

MATING ANALYSIS

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LANE'S END

TONALIST

Tapit - Settling Mist, by Pleasant Colony
2011 Bay | 16.3 Hands

Tonalist goes to stud as the best son of America's best sire Tapit, but his profile, or at least breeders' perception of his profile is rather different than Tapit's. In addition to being a G1 winner at 3 at 9 furlongs, Tapit was an undefeated G3 winner at 2, giving him the superior 2-year-old form breeders tend to desire.

Tonalist is a classic racehorse with a classic pedigree, and although that is what every racehorse owner and breeder says they want, what they buy is speed and precocity. Thus it makes sense to emphasize speed and precocity elements in mares chosen for Tonalist. That way he can be positioned as the sire to bring out classicism in speed pedigrees.

Tapit has enjoyed considerable success with broodmare sires noted for their speed both as racehorses and sires, notably Distorted Humor (Constitution), Mr. Greeley (Zazu, Flashback), More Than Ready (Race Day), Carson City (Teen Pauline) and most particularly Storm Cat and/or his sons (Hansen, Careless Jewel, Tell a Kelly, Coup de Grace, Just Wicked, Divin-grood, Cassatt). I would push Storm Cat line mares heavily, and it's bound to be rated an A nick by the nicking services, which is a big selling point for a lot of breeders.

Distorted Humor, Mr. Greeley, More Than Ready, and Carson City all will produce inbreeding to Mr. Prospector in Tonalist foals, since Tapit is inbred to that great sire. Since Tonalist is a relatively rare Tapit with no Mr. Prospector on his bottom side, multiples of Mr. Prospector in his mates will be a big positive. There are, of course, tons of Mr. Prospector-line sires who are primarily speed merchants, and among the most notable who would be very desirable as broodmare sires for Tonalist

would be Carson City, Distorted Humor, Mr. Greeley, and Speightstown, who would be an especially attractive candidate since he is out of a Storm Cat mare, thus combining two speed lines that have worked well with Tapit and should work with Tonalist.

Tonalist's female side is also missing two of the most important elements in Tapit's pedigree that have worked well when repeated in Tapit's mates, namely In Reality and Nijinsky II. Both of those great sires appear in pedigrees of a large number of mares who could make attractive mates for Tonalist. Mares by Unbridled's Song, another noted source of speed, will carry a cross of In Reality, as well as doubling up on Tapit's cross of Unbridled.

Another interesting gambit for Tonalist would be to double up on Missy Baba his fourth dam. This is also the family of A.P. Indy, of course, so Tonalist himself is distantly inbred (7x4) to Missy Baba, but there are plenty of other sources of mares with Missy Baba, including mares by Lemon Drop Kid and A.P. Indy's half brothers Summer Squall and Honor Grades. There are also numerous mares descending in tailfemale from Missy Baba available.

Inbreeding to the sire line of Tonalist's broodmare sire Pleasant Colony is also a possibility, though it is not as likely. His Majesty and his full brother Graustark are not all that common in the breeding population, but would be good targets where available.

Finally, Tonalist is distantly inbred to Buckpasser and there are more and more top-class pedigrees showing up these days with four or more crosses of Buckpasser. He is an inbreeding target that bears multiple repeats, and there are plenty of mares in the population who would provide two or more additional crosses of Buckpasser.

