

# NEWS UPDATE



Muscle Hill

## 5 OCTOBER 2016

### **Widespread interest in Muscle Hill yearlings at Kentucky**

Most consignors say the strength of the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale, to be held at the Fasig-Tipton facility in Lexington, Kentucky from October 4 to 8, will be come from yearlings sired by Muscle Hill.

The catalogue features 54 lots - 33 colts and 21 fillies - by North America's No 1 trotting sire.

"**Muscle Hill** is head and shoulders above any other trotting stallion at this point, so I would expect them to sell off the charts" Diamond Creek's Adam Bowden said.

"Since Valley Victory, we've never seen the focus on one stallion the way it will be on **Muscle Hill**," Hunterton Farm's Steve Stewart said. "**Muscle Hill** has shown that he totally dominates and if you're trying to win the classic races, you're going to be one step ahead of everyone else if you've got a **Muscle Hill**. Maybe you don't have the right one, but you're ahead of the game. We haven't seen that in a long, long time, maybe ever."

"He's perhaps the hottest sire we've ever seen in our business and I'm happy we have a lot of **Muscle Hill's** in our consignment. You can never have too many of those this year that's for sure," Preferred Equine Marketing's David Reid said.

Joe Thomson, of Winbak Farm, who bred **Muscle Hill**, said: "He was an amazing horse when he was racing. He was really well gaited and it just seemed like he was all by himself. There's a great deal of pride to be able to breed a horse and have him do as well as he and some of the other horses have done."

**Muscle Hill** is popular in Europe, too, which should help drive that end of the market.

"The European contingent is very enthusiastic about him. They like **Muscle Hill**," Brittany Farms' Art Zubrod said.

Swedish horse agent Robert Lindstrom confirmed that **Muscle Hill** is very popular in Europe.

"There's only two stallions that anyone talks about (in Europe), Ready Cash and **Muscle Hill**," Lindstrom said. "Either of them, it's the sale topper anywhere you go. They are really nice horses. The bodies are fantastic and the engine is there to go very, very fast. They are not standing correct, many of them, in the lower parts, but anyway they are tremendous horses."

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## 6 OCTOBER 2016

### **Muscle Hill yearling colt fetches \$800,000**

**Tactical Landing**, a colt by **MUSCLE HILL**, was knocked down for a massive \$800,000 at the opening session of the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale on Tuesday night (October 4). The price was easily the highest at the sale and the second highest-price for a standardbred yearling in history.

Out of the Varenne mare **Southwind Serena** (3, 1:55.4), the colt ranks as a full brother to the fastest two-year-old trotter of all-time, **Mission Brief** 1:50.4 (\$1.5-million).

**Tasmania**, a **MUSCLE HILL** colt out of an **Andover Hall** mare, fetched \$300,000, while another two **MUSCLE HILL** colts, **Tokarev** (ex Andover Hall mare) and **Quantum Kemp** (ex Garland Lobell mare) made \$210,000 and \$200,000 respectively.

**MUSCLE HILL** produced 10 yearlings which sold for \$100,000 or more.

A dozen **MUSCLE HILL** colts aggregated \$2.4-million, an average of a staggering \$202,500, while four fillies sold for a total of \$242,000 at an average price of \$60,500.

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## 12 OCTOBER 2016

### **Muscle Hill colt claims Triple Crown**

Outstanding **MUSCLE HILL** three-year-old colt **Marion Marauder** has become only the ninth horse in history to claim the Trotting Triple Crown.

The colt completed the Grand Slam when he edged another son of **MUSCLE HILL**, Southwind Frank, by a head in the \$431,000 Kentucky Futurity at Lexington's Red Mile on Sunday (October 9).

**Bar Hopping** (also by **MUSCLE HILL**) finished third.

He started from the No 11 hole and raced on the outside for the entire trip, being no closer than seventh to the three-quarter pole.

The time for the mile was 1:52.6.

**Marion Marauder** had earlier won the first two jewels of the Crown – the Hambletonian and Yonkers Futurity. He has won 10 of his 13 starts this year for \$1.47-million and is the richest trotter in North America by a wide margin.

Last Friday (October 7) at The Red Mile **MUSCLE HILL** was represented by two divisional winners of the \$255,000 International Stallion Stakes for two-year-old trotting fillies in **Ariana G** (1:51.8) and **Ice Attraction** (1:53.6).

**MUSCLE HILL** was the highest grossing sire at the Lexington Selected Yearling Sale, with 52 of his offspring selling for a total of \$5,948,000. He had the top average price among trotters of \$114,385 and ranked second overall.

**LUCKY CHUCKY** sired the highest priced filly at the fourth session at the sale, a filly of a Dream Vacation mare which realised \$80,000. **LUCKY CHUCKY** had a dozen lots sell for an average price of \$25,000.

# NEWS UPDATE



Mike Lizzi photo

**Resolve cruises to a new world record of 2:23.4 for 1-1/4 miles in Saturday's International Trot at Yonkers Raceway.**

## 18 OCTOBER 2016

### **Resolve wins \$1-million Yonkers International**

Champion trotter **Resolve**, a five-year-old entire by **MUSCLE HILL** and one of his first crop, hoisted a new world and stakes record of 2:23.4 for 1-1/4 miles when he humbled a select field in the \$1-million Yonkers International Trot on Saturday afternoon (October 15) at Yonkers Raceway, New York.

Rolling to the front soon after the start, **Resolve** reached the quarter pole in 28.2, the half in 57.2, the three-quarters in 1:26 and the mile in 1:54.4.

He won by almost a length.

*"I was hoping to control the race, and was able to do so. I wanted to be aggressive. He did everything himself, I was just a passenger," trainer-driver Ake Svanstadt said.*

*"Once he got the lead, he was very comfortable. He could have gone even faster."*

Out of a mare by **Credit Winner**, **Resolve** took his seasonal earnings to \$1,038,740 from five wins and two placings in nine starts. He boasts a lifetime bankroll of \$2,110,638. He holds a mark of 1:50.4.

**MUSCLE HILL** figures as the sire of four of the five richest trotters in North America this year – **Marion Marauder**, **Southwind Frank**, **Resolve** and **Bar Hopping**.