

## French Guineas winner Golden Lilac another with Europe's hottest cross

Never shown the whip, Golden Lilac made it look easy when she drew off to a comfortable three-length victory in the Poule d'Essai des Pouliches (Fr-G1) (French One Thousand Guineas) on Sunday at Longchamp.

The favorite at 5-to-2 odds in the field of 16 three-year-old fillies, the Galileo (Ire) filly completed the 1,600 meters (7.95 furlongs) on turf rated as good in 1:39.31.

Golden Lilac was coming off a 1½-length score in Longchamp's Prix de la Grotte (Fr-G3), a 1,600-meter Guineas prep also captured by her dam, Grey Lilas, seven years earlier.

Unbeaten in four lifetime starts, the Gestut Ammerland homebred's next assignment figures to be the Prix de Diane-Longines (Fr-G1) (French Oaks) at Chantilly on June 12.

Golden Lilac is the second winner from as many starters out of the classy Danehill mare Grey Lilas, whose biggest victory came as a three-year-old against colts in the 2004 Netjets Prix du Moulin de Longchamp (Fr-G1). Earlier in her classic season, Grey Lilas finished second in the French One Thousand Guineas and third in the French Oaks.

In Europe currently, one cannot find a more prominent cross between sire and broodmare sire than that of Sadler's Wells' premier son, reigning champion sire Galileo, with the daughters of Danehill.

This season's ultra-impressive QIPCO Two Thousand Guineas (Eng-G1) winner Frankel (see chart) is a prime representative of this affinity.

## **Group 1 winners with the Galileo/Danehill cross**

Group 1 victories		
2011 French One Thousand Guineas		
2011 QIPCO Two Thousand Guineas (Eng),		
2010 Dubai Dewhurst Stakes (Eng)		
2010 Criterium International (Fr)		
2008 Derby Italiano (Ity)		
2006 Darley Dewhurst Stakes (Eng),		

Laing O'Rourke National Stakes (Ire)

Golden Lilac, b. f., 2008					
Galileo (Ire) 98 1396 fls, 90 SWs SI 2.62 DI=1.11	Sadler's Wells 81 6 wins, \$713,690 Champion 2189 fls, 324 SWs SI 3.89 DI=2.82	000 5 447 014	Northern Dancer 61 636 fls, 147 SWs	Nearctic 54	=Nearco (Ity) 35 *Lady Angela 44
		SI 5.82 DI=3.00	Natalma 57	Native Dancer 50 Almahmoud 47	
		89 fls, 324 SWs 9 fls, 4 SWs	Bold Reason 68	Hail to Reason 58 Lalun 52	
			Special 69	*Forli 63 Thong 64	
	Urban Sea 89 Miswaki 78 1154 fls, 101 SWs 8 wins, \$1,704,553 SI 2.02 DI=2.75	Mr. Prospector 70	Raise a Native 61 Gold Digger 62		
			Hopespringseternal 71	Buckpasser 63 Rose Bower 58	
	11 fls, 7 SWS DI=1.05	Allegretta (GB) 78 12 fls, 3 SWs DI=0.60	=Lombard (Ger) 67	=Agio (Ger) 55 =Promised Lady (GB) 61	
			=Anatevka (Ger) 69	*Espresso 58 =Almyra (Ger) 62	
=Grey Lilas (Ire) 01 2 fls, 1 SW DI=1.44	Danehill 86		Northern Dancer 61	Nearctic 54 Natalma 57	
		Pas de Nom 68	Admiral's Voyage 59 *Petitioner 52		
		His Majesty 68	*Ribot 52 Flower Bowl 52		
	SI 3.60 DI=1.89	DI=1.17	Spring Adieu 74	Buckpasser 63 Natalma 57	
	=Kenmist (GB) 94 2 wins, \$56,030, SW 7 fls, 2 SWs DI=1.33 = Kenmare (Fr) 75 722 fls, 65 SWs SI 1.83 DI=6.33 = Mistral's Collette(Ire)87 9 fls, 2 SWs DI=0.69	=Kalamoun (GB) 70	=Zeddaan (GB) 65 =Khairunissa (GB) 60		
		=Belle of Ireland (GB) 64	=Milesian (GB) 53 =Belle of the Ball (GB) 58		
				=Simply Great (Fr) 79	Mill Reef 68 =Seneca (Fr) 73
			=Kitty's Sister(Ire)80	=Bustino (GB) 71 =Sky Fever (GB) 69	

Recently deceased breed-shaping sire Sadler's Wells and his former stud mate Danehill, the world's most successful shuttle stallion prior to his death in 2003, became principal figures in establishing a golden era for Coolmore Stud and Irish breeding.

Sadler's Wells and many of his sons have done particularly well with mares who carry complementary strains of the key families within his own pedigree. This includes his tail-female line (the \*Rough Shod II tribe), and the clans of his broodmare sire, Bold Reason (out of Lalun), and sire Northern Dancer (via Natalma/Almahmoud).

In the case of Grey Lilas, her sire's grandam, Spring Adieu, is Northern Dancer's half sister. For good measure, Grey Lilas' second dam is by Simply Great, a Group 2-winning grandson of Bold Reason's half brother, Never Bend.

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