

DVBK Principals In Lexington For Sales, Racing

At future yearling sales, you will have the opportunity to buy horses bred by a new multi-national concern. DVBK, headquartered in Sweden, has been launched with a mission to breed elite horses both European and North American eligible.

The DVBK group includes Deo Volente Farms, Brixton Medical, Allevamento Kronos, Jerry Silva, Tom Pontone and Renato Bruni of Italy. All were in Lexington for the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale and elaborated on the new venture.

At this moment, equine assets of DVBK include the broodmares Pampered Winner (Credit Winner-Pampered Princess), who is in foal to Muscle Hill; Orange Kronos (Yankee Glide-Dame Kronos), the dam of Zephyr Kronos with a Bold Eagle weanling filly on the ground; and Unison Kronos (Donato Hanover-Zagabria Dei), a sister to champion Lisa America.

Johan Arneng of Brixton Medical said there is no set number of broodmares that DVBK will own.

"It is not easy to find the very good ones, and we will only be looking for those," he said.

"It is our business plan that we focus on quality, not quantity," added Sue Agopian, a principal in Deo Volente Farm. "Right now, we envision having about a dozen mares."

Another reason for the careful consideration of mares is that DVBK's business plan is for the foals of those mares to be "dual passport" yearlings at time of sale. This will be different than the "dual eligibility" for sires stakes. The eligibility of the foals will be dictated by the residence of their U.S.-based stallions and the individual foaling requirements of European-based dams in their respective countries of residence.

For example, Swedish rules require that the mare must be in Sweden during the year the offspring is born to be registered in that country. Both the mare and foal must stay in Sweden until all registration requirements have been fulfilled—markings noted and DNA tested for parentage.

Trainer Marcus Melander recently revealed that consideration will be given to shipping the Green Manalishi S following next year's Hambletonian because he would have stakes worth \$860,000 in purses in the Swedish Kriterium.

The purchasers of yearlings conceived and sold by DVBK will have the unique benefit of eligibility on both sides of the Atlantic. Foals will not have eligibility to French races



From left to right, Renato Bruni, Sue Agopian, Paolo Bruni, Antonio Carraretto, Johan and Emmelie Arneng, and David Goodrow at the Fasig-Tipton Sales Pavilion grounds.

(except for those open) because of the restrictions on the French stud book. However, Swedish registered foals—even those of U.S.-blooded stallions and mares—are permitted to race in any race in France.

DVBK's present plan calls for mares to be bred to U.S. stallions, the resulting foals to be raised in Italy, then registered in Sweden before being offered for sale as "dual passport" yearlings.

Deo Volente, Brixton, and Allevamento Kronos have all been major players in international trotting bloodstock circles. Deo Volente stands 2014 Hambletonian champion Trixton at its farm in New Jersey and owns 20 trotting mares. Bengt Agerup's Brixton Medical campaigned Trixton and still shares ownership of the stallion along with interests in other major sires, and has 25 broodmares. Allevamento Kronos, the stable name of Antonio Carraretto has been breeding top trotters for many years but made its mark internationally with the successful Viking Kronos (American Winner-Conch), who beat Varenne as a 2 year old and went on to become a top sire in Europe. "Kronos" also bred the \$1 million trotting filly Lantern Kronos (a daughter of Viking Kronos), who has produced \$1.1 million winner The Bank. Kronos presently has 15-20 broodmares.

Silva and Pontone are well known as major owners in American racing circles. Pontone campaigned and continues to own an interest in world champion Muscle Hill. Italian horse owner Renato Bruni also owns Thoroughbreds.—By Kathy Parker

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