

NEW SIRES FOR 2017: VADAMOS

Rich Hill Stud Stud Fee \$15,000

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One of the most exciting members of the fabulous new intake of new sires this year is undoubtedly the high-class miler VADAMOS, for not only is he the winner of one of Europe's most important mile races, but he is also by one of the hottest sires around, the German champion Monsun, out of a mare from the celebrated French "V" family.

Vadamos was second in both of his two starts over 1600 metres as a two-year-old, then scored over 2100 metres as an early three-year-old. In Paris, after a second, he won at Longchamp and then the Listed Prix Frederic de Lagrange, both over 2400 metres.

Almost a year on, he made a winning debut for Andre Fabre at Chantilly over 2000 metres and won the 1600-metre Gr. 2 Oettingen-Rennen at Baden-Baden. Up to this stage he had been trained as a stayer, although gradually his connections realised he might be better at 1600 metres.

In his five-year-old season Vadamos divided champion Solow and Lucky Lion at Chantilly, then beat Group One filly Ervedya in the Gr. 2 Prix du Muguet over 1600 metres.

In the 1800-metre Gr. 1 Prix d'Ispahan, he took the field along at a merry gallop but ended up fourth to runaway winner A Shin Hikari. He beat Mr Owen and Territories in the 1600-metre Gr. 3 Prix Messidor, setting him up for a tilt at the Gr. 1 Prix Jacques le Marois, the first of France's two big miles.

He went a slashing race down the Deauville straight 1600, being close up throughout and, with the winner Ribchester, drawing clear to duel through the last 200 metres before the world champion miler prevailed.

At Chantilly a stellar field for the Gr. 1 Prix du Moulin included Prix Jean Prat winner Zelzal as hot favourite, and also Zarik (second to champion Almanzor on his last two starts). Settling well, Vadamos went clear 500 metres out and beat Spectre, Zelzal and Zarik for his first elite success.

An adjustment in ownership prompted the plan to take on Winx in the Gr. 1 Cox Plate. Rider Mark Zahra sent him into an ambitiously long lead until challenges mounted from everywhere, but creditably he never flinched, finishing fourth in a tight bunch with Hartnell and Yankee Rose and many of Australia's best trailing behind – none of them with the slightest chance with the great mare.

Flemington's 2000 metres takes a bit of getting, and inexplicably the same tactics were employed with Vadamos in the Gr. 1 Emirates Stakes. He led to the 200 metres before being caught by Awesome Rock and Hauraki, who had both been behind him in the Cox Plate. His Timeform rating as a five-year-old was 126.

His pedigree is full of stamina and he is bred on the very same Monsun / Peintre Celebre cross as the Melbourne Cup winner Protectionist, whose damsire Distant Relative is a speedier influence than Vadamos's damsire Linamix.

His multiple Group One-winning sire Monsun died four years ago after proving to be the most influential modern German sire, being champion sire and champion broodmare sire four times each. He has three times finished in the top three on the French sires list.

Monsun's 112 stakes winners include 21 at elite level, including Protectionist (world champion stayer – Melbourne Cup, Grosser Preis von Berlin), Stacelita (champion French three-year-old – six Group Ones including French Oaks), Schiaparelli



Rich Hill to stand Vadamos in 2017.

(five Group Ones), Novellist (four Group Ones including King George VI & Queen Elizabeth Stakes), Shirocco (Breeders' Cup Turf, Coronation Cup), Manduro (champion French sprinter-miler), Maxios (Longchamp Prix du Moulin), Estimate (Ascot Gold Cup) and Melbourne Cup winners Fiorente and Almandin.

Monsun is a son of the German Triple Crown victor Königsstuhl, a grandson of the British miler Tamerlane and male line descendant of English Triple Crown winner Bahram, himself a son of the mighty Blandford.

Monsun's influence is clearly biased towards stamina, although Maxios and Manduro both had plenty of pace and are making their names as sires, as is Shirocco.

The damsire is the European Horse of the Year Peintre Celebre, a top racehorse (Timeform rating 137) who won the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, French Derby and Grand Prix de Paris. A global traveller with poor fertility, he nevertheless sired 65 stakes winners and his 12 Group One winners include the champion mare Pride, ace Australian sprinter Bentley Biscuit and Castledale (Santa Anita Derby). His daughters produced 13 Group One winners including the doughty Red Cadeaux and Oaks winner Talent.

Granddam sire Linamix (French 2000 Guineas) was twice champion French sire (73 stakes winners), also champion sire of two-year-olds and broodmares (89 stakes winners), and has combined well with this female family. Next sire is the French Derby winner Bikala followed by Halo.

This is the 20 family descending from a mare sent to Argentina between the wars, and descends through Rustom's Legend (Rustom Pasha), who was inbred 3 x 3 to Dark Ronald. Her daughter Quimera acquired another line of that horse, her granddaughter yet another and by the time we come to Vadlava, the third dam of Vadamos, we have at least six lines. This becomes significant when we calculate that Vadamos's sire Monsun has no less than 16 lines of that horse, who is so pivotal to German breeding. It goes a long way towards indicating why Vadamos is such a good horse.

The dam Celebre Vadala, a Listed winner

to 2400 metres, has left four winners including the useful Vadanor (eight wins). She is half-sister to Valixir (Queen Anne Stakes, Prix d'Ispahan) and stakes-placed Vadaza (dam of four stakes winners including Group One winners Vazira and Vadawina). Their dam Vadlamixa won the Listed Deauville Prix de Lieurey.

The third dam of Vadamos is Vadlava, who won at Maisons-Laffitte and was second in the Listed Prix de la Seine at Longchamp. She left four stakes winners including Val Royal (Breeders' Cup Mile) and Vadlawys (Prix Hocquart) and was ancestress of many stakes winners including Valyra (French Oaks) and champion French three-year-old stayer Valirann.

The next dam Vadsa was stakes-placed and dam of 13 winners including two at stakes level. She is ancestress of Vahorimix (French 2000 Guineas) and Irish St. Leger victress Voleuse de Coeurs.

Both his sire and dam are balanced line-bred, but Vadamos is balanced only remotely to Nearco (13), Hyperion (10), Court Martial and, don't forget, Dark Ronald (22). This latter is a very potent force and I already know of at least one successful New Zealand breeder who is endeavouring to add to that in making his matings. We might well follow their example.

In selecting broodmare sires that will suit, we have to concentrate on the distaff side, endeavouring to replicate the patterns there of Nureyev (Northern Dancer) / Raise A Native – Sir Gaylord and Northern Dancer / Grey Sovereign – Halo (Hail To Reason). This would encourage belief that many sires that have either Sir Ivor, Hail To Reason or Mr. Prospector nicks will probably suit. Nureyev's male presence makes Sadler's Wells and Fairy King desirable especially if through daughters.

It will be hard to locate some of them, but benefit might accrue from sons of Halo, Alcide, Alydar, Habitat or Le Haar, or daughters of Nureyev, Northern Dancer, Raise A Native, Lyphard, Relko, Hail To Reason, Aureole, Kalamoun or Zeddaan.

Sires that have produced superior runners with Monsun include several of the above, also Unfuwain and Nashwan, Sadler's Wells, Darshaan, Riverman and The Minstrel. The female family has performed well with Zafonic, Sea The Stars, Dalakhani, Azamour, Exceed and Excel, and Teofilo.

It is rare that New Zealand gets the chance at one of Europe's best milers, especially if that horse can be expected to inject stamina as well as speed into his get. Breeders should embrace the chance.

VADAMOS (FR) 2011 BAY COLT			DATA SUPPLIED BY ARION PEDIGREES			
MONSUN (GER) Br. 1990 GW 12 wins f:741 r:640 w:510 SW:112	Königsstuhl Br. 1976 GW 11 wins f:359 r:202 w:182 SW:34	Dschingis Khan Br. 1961	Tamerlane	Persian Gulf	2	
			Donna Diana	Eastern Empress	1	
		Königskronung B. 1965	Tiepoletto	Neckar	4	
			Kronung	Donatella	6	
			Literat	Tornado	1	
	Mosella B. 1985 SW 1 win f:10 r:8 w:6 SW:1	Surumu Ch. 1974	Surama	Scarlet Skies	2	
			Authi	Olymp	8	
		Monasia B. 1979	Monacensia	Kaiserkrone	5	
			Nureyev B. 1977	Northern Dancer	Birkhahn	1
			Peinture Bleue Ch. 1987	Special	Lis	7
CELEBRE VADALA (FR) B. 2003 SW 2 wins f:6 r:5 w:4 SW:1	Peintre Celebre Ch. 1994 GW 5 wins f:1238 r:1019 w:648 SW:65	Nureyev B. 1977	Northern Dancer	Reliance	16	
			Special	Suncourt	19	
		Peinture Bleue Ch. 1987	Alydar	Aureole	2	
			Petroleuse	Virtuous	14	
			Linamix Gr. 1987	Mendez	Kaiseradler	5
	Vadlamixa Gr. 1992 SW 2 wins f:8 r:7 w:4 SW:2	Vadlava Br. 1984	Bikala	Motette	8	
			Vadsa	Nearctic	14	
		Lunadix	Natalma	2		
		Bikala	Forli	3		
		Vadlava	Thong	5		