



PEDIGREE PROFILE

Met Mile winner's pedigree reveals novel inbreeding patterns

Belmont Park's prestigious Metropolitan Handicap (G1) long has been recognized as a key source of future influential sires. On other occasions, however, it has served as bounty for some of racing's greatest geldings, including Kelso and Forego.



Adam Coglianese/NYRA photo

BRIBON

This year's running of the Shadwell Metropolitan Handicap was taken by Bribon (Fr), a six-year-old gelding who closed from midpack while five wide into the stretch and outfinished his opponents to chalk up a game half-length victory.

Sent off as the 3.15-to-1 favorite in the 12-horse field, Bribon completed the one-turn mile in 1:34.15 on a fast track.

The cleverly bred Mark of Esteem (Ire) chestnut entered off a one-length victory in the Westchester Stakes (G3) on April 29 at Belmont. He has won eight of his 27 lifetime starts and has bankrolled \$735,607.

Bred in France by Darpat SI, Bribon is one of two winners from four starters out of the unraced Arazi mare Rowat Arazi.

So far, daughters of Arazi have produced 12 graded or group stakes winners, including 2006 Emirates Airline Dubai World Cup (UAE-G1) winner Electrocutonist, by Red Ransom, and 2007 champion turf female Lahudood (GB), by Singspiel (Ire).

Bribon's immediate family is anchored by his winning third dam, Oh So Fair, by Graustark. She is best known for producing 1985 English Filly Triple Crown winner Oh So Sharp (Ire).

Oh So Fair also serves as fourth dam of the Mark of Esteem filly Ameerat (GB), who captured the 2001 Sagitta One Thousand Guineas (Eng-G1). This also is the clan of three-time Group 1 winners Collier Hill and Shantou.

Bribon hails from the sixth crop of the retired Darshaan stallion Mark of Esteem (Ire) and represents his sire's 13th graded or group stakes winner.

Mark of Esteem resides at Dalham Hall Stud in Newmarket. He was pensioned from stud duty in February 2007 due to declining fertility.

His best offspring include juvenile English highweight and 2006 Vodafone Epsom Derby (Eng-G1) winner Sir Percy and 2006 Euro-

Bribon (Fr), c. g., 2003

Mark of Esteem (Ire) 93 647 fls, 27 SWs SI 1.28 DI=0.73	=Darshaan (GB) 81 5 wins, \$226,979 Champion 835 fls, 97 SWs SI 2.75 DI=0.79	=Shirley Heights (GB) 75 694 fls, 64 SWs SI 2.24 DI=1.30	Mill Reef 68	Never Bend 60 Milan Mill 62
		=Delsy (Fr) 72 15 fls, 5 SWs DI=1.15	=Hardiemma (GB) 69	=Hardicanute (GB) 62 =Grand Cross (GB) 52
			=Abdos (Fr) 59	=Arbar (Fr) 44 =Pretty Lady (GB) 42
			=Kelty (Fr) 65	=Venture (Fr) 57 =Marilla (Fr) 57
=Rowat Arazi (GB) 95 5 fls, 1 SW DI=1.26	=Homage (GB) 89 Unraced 9 fls, 1 SW DI=1.42	Ajdal 84 32 fls, 2 SWs SI 2.51 DI=4.20	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
		Home Love 76 9 fls, 2 SWs DI=0.93	Native Partner 66	Raise a Native 61 Dinner Partner 59
			*Vaguely Noble 65	=Vienna (GB) 57 =Noble Lassie (GB) 56
			Homespun 69	Round Table 54 Gal I Love 59
=Rowa (GB) 81 Spl. \$3,060 11 fls, 1 SW DI=1.43		Blushing Groom (Fr) 74 512 fls, 92 SWs SI 4.76 DI=1.52	Red God 54	*Nasrullah 40 Spring Run 48
		Danseur Fabuleux 82 11 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.60	Runaway Bride (GB) 62	=Wild Risk (Fr) 40 =Aimee (GB) 57
		=Great Nephew (GB) 63 503 fls, 39 SWs SI 2.28 DI=3.67	Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57
		Oh So Fair 67 14 fls, 5 SWs DI=0.87	Fabuleux Jane 74	*Le Fabuleux 61 Native Partner 66
			=Honeyway (GB) 41	=Fairway (GB) 25 =Honey Buzzard (GB) 31
			=Sybil's Niece (GB) 51	=Admiral's Walk (GB) 36 =Sybil's Sister (GB) 43
			Graustark 63	*Ribot 52 Flower Bowl 52
			Chandelle 59	Swaps 52 *Malindi 47

pean champion sprinter Reverence.

Bribon's pedigree features a 3x3 cross of the very close relatives Ajdal and Danseur Fabuleux, creating 4x5 inbreeding to the Raise a Native mare Native Partner, winner of the 1970 Maskette Handicap and dam of four graded or group stakes winners.

Bribon is the first top-class performer to carry complementary strains of Native Partner. Inbreeding to her dam, the Foundation Mare Dinner Partner, appears 3x5 in the pedigree of 2002-'03 Australian Horse of the Year Northerly.

It also is interesting to note that Bribon's sire line and broodmare sire line both trace to *Nasrullah, whose full sister, *Malindi, serves as our subject's fifth dam—an auspicious fusion of classic male and female lines.

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