



PEDIGREE **DYNAMICS**

Kurofune's Mates will Carry a Smile

Who was the World Champion 3 Year Old Miler of 2001 on the International Classifications? At a racing trivia quiz, you wouldn't get too many people jumping up with the name on their lips, especially as the pronunciation is not readily obvious. Kurofune (pron. Koo-rof-oo-neigh) is the correct answer, topping the list with a rating of 125 pounds. Among others, he beat Noverre, E Dubai, Viscount, Black Minnaloushe, Street Cry and Lonhro with his six emphatic wins in Japan, which included two Group One victories and four track records.

A statuesque grey, Kurofune has a very interesting pedigree. He is by the highly successful Japan based stallion French Deputy who, like Kurofune, will be standing at Arrowfield Stud this year. His dam Blue Avenue is by Classic Go Go (a son of the Australian bred export, Pago Pago) and out of a Never Bend mare.

Kurofune's second dam is by Icecapade (a son of Nearctic) and out of a Roberto mare. Kurofune has another Australian connection in that he traces to CHUBIN, the dam of the 1971 Melbourne Cup winner, Silver Knight. A New Zealand bred stallion by Alcimedes, Silver Knight retired to Robert Holmes a' Court's Heytesbury Stud in Western Australia, where he stood for 15 years. His best known offspring was Black Knight, who emulated his sire in winning the Melbourne Cup. Silver Knight is also damsire of **Carry A Smile**, a successful Heytesbury stallion. With plenty of talented broodmare daughters available, breeders will be able to create a nice linebreeding pattern when sending them to Kurofune.

It is an interesting coincidence that Heytesbury Stud was also host to Pago Pago before he was exported to the USA. Mares carrying **daughters of Pago Pago** will also be desirable for Kurofune.

The **Mr. Prospector** line is also a good option for breeders interested in repeating dynamic patterns already present in Kurofune. He carries two instances of a Nearco / Polynesian cross via Northern Dancer on his sireline and Icecapade. Mr. Prospector also

has a great record with Kurofune's grandsire, Deputy Minister. Mares by **Hula Chief** also carry a Nearco / Polynesian cross.

There is a duplication of the great Nearctic in Kurofune. This opens the way for **Star Kingdom** line mares, this influence being bred on the same Hyperion / Tracery cross as Nearctic. **Honeyway** and **Alibhai** also carry this pattern, while **Donatello II** and **High Hat** have other similarities to Nearctic. They carry Hyperion and provide another line to PRETTY POLLY, Nearctic's ancestress.

French Deputy is out of a Hold Your Peace mare. If that name rings a bell with you, it's because his son **Success Express** is one of our best sires at the moment. Putting his daughters to Kurofune (or French Deputy, for that matter), creates a lovely sex balanced duplication of Hold Your Peace. Success Express also carries High Hat to compliment Nearctic. At the risk of being repetitive, Heytesbury Stud was also host to Success Express at one time!

Star Kingdom's grandson **Blethingly** is especially desirable for Kurofune. His damsire Relic is not only from the same family as Blue Larkspur, who appears six times in Kurofune's pedigree, but he also contributes a Friar Rock / Black Toney cross, repeating the pattern present in Hold Your Peace.

Salieri mares also share a desirable pattern. French Deputy's dam is bred on a Speak John / Blue Larkspur / Bold Ruler cross. This combination is present in reverse through Salieri, with the addition of a second line to Blue Larkspur. Salieri traces to LADY BLANCHE, who, apart from multiple lines to her more commonly seen descendants is also represented in this hypothetical mating by Jabneh, second damsire of French Deputy in Kurofune's pedigree.

Breeders should also take the opportunity to sex balance the daughters of Roberto, Never Bend and Bold Ruler in Kurofune by offering mares carrying sons of these influences.