these results just add further impetus for **Elusive City**," said Mark Chitty. "We have taken a good number of bookings and a huge amount of enquiry since **Lamington Vegas** won and with his momentum continuing in the Northern Hemisphere, **Elusive City** is undoubtedly the most exciting young stallion standing at stud in New Zealand at the present time," he said.

Obituary: Joyce, Lady Fisher

It was with much sadness that we at Haunui Farm learned of the passing of **Lady Fisher** in July.

Lady Fisher was an ardent supporter of the New Zealand thoroughbred industry. As the wife of **Sir Woolf Fisher**, founder of the famous **Ra Ora Stud**, she was a generous benefactor to all sectors of the equine industry. Her Auckland roots saw her closely associated with the Auckland Branch of the New Zealand Thoroughbred Breeders' Association and for many years, **Lady Fisher** traditionally provided a sash for the winner of the **NRM/Auckland Thoroughbred Breeders' Stakes**.

Haunui's involvement with **Lady Fisher** was heightened during the successful **Ra Ora-Haunui** partnership. "She was a lady truly passionate about horses and the industry and we saw this on a daily basis at **Ra Ora**," said Mark Chitty. "She would routinely come out onto the farm to see what was going on and I remember she particularly looked forward to receiving the **Friday Flash** and the odd tip from the boys," he said.

Haunui Farm Stallion Parade Sunday 6th September 2009

(as part of the Auckland Stud Tour)

11am - Te Runga Stud

12 noon - Westbury Stud

1pm - Haunui Farm

Be at all three parades to go in the draw to win a free service to one of the following stallions: **Castledale**, **Strategic Image**, **Cecconi**, **Don Eduardo** or **Elusive City**.

Don Eduardo Ends Season on a High & Starts New Season the Same Way

Promising four-year-old mare **Moti (NZ)** (Don Eduardo) scored another impressive victory at Warwick Farm on the last day of the 2008/2009 racing season notching up the second win for the day for the powerful Gai Waterhouse stable.

Racing in the colours of Gooree Park Stud, undoubtedly one of Waterhouse's largest owners, it is fitting that the mare should secure the Sydney trainer, her seventh premierships title.

The winner of five from ten starts, Moti has always shown solid ability and this was her third win fresh up. She will now head to a stakes race in the coming weeks.

"It was great to see Gai secure the title with a daughter of Don Eduardo," said Mark Chitty, General Manager of Haunui Farm. "It was fitting that the race that secured the premierships should be won by a horse wearing the Gooree colours and given that Mr Cojuangco owns Don Eduardo, it makes the win even more significant," he said. "I'm sure Gai wouldn't mind a few more Don Eduardo's in the stable if they keep performing like that!"

The Waterhouse stable started the new season as she finished the last, saddling **Swift Alliance (Aus)** (Don Eduardo) to take out the STC Rosehill Gardens Event Centre Handicap (1200m) at Rosehill on the first day of the new season for owners Gooree Park Stud.

The winner of four from five starts, Swift Alliance dealt a blow to the much-hyped race favourite **O'Lonhro (Aus)** (Lonhro) winning in style by half a length after hitting the lead early in the run home.

Held in very high regard, Swift Alliance has lined up in city company at each of his five starts, his only defeat coming at the hands of subsequent Group Two-winner **Youthful Jack (Aus)** (Youthful Legs). Now four, Swift Alliance will get his first shot at black type level when he lines up in the \$100,000 Show County Quality (1200m) in three weeks time and don't be surprised to see the brilliant son of Don Eduardo heading for the top in Melbourne this spring.

"Don Eduardo came within a nose of producing his first Group One winner when Dashing Donna finished second in the Railway earlier this year," said Mark. "Swift Alliance has showed some brilliance over the shorter trips and it's exciting to think he will be aimed toward some of the major sprint races coming up this Spring," he said.

With six stakes performers to his credit in the 2008/2009, Don Eduardo has certainly started to make an impact on both sides of the Tasman. Since the 1st of January, he has sired three Group winners in the form of All In Black, Divine Rebel and Vickezzchardonnay as well as three further stakes performers in Booming, Dashing Donna and Lara's Glitter.

"Don Eduardo's first crop of Haunui-conceived foals have just turned three and we will definitely be watching them with interest," said Mark. "The last six months has been huge for Don Eduardo with six stakes performers and two Group One performers and we're looking forward to seeing these results continue with the onset of the new season," he said.



Don Eduardo
2009 Service Fee \$7,000 + GST

First Foal Arrives

Spring has sprung at Haunui Farm with stakes winning mare **Bonaichi (Aus)** (Fusaichi Pegasus) producing the first foal of the season on the 1st of August.

Owned by Don and Rochelle McLaren, Bonaichi produced a brown colt by Champion sire **O'Reilly (NZ)** (Last Tycoon) and as a maiden mare, she has taken to motherhood with aplomb. "You just never know how maiden mares are going to react once everything starts to happen but she did everything right," said Mark Chitty, General Manager of Haunui Farm.

A stakes winner, Bonaichi is a daughter of Group One winner Bonanova (NZ) (Star Way) and a half sister to dual stakes winner **Prima Nova (Aus)** (Danehill Dancer). She is a close relation to Group One winners **Telesto (NZ)** (Star Way) and **Fraternity (NZ)** (Star Way) and further down the pedigree page you see the likes of **Diamond Lover (Aus)** (Sticks And Stones).

"It's always nice to get the first foal out of the way and it signals the start of what will be another very busy season," said Mark. "Bookings to the stallions are going very well and we're looking forward to the arrival of Elusive City and Iffraaj at the farm this weekend," he said.

We welcome visitors to Haunui and should you wish to come and view the Haunui stallions, please don't hesitate to contact the Haunui office to make arrangements.



Bonaichi and her first foal, a colt by O'Reilly born on the 1st of August



**Two yearling colts enjoying feed time at Haunui.
L - Keeper - Passive Rose colt owned by Marie Leicester.
R - Don Eduardo - Applause colt owned by Haunui farrier, Luke Pertab.**