MATING ANALYSIS

You may submit your mare online at lanesend.com or call 859-873-7300 to discuss your matings with CHRIS KNEHR, cknehr@lanesend.com or JILL MCCULLY, jillmac@lanesend.com.

🙈 LANE'S END

QUALITY ROAD

Elusive Quality - Kobla, by Strawberry Road (AUS) 2006 Bay | 16.3 Hands

Quality Road is a sire in demand. At the 2022 Keeneland September Yearling Sale, six of his yearlings brought prices of \$2,500,000 (sale topper), \$1,700,000, \$1,300,000, \$1,200,000, \$1,150,000, and \$1,050,000, and a month earlier at the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga sale, he had a yearling make \$1,800,000 – third-highest price. All told, Quality Road had 45 yearlings average \$516,667 in 2022.

Demand this far beyond a stallion's first season is a result of success. Among Quality Road's best current performers are Grade 1 winners Bleecker Street (dam by Exchange Rate) and Emblem Road (Bernardini). The broodmare sires of his other black-type winners in 2022 are Giant's Causeway, Galileo, Pulpit, Ghostzapper, Indian Charlie, War Front and Arch, an indication that he fits a varied group of mares and has the ability to sire top-level winners on dirt and turf, from age two to older runners.

Quality Road is the sire of 14 Grade 1 winners to date from nine crops (including 2-yearolds of 2022) to race, and they span the spectrum of racing aptitudes. Caledonia Road (Dixie Union) and Corniche (Najran, by Runaway Groom) were champion juveniles, while at the same age, Klimt (Dixie Union) won the Del Mar Futurity and Hootenanny (Hennessy) the Breeders' Cup Juvenile Turf. Abel Tasman (Deputy Minister), winner of the Kentucky Oaks, was a champion 3-year-old, while Roadster (Silver Ghost) won the Santa Anita Derby, Dunbar Road (Bernardini) the Alabama, and Bellafina (Malibu Moon) the Santa Anita Oaks at three (as well as the Chandelier and Del Mar Debutante at two). As older runners, Salty (Dixie Union) won the La Troienne, Illuminant (Polish Numbers) the Gamely (on turf), Spring Quality (Deputy Minister) the Manhattan (on turf), City of Light (Dehere) the Pegasus World Cup and Breeders' Cup Dirt Mile, Bleecker Street the New York S. (on turf), and Emblem Road the \$20-million Saudi Cup – the world's richest race.

Deputy Minister and his line have played an important supportive role in the success of Quality Road. Not only are Grade 1 winners Abel Tasman, City of Light, and Spring Quality bred directly on the cross, so too are Grade 3 winners Long Haul Bay (French Deputy) and Guest Suite (Ghostzapper), plus current black-type winner Ganadora (Ghostzapper). Meanwhile, Grade 1 winner Caledonia Road's third dam is by Deputy Minister, Grade 3 winner Great Stuff's second dam is by Dehere, and black-type winner Too Sexy's second dam is by French Deputy.

A.P. Indy sons Bernardini, Pulpit, and Malibu Moon are broodmare sires of five black-type winners by Quality Road, including Grade 1 winners Bellafina, Dunbar Road, and Emblem Road, suggesting that daughters of Tapit – the prime conduit of A.P. Indy – are great candidates for Quality Road in the future.

Dixie Union, who spent the entirety of his stud career at Lane's End, is another broodmare sire that's clicked with Quality Road, getting Grade 1 winners Salty, Klimt, and Caledonia Road, along with Grade 3 winner High Velocity. Well-performed daughters of Dixie Union's Lane's End-based son Union Rags are obvious mates for Quality Road.

Because the Storm Cat line has also succeeded with Quality Road, a variety of mares from this line are appealing, especially daughters of Scat Daddy – a son of the Hennessy (by Storm Cat) horse Johannesburg. Hennessy is the broodmare sire of top-level winner Hootenanny and Grade 3 winners Dr Post and Great Stuff. Storm Cat also appears in the





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QUALITY ROAD...

pedigrees of Grade 1 winner Klimt (sire of second dam), Grade 2 winner Blofeld (sire of dam), Grade 2 winner Friar's Road (sire of broodmare sire Giant's Causeway), and Grade 3 winner Princess La Quinta (sire of broodmare sire Tabasco Cat), among others.

Some of Quality Road's young sons have already succeeded with Storm Cat, notably City of Light with his black type-winning Grade 1-placed Chop Chop (dam by Giant's Causeway) and Klimt's Grade 3 winner Butterbean (dam by Johannesburg), and on the other side of the ledger, the first few daughters of Quality Road to produce black-type winners have done so overwhelmingly with Storm Cat-line stallions.

There are at least 10 Quality Road black-type winners with Danzig in their pedigrees, led by Grade 1 winners Illuminant and Bleecker Street, who are bred on the direct cross. But European Group 3 winner Cairo, for example, has Danzig within his pedigree, as a son of a Galileo mare who's out of a daughter of Danehill. This Galileo/Danehill cross is a potential new source of black type for Quality Road, as are daughters of the Danzig stallions War Front and Hard Spun, both of whom are represented by black-type winners with Quality Road as broodmare sires.

Quality Road also has a couple of black-type winners from Indian Charlie mares, suggesting that daughters of Uncle Mo are candidates as well. Quality Road also has the Grade 2 winner Paved from a mare by Cozzene, who is a Caro-line sire like Indian Charlie and Uncle Mo. Caro is in the pedigrees of six Quality Road black-type winners, three of whom are graded winners.

~ Sid Fernando