

## *Yearling Sale Begins Tuesday, August 23* *Noble's Promise joins Millionaire's Row* *Aikenite makes the grade at Churchill Downs*

### Yearlings Sell August 23-25

The Ocala Breeders' Sales Company's 2011 August Yearling Sale gets underway on Tuesday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>, featuring a strong sire roster and some new faces among the consignors.

There are 172 horses cataloged in Tuesday's Selected Session, which begins at 1:00 p.m. to give horsemen additional travel time to Ocala after weekend stakes races and provide extra inspection time prior to the sale. The 600 Open Yearlings will sell on Wednesday and Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> with both sessions starting at 10:30 a.m. As always, the entire sale will be streamed live via the OBS website at [obssales.com](http://obssales.com).

### August Sire Power Surge

The 2011 August Sale boasts as strong a stallion roster as any in the sale's long history, headed by **Pulpit**, **More Than Ready** and **Tale of the Cat**. **Harlan's Holiday**, **Congrats**, **Exchange Rate**, **Bluegrass Cat**, **Rockport Harbor**, **Aflect Alex** and **Johannesburg**, all prominent on 2011's leading general sire list, are represented as well.

Stallions at the top of the Florida-based stallion leader board with offspring in the sale include **Wildcat Heir**, **Graeme Hall** and **Montbrook**. **Pomeroy**, **D'wildcat**, **Put It Back** and **With Distinction** are represented as are first crop stallions **Circular Quay Belgravia**, **Keyed Entry** and **Cowtown Cat**.

Buyers will also find yearlings by a diverse group of promising young stallions standing outside the Sunshine

### Selected Yearling Photos



Pomeroy's Pistol at the 2009 August Sale

Horsemen can take an advance look at most of the 172 Selected Yearlings via a sortable index in the OBS website.

State, including first crop sires **War Pass**, **Street Boss**, **Tiz Wonderful**, **Majestic Warrior** and champion OBS graduate **Midnight Lute**.

Recent racetrack rivals **Hard Spun** and **Any Given Saturday** headline the roster of second crop sires, along with **Invasor (ARG)**, **Discreet Cat**, and **Lawyer Ron**.

### Success At The Races

OBS August graduates have enjoyed a long history of success at the racetrack, competing at the sport's highest levels. Since 2005, August grads have won or placed in all three Triple Crown races, as well as the Breeders' Cup Classic and Juvenile, the Coaching Club American Oaks, Kentucky Oaks, Florida Derby and Blue Grass, every one a grade one race.

Grade one two-year-old races with OBS August graduates on the board include the prestigious Breeders' Futurity and the rich CashCall Futurity, as well as the Hopeful, Spinaway, Del Mar Futurity and Del Mar Debutante.

In grade one sprints, August grads won or placed in the Ancient Title, Bing Crosby, Carter, Cigar Mile, Forego, De Francis, King's Bishop and Vosburgh; and, on the turf, the Joe Hirsch Turf Classic and Sword Dancer.

For ladies only, August alumni earned black type in the Apple Blossom, Las Virgenes, Prioress, Santa Margarita and Santa Maria. In the handicap division August grads won or placed in the Clark, Stephen Foster, Whitney and Woodward.

In all, the sale has produced five Eclipse Award winners, headed by champion and Hall of Famer **Silver Charm**, sold by Janie Roper for \$16,500 in 1995. After winning the Kentucky Derby and Preakness en route to the 1997 3-year-old title, he added the Dubai World Cup at four and retired with earnings of more than \$6.9-million.

### Millionaire's Row

In all, OBS August has produced twenty millionaires, an honor roll that includes 1987 Sprint champion **Groovy**, 1995 Sprint champion **Not Surprising**, 2001 3-year-old filly champion **Xtra Heat** and 2009's champion sprinter **Kodiak Kowboy**.

The latest OBS August millionaire is Chasing Dreams Racing 2008 LLC's grade one winner **Noble's Promise**, passing that milestone with a victory in the recent Aristides Stakes (G3) at Churchill Downs. Consigned to the 2008 August Sale by Ballinswood Sales, Agent, the colt by Cuvee won Keeneland's grade one Breeders' Futurity at two. Versatile enough to go to



**Pomeroy's Pistol** Adam Coglianese photo

Europe and run well against grade one miler Canford Cliffs on the turf at three, he's won or placed in two graded sprint stakes at four and has earned \$1,062,465 to date.

### Another Big Year At The Races

Noble's Promise is just one of many August graduates currently competing at racing's highest levels. Dogwood Stable's **Aikenite**, the 2011 August catalog cover boy, is making his presence felt as well. Consigned by On Course, Agent, to the 2008 August Sale before being sold to Dogwood at OBS February the following year, the Florida-bred colt by Yes It's True has earned \$716,635 to date. He has two graded stakes wins to his credit this year, the most recent the Churchill Downs Handicap (G2) on Derby Day.

From the 2009 Summerfield consignment came Amy Tarrant's **Pomeroy's Pistol**, another August grad making her presence felt where it counts.

Although she's only started nine times, the 3-year-old Florida-bred daughter of Pomeroy has earned \$310,178, winning two stakes races and placing in four others. In January she captured Gulfstream's Forward Gal Stakes (G2) and was second, beaten just half a length, in Belmont's Prioress Stakes (G1) on July 4th.

### The Value's In August

Those graded stakes winners are a small sample of the 109 August Sale graduates that have won or placed in 193 stakes races since the beginning of last year, a rate of more than two per week.

This racetrack performance reflects value as well. According to a study in the June 15, 2011 TBH Marketwatch covering 2006-2008 sales, the OBS August Selected Yearling Sale is the only sale of its kind whose graduates' earnings exceeded their purchase price. With earnings fifty percent above sales price, the August Selected Sale produced the highest percentage of winners and the second highest percentage of grade one stakes winners. Compared with the Keeneland September Selected sessions, OBS August Selected sales produced twice the percentage of grade one winners, although the OBS \$56,447 average price was less than one-eighth the \$459,515 averaged at Keeneland. The OBS percentage of grade one winners was



**Aikenite** Reed Palmer photo

also double that of Fasig-Tipton July, whose yearlings averaged \$103,716, nearly twice that of the OBS August Select.

In addition, the same study shows OBS on top in percentage of winners of multiple races, 2-year-old winners and with the highest percentage of horses that earned more than their sale price.

### A Family Affair

The 2011 August Sale offers buyers the opportunity to buy siblings of graded stakes horses. Cataloged are half brothers and sisters to grade one stakes winners **Comma to the Top**, **Hooch Why** and **Trust N Luck**. Half siblings to graded winners **Coffee Boy**, **Mach Ride**, **Mr. Rod** and **Who's Up** are also cataloged.

Also, among many stakes winning mares, graded winners **Jostle**, **Lilah** and **Chispiski** have offspring cataloged.

Select Sales (2006 -2008)	Purchase Price	Total Earnings	Grade 1 SW	Winners	Average Price
OBS August Select	\$26 million	\$39 million	1.2%	68%	\$56,447
Keeneland Select	\$442 million	\$62 million	0.6%	57%	\$459,515
Fasig-Tipton Saratoga	\$119 million	\$32 million	1.4%	63%	\$302,657
Fasig-Tipton July	\$100 million	\$75 million	0.6%	67%	\$103,716

TBH Marketwatch 6/15/11

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