

PEDIGREE THOUGHTS

CWC

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2010 ROYAL ASCOT ROUND UP

Royal Ascot has, in my opinion, been an impressive year as I can remember. There have been many fantastic performances which includes Goldikova (Anabaa) winning her 9th Group 1 in the Queen Anne Stakes, Equiano (Acclamation) winning his second King's Stand Stakes (Gr 1), Canford Cliffs (Tagula) proving a decisive winner of the St James's Palace Stakes (Gr 1), Rite Of Passage in the Gold Cup (Gr 1), the Rabbah Bloodstock bred filly, Hibaayeb (Singspiel), proving to be a top-class three-year-old in the Ribblesdale Stakes (Gr 2) and on Saturday both Starspangledbanner (Choisir), in the Golden Jubilee Stakes (Gr 1) and Harbinger (Dansili), in the Hardwicke Stakes (Gr 2), look leading performers in their categories this season so far.

Sadler's Wells Line Broodmares

There were a number of sires who had a good week as well. The Darley sire, **Dubawi** (Dubai Millennium), recorded two stakes winners with the King Edward VII Stakes (Gr 2) winner, **Monterosso**, and the Hampton Court Stakes (L) victor, **Afsare**. Dubawi already has six NH Group winners (7 SW) to date from his first crop which is a record since the Pattern book started back in 1971.

Moving back to Dubawi's Royal Ascot winners, what is remarkable is that both are out of similarly sired mares. Monterosso is out of a Baratheia daughter and Afsare's dam is by Fairy King, who is by own-brother to Sadler's Wells, Baratheia's sire. It is not surprising that the Sadler's Wells/Fairy King broodmare line seems working well with Dubawi as not only is he from the family of In The Wings (bred on a Sadler's Wells/Darshaan cross) but he is also out of Shirley Heights line daughter and therefore creating the same Lalun cross as in In The Wings' pedigree. You also have to remember Dubawi's sire, Dubai Millennium sired two of his four stakes winners out of Sadler's Wells daughters with Echo Of Light (Gr 2), out of a Sadler's Wells mare, and Belenus (Gr 3), who is out of a Baratheia mare.

Another sire to not only have a stakes double but both also out of Sadler's Wells line mares

was Juddmonte home-bred sire **Oasis Dream** (Green Desert). Having started the week on Monday evening with **Lady Jane Digby** winning the Warwickshire Oaks (L) Oasis Dream sired both Jersey Stakes (Gr 2) winner, **Rainfall**, and Norfolk Stakes (Gr 2) winner **Approve**. This sire-line enjoyed further success when Green Desert sired the impressive Queen Mary Stakes (Gr 2) winner Maqaasid.

Rainfall is out of a daughter of Baratheia (Sadler's Wells) while Approve is out of a Sadler's Wells mare. This pedigree pattern is particularly interesting on paper as both Green Desert and Sadler's Wells are bred along similar lines. Green Desert is by a Northern Dancer line sire (Danzig) and out a Turn To line (Sir Ivor by Sir Gaylord) daughter who in turn is out of a daughter of Never Bend. Sadler's Wells on the other hand is by Northern Dancer and is out of a half-sister to Never Bend, in Bold Reason, who is by a Turn To line sire in Bold Reason. Add to this is that fact there is also line-breeding to Mumtaz Mahal through siblings Mumtaz Begum (dam of Nasrullah, Never Bend's sire) and Mah Mahal (dam of Mahmoud, second dam-sire to Northern Dancer). It is not surprising that this cross has created the likes of Hatta Fort (Cape Cross), Alkaadhem (Green Desert) and Eyshal (Green Desert) to name three.

Finally Rainfall's, who as mentioned is out of a Baratheia mare, pedigree is particular interesting as he holds three crosses of the Northern Dancer/Sir Gaylord as not only are Green Desert and Baratheia bred on the cross but so is Oasis Dream's dam-sire Dancing Brave.

The Danehill Line

Another sire (and sire-line) to have a strong week was Coolmore's **Danehill Dancer** (Danehill), as he too sired a double with **Lillie Langtry**, winning the Coronation Stakes (Gr 1) in impressive style, and **Memory**, who put an equally eye-catching performance in the Albany Stakes (Gr 3). Danehill Dancer was unlucky not to give the Queen a Royal winner as his Quadrille was just beaten by a short neck in the Hampton Court Stakes (L) by Afsare.

However there was consolation for the sire as his son Choisir, the King's Stand (Gr 1) and Golden Jubilee Stakes (Gr 1) winner of 2003, sired the Golden Jubilee Stakes (Gr 1) winner with his Australian raider, Starspangledbanner.

Both Danehill Dancer's Royal Ascot stakes were bred on proven crosses. Memory is out of a Diesis (Sharpen Up) mare and therefore creates 3x3 line-breeding to Sharpen Up as Danehill Dancer himself is out of a Sharpen Up daughter. Danehill Dancer has sired four other stakes winners to Sharpen Up line daughters which include Anna Pavlova (Gr 2), who is out of a Sure Blade mare, and English Ballet (Gr 3), who is out of a Selkirk daughter.

Lillie Langtry on the other hand is out of Hoity Toity, a daughter of Darshaan (Shirley Heights). The Danehill/Never Bend cross has proved to be a fruitful cross for Danehill as he has sired four Gr 1 winners on the cross which include Wannabe Grand, out of Shirley Heights mare, Amadeus Wolf, from a Mark Of Esteem daughter and Mountain High and Eagle Mountain who were both out Darshaan mares.

The final sire to have a stakes double was Danehill's **Dansili**, another resident at Juddmonte's Banstead Manor. The first of these was progressive Newsells Park homebred **Strawberrydaiquiri**, who beat the previous year's winner, Spacious (Nayef) in the 8 furlong Windsor Forest Stakes (Gr 2). Strawberrydaiquiri, whose dam-sire is Travelling Victor (Hail To Victory), and from the hail to reason sire line, looks to progress to be a Gr 1 filly.

Dansili's second impressive winner of the week was, Saturday's and in my many eyes the meeting's banker, **Harbinger** in the 12 furlong Hardwicke Stakes (Gr 2) for older horses. This was a third winner of the week for Highclere Thoroughbred Racing Syndicate (together with Memory and Approve) who certainly had a remarkable week. Harbinger, who is out of the Bering (Arctic Tern) sired Listed winner, Penang Pearl, looks an real top-class middle distance horse and could take on his stable mate, the Epsom Derby winner, Workforce (King's Best) in the King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes at the end of July.

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