

Tribu Shows Emerging Patterns of Compatibility

Despite limited quality representation of Grey Sovereign line stallions in Australia over the years, its presence has been felt with enduring success.

Sire descendants of Grey Sovereign to stand here include Kenmare, Adraan, Curravilla, Francis Bacon, No Mercy, Royal Yacht, Plush, Raffindale, Royal Rocket, Beau Sovereign and Cheraw. In New Zealand, Sovereign Edition flew the banner for the Grey Sovereign line, along with Wolverton and Gold Sovereign.

The most prominent representative of the Grey Sovereign sire line in Australia has been Kenmare. The best performed stallion of that line to come to Australia, Kenmare was one of the first 'shuttle' stallions and had enjoyed even greater success as a sire in France.

No longer at stud himself, Kenmare's sons at stud in Australia include Baryshnikov, Keltrice, Kenvain, Metal Storm (Fr), Mister Kwila and Tribu.

Tribu (Kenmare from Vain Princess by Biscay from Vain Queen by Vain) entered stud duties in Western Australia in 1995, his oldest progeny now being three year olds. A half brother to the Group 2 winner Speed Week and the stakes placed Khoshaf, Tribu is from the family of Kaoru Star. Closer to home, Corporate Raider, a leading W.A. sire, is a brother to his dam, while another competent W.A. based sire Black Kite is a three-quarter brother to his dam.

I was fortunate enough to be involved in the selection and subsequent broodmare compatibility analysis of Tribu and am pleased to see that some of the patterns, which looked likely to produce good racehorses by Tribu, are working.

Being from the family of Kaoru Star, it looked an interesting cross to put mares from this line to him. This cross also creates linebreeding to Star Kingdom. In my observation, the duplication of Star Kingdom through sons works disproportionately few times compared to the number of times it is attempted. In some cases however, the effect of linebreeding to a predominant female through the dam line (in this case, Kaoru's Star's dam Kaoru) at the same time can often override any disadvantages of accompanying male - male sire line duplications. Apart from through his daughters, Kaoru Star can be accessed through his sire sons such as Old Spice, Marceau (and his son Hula Chief), Karioi Star and Pag-Asa.

Unlike many sire influences, Grey Sovereign and his sire Nasrullah don't seem to be adversely affected by being duplicated male - male. Some notable racehorses who carry reinforcements of Grey Sovereign include Angst (Group 1 AJC Flight Stakes; Group 2 Silver Shadow Stakes; Group 3 STC Tea Rose Stakes) and Heroicity (Group 1 BMW Australian Derby; Group 1 STC BMW Stakes; Group 1

Western Australian Derby) who both have three lines to Grey Sovereign in their pedigrees. Stakeswinners carrying two lines to Grey Sovereign include St. Covet, Ivory's Irish, Forest Express, Fimiston, Forge On, Natasha and Quick Score.

Fortunately for Tribu, there is an amazingly high number of sires and broodmare sires in W.A. who carry Grey Sovereign such as Old Spice, The Fort, Sarab, Fimiston, Palace Reign, Beau Sovereign, Lost Kingdom, Noble Commander, Pago Mystery, Cheraw, Belele, Steel Glow, Top Operator, Vain Rancher, Rare West, Laranto and Zedrich.

Grey Sovereign's sire Nasrullah (from the LADY JOSEPHINE family) is important for Tribu matings in his own right. Kenmare's affinity with more Nasrullah and Fair Trial stands out in most of his best progeny. His sire Kalamoun is also a member of this family. In planning matings for Tribu, the presence of other Lady Josephine family members such as Tudor Minstrel, Royal Charger, Nizami, Jambo, Adraan, Nilo, Prince Taj and Mahmoud is desirable.

Emerging Results

The managing owner of Tribu, Kath Fleming and Stud Manager Kent Johnston at Taunton Vale Stud have been keen to ensure that Tribu has been given the best chance at stud by encouraging the use of compatibly bred mares.

With only 16 named foals from his first crop (now three year olds), it is only now possible to see patterns emerging on what lines are working with him.

Tribu's best performer to-date is **Highwood**, who ran second in the Sir Ernest Lee-Steere Classic (Group 2) recently and has won three races. His damsire Rare West traces to Grey Sovereign and is out of a son of Milesian. The Grey Sovereign / Milesian pattern is echoed by Kenmare in Tribu.

A metropolitan winner, **Honour Your Debt** also carries a pattern which repeat those in Kenmare - his second damsire Vibrant has a Vilmorin / Coup de Lyon cross. In addition, his damsire Lunchtime carries Nasrullah as well as another relation to Blenheim, King Salmon.

Tribu's first metropolitan winner was **Ralph**, who is out of a mare by Cheraw, who also traces to Grey Sovereign. Ralph's second damsire King of the Green is another descendant of Grey Sovereign, giving him three lines in total.

Another winner, **High Alibi** is out of a mare inbred to Never Bend by Nasrullah. High Alibi's second damsire Straight Flight possesses a Nasrullah / Prince Rose cross, which is repeated in Tribu through Kalamoun.

Impressive triallers yet to race are also highly compatibly bred. **The Neighbourhood** is from Berin, a speedy two-year-old daughter of Belele. Belele traces directly to Grey Sovereign. My Babu is duplicated through a son and a daughter in this mating and there are four lines of Nasrullah contributed by Berin. Court Martial is also sex balanced for speed.

In January, a filly named **Tribu Star** broke a two-year-old trial record. She is out of Admire the Stars, a daughter of Pag-Asa, by Kaoru Star. Pag-Asa is particularly compatible with Tribu as he also carries Grey Sovereign. Admire the Stars traces

in tail female descent to LADY JOSEPHINE, providing another great genetic boost. Her third damsire is Marco Polo, a half brother to My Babu, who appears in Kenmare.

With these consistent patterns of compatibility emerging for Tribu, breeders can proceed with confidence in sending mares carrying some of the above lines. The following W.A. based broodmares sires in particular appear to carry all the right attributes for creating Tribu progeny with racing ability.

Mares by **OLD SPICE** look particularly appealing for Tribu. Being by Kaoru Star, he offers linebreeding to Tribu's tail female line. Old Spice's damsire Raimondo is by Grey Sovereign, creating a 5x 4 cross to this speed influence. Tribu's strong linebreeding to Nasrullah (by Nearco out of a Blenheim mare) is given a huge boost by Old Spice. Raimondo traces to a half sister to Nearco, while Old Spice's second damsire Gaul is from the family of Blenheim.

THE FORT – a tail male ancestor of Palestine, who is prominent in Kenmare's pedigree through a daughter. Grey Sovereign is also there for speed enhancement while his son Fortino traces to a half sister to Nearco, complimenting that line in Tribu.

CHERAW mares are also multi-talented mates. Big Game, who appears twice in Tribu, is complimented by the presence of his half sister Snowberry. Another line of Big Game in Cheraw acts in tandem with Nasrullah to create a repeat the Nasrullah / Big Game cross present on Kenmare's female line. Thrown in is a line to Grey Sovereign to top off the mating.

JEVINGTON – His potential affinity is based upon the same theory that has succeeded in Kaoru Star being compatible with Tribu. By a son of Star Kingdom from a daughter of Biscay's dam Magic Symbol, Jevington reinforces Tribu's damsire Biscay on both sides of his pedigree.

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