

DALGHAR Brighthill Farm - \$6,000 Stud Fee

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I must have been asked half a dozen times over the past few months since Brighthill Farm's new sire DALGHAR was announced, what one might expect to breed from a stamina standpoint if one used the horse, who was himself a high quality sprinter and yet halfbrother to a pair of champion middledistance horses.

Before addressing that knotty question it might be as well to have a good look at Dalghar's sire Anabaa, a world champion older sprinter and winner of the Gr. 1 Newmarket July Cup and Gr. 1 Deauville Prix Maurice de Gheest. The son of speed influence Danzig and the Gr. 1 Prix Robert Papin winner Balbonella did, however, also win at 1600 metres.

He shuttled between France and Australia for 11 years and he ranks as a most consistent sire that was equally successful in both hemispheres with a total of 81 stakes, 14 of them at elite level.

It would be fair to say that his Group One winners followed their damsires so far as their optimum trips were concerned. Goldikova, a world champion with no less than 14 Group One wins, is the queen of his progeny and is from a Blushing Groom mare, in turn from a Lyphard mare – she was best at a mile but stayed 1850 metres.

The Australian Yell was out of a Bluebird mare and got 1400 metres, and Headturner, the AJC Derby winner, was out of a Zabeel mare. The French Derby winner Anabaa Blue was out of a Riverman mare, and the Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud winner Plumania came from a Rainbow Quest daughter of a Lyphard mare. Closer to home Anabandana and Imananabaa both stayed as far as their pedigrees suggested they might.

The average winning distance of Anabaa's get was a stiff miler's 1610 metres, a higher figure than expected which may reflect the strength of the French staying programme. Anabaa was twice champion French sire of two-yearolds and was the runner-up four times in a row on the French sires' list.

As a racehorse Dalghar had the phenotype of a sprinter with the strength and power of his paternal grandsire Danzig, and on the track he conformed to this. He was a juvenile winner over 1400 metres at Maisons-Laffitte and ran second that year in the Gr. 2 Criterium on that track over 200 metres less.

The following year he won both his starts, including the 1500-metre listed Deauville Prix Luthier and in the other over 1600 metres at Longchamp. He campaigned in the best company at four years and his times and sectionals speak volumes for his blistering speed.

Dalghar won the Gr. 3 Longchamp Prix du Palais Royal in a sensational track record time of 1:17.04 for 1400 metres, with a blistering 9.7 seconds for the last 200 metres. How many horses are capable of running such times?

He also ran second in the Gr. 2 Ascot Diadem Stakes beating the Gr. 1 Royal Ascot King's Stand Stakes winner Kingsgate Native, and was also second in the Gr. 3 Longchamp Prix du Pin and Listed Prix de Montretout. Third placings came in the Gr. 2 Goodwood Lennox



Brighthill Farm's speedy newcomer, French-bred Dalghar.

DALGHAR (FR.) 2000 Grey Colt			Dates supplied by Arion Pedigree	
ANABAA (USA) B. 1992	Danzig B. 1977	Northern Dancer B. 1961	Nearctic	Nearco Lady Angela
			Natalma	Native Dancer Almahmoud
		Pas de Nom Br. 1968	Admiral's Voyage	Crafty Admiral Olympia Lou
			Petitioner	Petition Steady Aim
	Balbonella B. or Br. 1984	Gay Mecene B. 1975	Vaguely Noble	Vienna Noble Lassie
			Gay Missile	Sir Gaylord Missy Baba
		Bamieres B. or Br. 1978	Riverman	Never Bend River Lady
			Bergamasque	Kashmir Bergame
Daltawa (IRE) Gr. 1989	Miswaki Ch. 1978	Mr. Prospector B. 1970	Raise a Native	Native Dancer Raise You
			Gold Digger	Nashua Sequence
		Hopespringseternal Ch. 1971	Buckpasser	Tom Fool Busanda
			Rose Bower	Princequillo Lea Lane
	Damana Gr. 1981	Crystal Palace Gr. 1974	Caro	Fortino Chambord
			Hermieres	Sicambre Vieille Pierre
		Denia B. 1973	Crepello	Donatello Crepuscule
			Rose Ness	Charlottesville Astana

Stakes and Gr. 3 Maisons-Laffitte Prix Seine-et-Oise, while he was not disgraced when fifth in the Gr. 1 Royal Ascot Queen Anne Stakes behind Goldikova.

The dam of Dalghar is Daltawa, a daughter of Miswaki. I regard Miswaki as one of the most important sons of Mr. Prospector, for he is balanced linebred to Nasrullah, Bull Dog and his sire Teddy, as well as being bred on a strong version of the Nasrullah/Princequillo nick, which might bear repetition in Dalghar's mates.

Miswaki, a Group One-winning juvenile in France, has long featured as a champion sire and broodmare sire worldwide with a total of 94 stakes winners to his credit, including Black Tie Affair and Umatilla and the epochal broodmare Urban Sea, an Arc winner whose eight stakes winners include Galileo and Sea The Stars. Daltawa was a stakes-winning racemare over 2100 metres, taking the Saint-Cloud Prix Ronde de Nuit and finishing second in the Gr. 3 Prix Penelope at the same venue. She has been sensational at stud, leaving the world champion older horse and 1999 European Horse of the Year Daylami (by Doyoun, winner of the 2000 Guineas and a son of Mill Reef from a Kashmir mare), who scored eight victories at elite level.

He is achieving further accolades as damsire of the champion Australian two-year-old of 2012, Pierro, who looks to have next season's classics at his mercy.

Daltawa, to Mill Reef's grandson Darshaan, left another European champion in Dalakhani, who was European Horse of the Year as a three-year-old in 2003 and who tasted success in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe and French Derby. Daltawa's Caerleon son Daymarti is also a stakes winner and was Group One placed, including second in the Longchamp Prix Lupin.

Daltawa also has a winning daughter Daltaiyma, a sister to Daylami, who is dam of Daltaya, winner of the Gr. 3 Longchamp Prix de la Grotte over the metric mile. Daltaya is therefore a threequarter blood sister to Dalghar and she has recently sprung into prominence as dam of the unbeaten French filly Dalkala (Giant's Causeway), winner of the Gr. 3 Saint-Cloud Prix Cleopatre.

Daltawa's dam is the stakes-placed Damana, who is by the French Derby winner and Champion French sire Crystal Palace. She is half-sister to stakes winners Dastaan (Arctic Tern) and Raykour (Dalsaan), their dam being the Crepello mare Denia, who is also ancestress of stakes winners including the recent American Grade One winner Belle Royale.

Denia is three-quarter-sister to the French Oaks winner Crepellana. This is a fantastic female family, French in origin closer up through Astana, Theano and Souryva, but tracing back through great matrons to St. Lucre and her dam Fairy Gold, the dam of Fair Play and Friar Rock.

I counted no fewer than 177 stakes winners worldwide tracing from Souryva – a phenomenal total. The line is one developed to great effect by Marcel Boussac using techniques of line and inbreeding which were his hallmarks and today carried on to great effect by H.H. the Aga Khan.

The Boussac-bred Astana, who is the fifth dam of Dalghar, is a daughter of Arbar (also from this same female line) and Theano. This latter pair are both bred on the same Tourbillon/Sardanapale combination. Repetition of these and Arbar's brother Marsyas may be fruitful. Their dam is Astronomie, by Teddy, whose sire blood abounds in the bottom portion of the new sire's chart.

Dalghar is sex-balanced line-bred to Native Dancer (5 x 5), Nasrullah (4), Princequillo (3), Nearco (8), Blenheim (7), Tourbillon (4) and Blue Peter. Further enhancement could be attained through further crosses of Hyperion, male lines of Riverman, Crepello, Sir Gaylord, My Babu and female ones of Never Bend, Bold Reason, Fair Trial, Vaguely Noble and members of the Northern Dancer and Mr. Prospector sire lines.

I believe that mares containing the blood of Mill Reef, Tourbillon, Teddy, Man o'War, Djeddah, Sir Tristram and Zabeel, and maybe Danehill, will suit this horse. I expected to find that this horse would be difficult to mate, but I discovered that this was not the case at all and that there are some enthralling prospective matings amongst the younger broodmare sires.

I sorted out for Dalghar, for one reason or another, interesting matings with daughters of Captain Rio, Dagger's Drawn, Elusive City, Golan, Kilimanjaro, Stravinsky, Shinko King, Zerpour, Bertolini, Bunker, Brilliance, City On A Hill, Deputy Governor, Ekraar, Faltaat, His Royal Highness, Howbaddouwantit, Kaapstad, My Halo, One Cool Cat, Personal Escort, Sandtrap, San Luis and Spectatorial. There are plenty of other suitable broodmare sires. A bit of research for each potential mate will unquestionably pay off.

To answer the question set in the first paragraph of this article, I will expect Dalghar to follow the breeding of his mates and it will not surprise if he leaves excellent classic stayers to stouter or miling mares. Conversely, send him a sprinter and you will get something rather quick. •