

HAUNUI FARM UPDATE

YOUR BEST MATCH FOR SUCCESS



March 2009

First Group Winner for Don Eduardo

After being so close but yet so far on a number of occasions in black type events, four-year-old mare Vিকেzzchardonnay (NZ) (Don Eduardo) finally broke through for that all-important black type win at Taranaki last month and in doing so, became the first stakes winner for her sire Don Eduardo (NZ) (Zabeel).

Third in the Group Two New Zealand Cup (3200m), a luckless fourth in the Wellington Cup (2400m) after rider Craig Grylls dropped his whip in the run home and a fast finishing fourth in the Group One Auckland Cup (3200m), Vিকেzzchardonnay has been a stand out performer from her sire's first crop with five wins and eight placings to her credit from a 23 start career that has amassed over \$200,000 in earnings to date. Whilst her Group Three victory was well deserved, one can't help but wonder if there aren't bigger spoils on the horizon?

"Until Vিকেzzchardonnay won at Taranaki, Don Eduardo had had three horses beaten by less than half a length in Group races," said Mark Chitty, General Manager of Haunui Farm referring to the placings of Il Divo in the Group Two Great Northern Guineas (2100m) and the Group Three Waikato Guineas (2000m) and Dashing Donna's placings in the Group Two Concorde Stakes (1200m) and the Group One Railway Stakes (1200m). Don Eduardo also has a stakes performer in Australia in the form of three-year-old filly Lara's Glitter, runner up

in the Listed Hobart Guineas (2100m). "His progeny have been knocking on the door for a while and Dashing Donna and Vিকেzzchardonnay were both very close fourths in Cup Day," said Mark.

In Australia, Don Eduardo also has the promising filly Autumn Ember (Aus) who has won two from two for Gooree Park Stud and trainer Gai Waterhouse. She is set to line up over a mile at Warwick Farm on the 9th of March and will then target a Listed race for three-year-old fillies at Kembla Grange and if she were to run well, the Arrowfield Stakes and the AJC Oaks would then be on her agenda. "She is obviously a filly that they hold in high regard so if she can take the right steps, she will have every opportunity to line up in the AJC Oaks which would be very exciting," said Mark. Also in Australia and also owned by Gooree Park is sprinter Swift Alliance (Aus) (Don Eduardo) who is back in pre-training and will be headed toward a Queensland campaign.

With 34 individual winners to date, this season has seen the emergence of a number of exciting prospects for Don Eduardo such as St Leger candidates Cadonna (NZ) who has three wins and four placings to her credit from only a ten-start career and Booming (NZ), a two-time winner and three-time place getter from just eight starts.

"Don Eduardo is really proving himself to be a versatile stallion leaving a Group One-placed sprinter in Dashing

Donna and then a number of very nice staying types," said Mark. "I'm excited about the prospects of his current two-year-olds as they are the first crop bred here at Haunui and he has some good numbers coming through over the next few seasons which is important," he said.

Don Eduardo will serve a restricted book of mares at Haunui this coming season and his 2009 service fee will be announced shortly.



Don Eduardo

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Haunui Graduates Stepping Up

Haunui has a proud history of producing race horses of the highest order however history means nothing if you can't continue to breed future Champions. Each and every season horses carrying the Haunui brand or, horses that have been through the Haunui system, continue to add their names to the Haunui Honors Board and in Definitive (Aus) (Redoute's Choice) and Jungle Rocket (NZ) (Jungle Pocket), we may have two further graduates to add to that list.

Definitive was purchased as a weanling by Mark Chitty and became Haunui's first seven figure yearling when fetching \$1.3million to the bid of Peter Moody. After breaking his maiden status on the 4th of February, he lined up ten days later in the Group Two MVRC Alister Clark Stakes (1600m) and up against more accomplished and experienced opposition, finished third. Two

weeks later came the Group Two MRC Autumn Classic (1800m) where he finished fifth. "It was good to see him get the monkey off his back and break maiden status and to run third in the Alister Clark was a great result," said Mark. "He made up a lot of ground in the Autumn Stakes and was finishing strong so in looking to the AJC Derby, it was another nice run," he said.

Another Haunui Graduate to gain some black type in recent weeks is the three-year-old filly Jungle Rocket. Sold out of Haunui's 2006 Weanling Draft, Jungle Rocket was a \$21,500 purchase by New Zealand Bloodstock's John Cameron for Australian-based owners Louise Betts and David Pleasance. After winning impressively on debut, Jungle Rocket then finished a strong second at Matamata and at her third start on Auckland Cup Day at Ellerslie, took a

quantum leap in terms of class when lining up in the Listed Sunline Vase (2100m). Pitted against the likes of Group Three-winner and Group Two-placed Glamorous Girl (NZ) (Thorn Park) and six-time winner Mill Duckie (NZ) (Magic Ring), it was a true test of class and Jungle Rocket came through with flying colours to finish an eye catching second to Mill Duckie and secure a place in the Group One New Zealand Oaks (2400m) field in ten days time. "It was so exciting," said part-owner David Pleasance. "It is unbelievable really that she did that at only her third start and is now going to the Oaks," he said.

Of interest, another graduate of the same draft, Norse Affair (NZ) (Viking Ruler), was a fast finishing sixth in a blanket finish for third.

"We have had a very good run with our Weanling Sale graduates of late selling the

likes of From The Spot, Justa Kinda Magic, Linear, Midnight Concerto and now Jungle Rocket and Norse Affair," said Mark Chitty of Haunui Farm. "A lot of people think that with studs in particular, the weanlings in the sale are merely culls," he said. "Whilst some of ours are obviously there for certain reasons, the fact is that we can only prepare fifty yearlings for the sales so with that, we have to make some hard decisions as to which ones we take through and which ones we sell as weanlings," he said.

Haunui Farm will once again offer a draft of weanlings at the New Zealand Bloodstock Weanling Sale in May and it is fair to say that buyers should be taking a close look. "There have been good pin-hook results from our weanlings as well as racing results so the horses are there, it's up to the buyers to find them," says Mark.



Guess who???

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1,2,3,4,5,6 ...7!

The win of four-year-old mare Bella Renza (NZ) (Van Nistelrooy) in the Listed Westbury Classic (1400m) on Auckland Cup Day highlighted once again the success that her sire Van Nistelrooy (USA) (Storm Cat) has achieved with his Southern Hemisphere foal crops.

Bella Renza's victory brings Van Nistelrooy's tally of stakes winners in the Southern Hemisphere to seven giving him an impressive 7.4% stakes winners to runners ratio. Among his seven stakes winners are Group One-winner Boundless (NZ), Champion Juvenile of Singapore Onceuponatime (NZ), multiple Group-winner and Group One-performer Ruud Van Slaats (NZ) just to name a few.

"The numbers speak for themselves," said Mark Chitty. "To have a stakes winners to runners ratio of

just over 7% is a telling statistic in anyone's view and it just highlights what a loss Van Nistelrooy has been to our breeding industry," he said.

Van Nistelrooy was brought to New Zealand by a partnership and stood his four seasons at Trelawney Stud before being unable to return to New Zealand. He is another prime example of the success that Haunui Farm and partners have had in selecting stallions that cross well with the New Zealand broodmare band. "Soviet Star and Almutawakel are two stallions that we have been involved with that have also had a significant impact on our industry," said Mark. "With this in mind we're obviously very excited to have a stallion prospect like Elusive City in our midst and the best thing is that we have ownership in him!" said Mark.



Van Nistelrooy

Solid Draft for Sydney

Each year, Haunui Farm takes a select draft of yearlings to the Inglis Easter Yearling Sale and in 2009 we have four making the trip across the Tasman, two colts and two fillies.

Headlining the draft is a Zabeel (NZ) (Sir Tristram) out of Riesling (NZ) (Last Tycoon). A half sister to Group Three-winner Valpolicella (NZ) (Red Ransom), this filly is from the Haunui foundation family and will be a well inspected yearling on the sale ground. "She is a quality Zabeel filly and let's face it, unfortunately there won't be too many more of them," said Mark Chitty. Joining her will

be a Redoute's Choice (Aus) (Danehill) filly out of the stakes performer Nureyev's Girl (Aus) (Nureyev). With a pedigree littered with both Australian and European black type she will undoubtedly create strong interest. "You can't argue the impact that Redoute's Choice has had as a stallion and this filly, like the Zabeel filly, has some very nice residual value which a lot of buyers are looking for," said Mark.

The first foal of Group One-placed Tsarina Belle (NZ) (Stravinsky), a colt by Flying Spur (Aus) (Danehill) is also headed to the Easter Sale having been born in Australia

and returning to New Zealand once the boarders opened after the outbreak of Equine Influenza. "You definitely wouldn't think he was a first foal," said Mark. "He really went ahead when he came back to New Zealand and is growing into a nice, big colt," he said.

Rounding out the Haunui draft is an O'Reilly (NZ) (Last Tycoon) colt out of An Lass (NZ) (Generous), a daughter of Wise Lass (NZ) (Straight Strike). His pedigree page features the likes of outstanding racemare Rationale (NZ) (Sound Reason), Group Two-winner Wise Son (NZ) (Montjeu) and, VRC Derby-

winner Amalfi (NZ) (Carnegie). "This colt has a pedigree that everyone will recognise and O'Reilly is doing a great job at stud," says Mark.

The Sydney yearlings will leave Auckland on the 30th of March with the Easter Sale taking place on the 5th, 6th and 7th of April.

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Valpolicella on Comeback Trail



Group Three-winner Valpolicella (NZ) (Red Ransom) is on the comeback trail after surgery to remove bone chips from a knee.

After a five month break to recover from the operation, Poli has completed pre-training at Shipton Lodge and has now joined the Mike Moroney stable in Melbourne.

Built up slowly, Valpolicella is due to be given a jumpout this week.

"It has been a long, slow

process," said Mark Chitty. "So far the signs are good and she is coming through her work well so fingers crossed this continues," he said.

A stakes winner at two, Valpolicella had a season of interruptions at three with some niggles hampering her preparation for the New Zealand Oaks.

After an emphatic victory in the Group Three Manawatu Classic (2000m) beating subsequent AJC Derby-winner

Nom De Jeu (NZ) (Montjeu), Valpolicella was sent to Queensland with the Oaks firmly on her agenda. "A foot problem put a stop to starting in the Oaks so we then looked to the Derby and only a few days before the race she came up sore and that's when the bone chips were discovered," said Mark.

Because of EI, Valpolicella remained in Australia for the surgery and recovery and it was decided that she would continue her racing career on the other side of the Tasman.

"Roger James did a fantastic job with the filly and his efforts are very much appreciated," said Mark. "But, as we decided to leave her in Australia, we had to decide on another trainer and the decision was made to put her in the Moroney stable," said. "We've enjoyed success with the Moroney's and this family for a number of years so it would be great to see it continue," said Mark.