



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Spice Route lands first graded stakes victory

by Rommy Faversham

By the slimmest of margins, Spice Route (GB) delivered his first victory on American soil as he reached the wire a nose ahead of favored Soldier's Dancer to capture the \$100,000 Tropical Turf Handicap (G3) on December 6 at Calder Race Course.



Jim Lisa photo

The four-year old King's Best gelding completed the 1½-mile turf race in 1:48.41. The Tropical Turf was the shortest distance at which Spice Route has ever competed.

SPICE ROUTE (inside)

Group 3 placed in England, Spice Route entered off a third-place finish behind Lauro (Ger) in the Sky Classic Stakes (Can-G2) on October 25 at Woodbine. He was second to Marsh Side in the Pattison Canadian International Stakes (Can-G1) on October 4 at the Toronto track.

Spice Route has won four of 17 lifetime starts and his bankroll stands at \$580,947.

Bred in England by Usk Valley Stud, Spice Route is one of two winners out of the In the Wings (GB) mare Zanzibar. A two-time winner in 12 career starts, Zanzibar distinguished herself with a victory in the 2001 Oaks d'Italia (Ity-G1) at 2,200 meters (10.94 furlongs).

To date, daughters of 1990 Breeders' Cup Turf (G1) winner In the Wings have combined to produce eight graded or group stakes winners, including English Group 3-winning filly Queen's Best, also by King's Best.

Spice Route's stakes-winning third dam, Gold Treasure, also is the grandam of the multiple stakes-winning turf sprint specialist Bop, by Rahy.

Our subject's stakes-winning fourth dam, Treasure Chest, is a full sister to My Dear Girl, 1959 juvenile champion two-year-old filly and dam of influential sire In Reality. This is also the family of champion full brothers Glint of Gold and Diamond Shoal (GB) as well as the German highweight Catella (Ger).

Spice Route hails from the third crop of the Kingmambo stallion King's Best. Winner of the 2000 Sagitta Two Thousand Guineas (Eng-G1), King's Best will stand the upcoming breeding season at Haras du Logis in Normandy, France.

Spice Route, ch. g., 2004

King's Best 97 701 fs, 25 SWs SI 1.20 DI=2.06	Kingmambo 90 5 wins, \$733,139, SW 781 fs, 82 SWs SI 3.07 DI=2.72	Mr. Prospector 70 1178 fs, 181 SWs SI 5.08 DI=3.95	Raise a Native 61	Native Dancer 50 Raise You 46 Nashua 52 Sequence 46	
	Allegretta (GB) 78 2 wins, \$22,088, Spl 12 fs, 3 SWs DI=0.60	Miesque 84 14 fs, 5 SWs DI=1.16	Nureyev 77	Northern Dancer 61 Special 69	
		=Lombard (Ger) 67 204 fs, 14 SWs SI 0.65 DI=0.71	=Anatevka (Ger) 69 11 fs, 3 SWs DI=0.67	Pasadoble 79	Prove Out 69 *Santa Quilla 70
	=Agio (Ger) 55			=Tantieme (Fr) 47 =Aralia (Ger) 45 =Prince Chevalier (Fr) 43 =Belle Sauvage (GB) 49	
=Zanzibar (Ire) 98 3 fs, 1 SW DI=0.64	In the Wings (GB) 86 7 wins, \$1,562,335 Champion 698 fs, 73 SWs SI 2.16 DI=0.75	Sadler's Wells 81 2077 fs, 303 SWs SI 4.07 DI=2.82	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57 Bold Reason 68 Special 69	
					High Hawk (Ire) 80 17 fs, 4 SWs DI=0.58
	Isle of Spice 91 1 win, \$11,206 6 fs, 2 SWs DI=1.34	Diesis (GB) 80 1032 fs, 86 SWs SI 2.37 DI=0.87	Gold Treasure 77 9 fs, 1 SW DI=3.00	Sharpen Up (GB) 69	Atan 61 =Rocchetta (GB) 61
					Doubly Sure (GB) 71
			Treasure Chest 62	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57 Rough'n Tumble 48 Iltis 47	

Like his influential sire, along with several other sons of Kingmambo at stud, King's Best has done exceptionally well with Sadler's Wells-line mares. The key relationship within this cross appears to be that of Kingmambo's broodmare sire, Nureyev, and his three-quarter brother Sadler's Wells.

To date, six—or 42.9%—of King's Best's 14 graded or group stakes winners have been produced by daughters or paternal granddaughters of Sadler's Wells. This is statistically remarkable since only 12% of King's Best's total foals of racing age are from this broodmare sire line.

As highlighted in previous pedigree profiles, 2008 has been a banner year for the fortunes of runners featuring inbreeding patterns to the family of *Rough Shod (fam. #5-h), which includes her granddaughter Special, who appears twice in the first six generations of Spice Route's pedigree.

Rommy Faversham is a pedigree specialist and author living in Los Angeles. More of his work is available at <http://www.equicross.com>.