

WEST COAST

CALIFORNIA IDAHO NEVADA OREGON
UTAH WASHINGTON WYOMING

Terry Lovingier of Lovacres Ranch likes what he sees from the first California crop of classic-placed sire Stay Thirsty



Refreshing Addition

**LOVACRES RANCH SEES STAY THIRSTY'S
FIRST CALIFORNIA CROP ENJOY SUCCESS**

By TRACY GANTZ

CALIFORNIA HAS TRADITIONALLY **DONE WELL** with its homegrown stallions. Flying Paster, Lucky Pulpit, and Unusual Heat all spent their entire careers in the Golden State. Terry Lovingier has done it that way at his Lovacres Ranch

in Warner Springs, Calif., but he is having even more success bringing in Stay Thirsty, who already had a good stud career going in Kentucky.

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2021 LEADING SIRES IN CALIFORNIA

For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2021 Earnings	Foals	BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Stay Thirsty (08, Bernardini), Lovacres Ranch	\$10,000	188/99	5/8	2/5	(Mind Control, \$356,500)	\$5,001,339	*569	16	1.21	1.32
2	I'll Have Another (09, Flower Alley), Ocean Breeze Ranch	\$10,000	213/119	1/1	0/1	(Omega Rainbow, \$258,190)	\$4,093,660	399	3	1.01	1.09
3	Grazen (06, Benchmark), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds	\$6,000	104/56	4/5	2/4	(Lieutenant Dan, \$407,720)	\$3,567,996	232	14	1.48	1.06
4	Square Eddie (06, Smart Strike)	Pnsd	94/45	0/0	0/0	(Eddie's New Dream, \$206,760)	\$3,067,829	262	18	1.47	1.14
5	Graydar (09, Unbridled's Song), Milky Way Farm	\$4,000	121/65	2/2	2/2	(Princess Kokachin, \$235,500)	\$2,983,507	*306	7	0.91	1.36
6	Smiling Tiger (07, Hold That Tiger), Harris Farms	\$7,500	106/54	1/1	0/1	(Kristi's Tiger, \$138,330)	\$2,498,972	260	9	1.02	0.99
7	Vronsky (99, Danzig), Harris Farms	Died	80/45	2/4	1/2	(The Chosen Vron, \$304,078)	\$2,469,818	330	12	1.21	1.03
8	Mr. Big (03, Dynaformer), Legacy Ranch	\$4,500	71/36	3/3	2/3	(Big Switch, \$141,750)	\$2,184,522	143	6	1.33	0.92
9	Ministers Wild Cat (00, Deputy Minister), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds	\$4,000	88/49	3/3	1/3	(Colt Fiction, \$214,732)	\$2,173,904	525	21	0.93	0.88
10	Clubhouse Ride (08, Candy Ride), Legacy Ranch	Private	56/28	2/5	0/2	(Brickyard Ride, \$300,700)	\$2,141,675	110	3	1.41	0.93
11	Jersey Town (06, Speightstown), Daehling Ranch	\$3,000	66/36	2/2	2/2	(Workin On a Dream, \$134,690)	\$1,749,113	*203	6	1.04	1.05
12	Acclamation (06, Unusual Heat), Harris Farms	\$4,000	50/26	2/2	1/2	(Acclimate, \$306,000)	\$1,657,836	179	4	1.02	1.17
13	Sir Prancealot (IRE) (10, Tamayuz), Rancho San Miguel	\$15,000	105/42	1/1	0/1	(Copper Knight, \$138,690)	\$1,265,308	*337	10	1.23	0.91
14	Lucky Pulpit (01, Pulpit)	Died, 2017	60/36	2/3	2/2	(Fashionably Fast, \$195,646)	\$1,229,976	*478	12	1.20	1.02
15	Misremembered (06, Candy Ride), Barton Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	45/19	2/3	0/2	(Greek Geek, \$139,535)	\$835,579	149	7	0.96	1.09

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals



After topping a trifecta of 2-year-olds by Stay Thirsty in his debut, Finneus won the Golden State Juvenile Stakes (above) and finished second in the grade 1 Del Mar Futurity

Juveniles Thirsty Always and Rock N Rye, also by Stay Thirsty and bred by Lovingier, won stakes in 2021 as well. Thirsty Always took the Everett Nevin Stakes at Pleasanton and the Royal Owl Stakes at Los Alamitos and ran third in the I'm Smokin Stakes at Del Mar. Rock N Rye won the Graduation Stakes at Del Mar and finished second in the Royal Owl and I'm Smokin.

Meanwhile, Stay Thirsty's older runners continue to perform well. Kentucky-bred Mind Control won the 2021 John A. Nerud Stakes (G2), and New Jersey-bred Pickin' Time captured the 2021 City of Laurel Stakes.

Lovingier, who often puts together partnerships on horses he has bred once they get to the races, brought extensive backgrounds in horses and engineering to the building of Lovacres Ranch in 2007. Born in California, he had raised Quarter Horses in Texas. By the time he invested in Stay Thirsty, he was already a major Thoroughbred owner/breeder and active on the board of the California Thoroughbred Breeders Association. He currently serves as the CTBA chairman.

The CTBA, with its breed-back rule and working in partnership with the race-tracks and the Thoroughbred Owners of California on the lucrative state incentive program, has employed a longtime strategy to help attract better mares to the state and keep the good ones from going to Kentucky. The major sire power in Kentucky makes that a constant uphill battle, but the program has made inroads.

Winner of the 2011 Travers Stakes (G1) and 2012 Cigar Mile Handicap (G1), Stay Thirsty is a classic-placed son of Bernardini—Marozia, by Storm Bird. After the stallion had a few crops to the races for Ashford Stud, where he retired to stud in 2013, Lovingier bought a majority interest and moved him to California in 2018.

"He's a great-bodied horse," Lovingier said. "He's got a big shoulder, big gaskin, and big hind end. I just thought he'd work really well in California. He's got enough turn of foot, and he can carry his speed. For me it was about getting a stallion that could go a route of ground but also had a turn of foot."

Lovingier bred several of his own mares to Stay Thirsty and has bred him to outside mares. The stallion's first California foals were 2-year-olds of 2021. Early indications point toward success.

In one of the first 2-year-old races of 2021 at Santa Anita Park June 13, Finneus, Sauls Call, and Mr. T's Thirsty, all by Stay Thirsty and bred by Lovingier, finished first, second, and third respectively. Finneus went on to win the Golden State Juvenile Stakes and finish second in the Runhappy Del Mar Futurity (G1), Best Pal Stakes (G2), and King Glorious Stakes for earnings of \$266,366 in his initial season.

OM

First or Second in 11 Graded Stakes
14 Triple Digit Beyers, 5 to 8 ½ furlongs



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2021 LEADING SIRES IN IDAHO

For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	BT SWnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2021 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Boos (07, Ghostzapper)	N/A	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Collecting Stars, \$16,688)	\$74,937	36	2	0.46	0.34
2	Miraculous Hand (03, Marquetry)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Tw Skipping Stones, \$32,332)	\$32,332	18	0	0.20	0.29
3	Heir Joe (07, Wildcat Heir)	N/A	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Prince Ali, \$11,343)	\$22,637	5	0	0.19	0.35
4	Bachelor of Arts (GB) (01, Stravinsky)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Royal Bachelor, \$5,900)	\$10,260	41	0	0.09	0.34
5	Reversal (97, Gone West)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Wild Derby Daze, \$1,650)	\$1,650	82	2	0.37	1.00

If a mare in foal to an outside stallion foals in California and is bred back to a California stallion, her foal by that non-California stallion can be registered as a California-bred and compete in Cal-bred races. The idea is that a California breeder can buy a quality in-foal mare in Kentucky and then improve the book of a local stallion.

Lovingier already had that game plan in place before standing Stay Thirsty. One of his most famous success stories is Cal-bred champion My Fiona, a daughter of Ghostzapper—A Vision in Gray, by Two Punch. My Fiona is the dam of Finneus. Lovingier purchased multiple stakes winner A Vision in Gray for \$18,000 from Vinery Sales at the 2011 Keeneland November sale. The mare was carrying My Fiona at the time.

“What drives those mares is the stud fee in them,” Lovingier said. “You have to ask yourself whether you like that stud for that amount of money. People were kind of down on Ghostzapper at the time.”

Lovingier pointed out that the bonus paid to Cal-breds winning a maiden special weight race—\$17,500 in Southern California and \$10,000 in Northern California—helps breeders like him justify these kinds of mare purchases. It worked especially well in buying A Vision in Gray.

The mare foaled My Fiona in California the following March, and Lovingier bred her back to Lovacres stallion Bushwacker. Racing for Lovingier, Tom Beckerle, and Amanda Navarro, My Fiona won three stakes in 2014 and was named that year’s champion Cal-bred 2-year-old female. She ultimately earned \$478,743.

Lovingier initially bred My Fiona to Triple Crown winner American Pharoah, bringing her back to California and then breeding her to Stay Thirsty. Fi Fi Pharoah, the 2018 Cal-bred daughter of American Pharoah, won the 2021



Stay Thirsty started his career at Coolmore’s Ashford Stud near Versailles, Ky.

“FOR ME IT WAS ABOUT GETTING A STALLION THAT COULD GO A ROUTE OF GROUND BUT ALSO HAD A TURN OF FOOT.”

—TERRY LOVINGIER ON BRINGING STAY THIRSTY TO CALIFORNIA

Melair Stakes.

Finneus is the first of the Stay Thirsty—My Fiona foals. The mare has produced a 2020 colt and 2021 filly by Stay Thirsty and is back in foal to the stallion. Lovingier sees potential for further success.

“As a broodmare, she’s doing fabulous,” Lovingier said. “She’s got a good colt coming up (as a 2-year-old) next year, and she had an unbelievably good filly by Stay

Thirsty (in 2021), one of the best fillies I’ve ever had. I’ve never raised a filly that good.”

While Lovingier will continue breeding mares to Stay Thirsty, he is somewhat limited by the stallion’s popularity. By mid-December, Lovingier already had 70 contracts to Stay Thirsty for the 2022 breeding season.

The breeder has several options because six other stallions stand at Lovacres, including two newcomers, millionaires Oscar Nominated and V. E. Day. Oscar Nominated, the winner of five stakes and a son of Kitten’s Joy, will be standing his first full season at stud in 2022. V. E. Day, whose first foals began racing in 2020 and who is by English Channel, won the 2014 Travers Stakes.

Lovingier spoke highly about Smokem, a son of classic winner Union Rags standing at Lovacres. Smokem’s first foals are 2-year-olds of 2022.

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2021 LEADING SIRES IN OREGON

For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	BT SWnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2021 Earnings	Foals	BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Harbor the Gold (01, Seeking the Gold), Bar C Racing Stables	Died, 2021	73/40	2/3	1/2	(Harbored Memories, \$126,700)	\$1,069,291	424	26	0.59	0.69
2	Sixthirteen (04, Dixie Union), Bar C Racing Stables	\$1,000	20/9	0/0	0/0	(El Maestro, \$32,230)	\$131,960	67	0	0.29	0.56
3	Giacomo (02, Holy Bull), Oakhurst Thoroughbreds	\$2,500	18/3	0/0	0/0	(Rona, \$33,419)	\$131,186	*378	10	0.94	1.04
4	Grindstone (93, Unbridled)	Pnsd	10/2	0/0	0/0	(Racing Ray, \$25,317)	\$65,643	*653	17	0.92	1.38
5	Understatement (05, Distorted Humor), Nance Training Stables	\$1,000	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Stay in Grace, \$28,641)	\$38,746	54	0	0.38	0.47
6	Dynamic Impact (11, Tiznow), Bar C Racing Stables	\$1,500	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Cute Impact, \$22,100)	\$37,860	4	0	0.47	1.01
7	Coastal Storm (99, Storm Cat)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Mr Memphis, \$7,050)	\$17,131	174	3	0.94	0.78
8	Klinsman (IRE) (94, Danehill)	Died, 2020	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Burton Ernie, \$11,202)	\$11,202	68	0	0.35	0.46
9	Why Not Be Perfect (07, Whywhywhy), Keizer Equestrian Center	\$750	2/0	0/0	0/0	(Awezee, \$2,280)	\$4,195	11	0	0.08	0.41
10	Slew's Saga (02, Seattle Slew)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Omaha Rutsch, \$1,980)	\$1,980	37	1	0.28	0.66

2021 LEADING SIRES IN WASHINGTON

For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2021 Stud Fee	Rnrs/Wnrs	BT SWnrs/Wns	Rstrct SW/BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2021 Earnings	Foals	BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Conveyance (07, Indian Charlie), Blue Ribbon Farm	\$2,500	40/28	2/2	0/2	(Nobody Listens, \$172,462)	\$1,124,831	80	3	1.05	1.21
2	Coast Guard (05, Stormy Atlantic), El Dorado Farms	\$2,000	48/20	1/1	1/1	(Coastal Kid, \$78,661)	\$514,456	109	6	0.49	0.53
3	Abraaj (03, Carson City)	Died, 2019	40/24	1/1	0/1	(A View From Above, \$44,696)	\$458,285	126	8	0.53	0.64
4	Gallant Son (06, Malabar Gold), West Coast Training Center	\$1,250	21/10	0/0	0/0	(Gallant Guy, \$91,417)	\$386,290	33	0	0.63	0.70
5	Nationhood (02, Cherokee Run), Blue Ribbon Farm	Died, 2020	17/10	1/2	0/1	(Koron, \$66,196)	\$252,868	81	3	0.45	0.64
6	Linchpin (10, Elusive Quality)	N/A	14/9	1/1	0/1	(Ms Lynn, \$55,488)	\$245,619	46	1	0.36	0.45
7	War Power (06, Pulpit), Frances Long	Private	12/7	0/0	0/0	(Fables Love Affair, \$30,155)	\$142,753	36	1	0.35	0.41
8	Parker's Storm Cat (00, Storm Cat)	N/A	12/4	0/0	0/0	(Cats Touch, \$41,965)	\$105,994	*334	4	0.80	0.98
9	Gold Aly (06, Medaglia d'Oro), Lucky Acres Farm	\$1,200	6/4	0/0	0/0	(Franks Fix It, \$33,284)	\$103,368	20	0	0.37	0.50
10	Preachinathebar (01, Silver Charm)	N/A	5/2	0/0	0/0	(Distortedatthebar, \$34,904)	\$55,724	113	0	0.35	0.52
11	Private Gold (00, Seeking the Gold), El Dorado Farms	\$1,500	5/2	0/0	0/0	(Gold Rush Dancer, \$34,950)	\$53,555	194	4	0.47	0.55
12	Houseofroyalhearts (02, Chester House), Magnum Farms	\$1,000	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Togranpashousewego, \$17,292)	\$47,329	28	0	0.44	0.41
13	Gotham City (98, Saint Ballado)	Died, 2019	5/0	0/0	0/0	(Gotham Desire, \$28,504)	\$35,902	190	0	0.68	0.79
14	Raise the Bluff (03, Pine Bluff)	N/A	7/1	0/0	0/0	(Cody's Choice, \$24,843)	\$34,379	100	1	0.51	0.47
15	Demon Warlock (00, Demons Begone), Roche Farm	\$1,500	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Dance Fighter, \$16,185)	\$33,353	54	4	0.57	0.61

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals



Lovingier's belief in Stay Thirsty paid off with Royal Owl Stakes winner *Stay Thirsty Always* (left) and Graduation Stakes winner *Rock N Rye*

"He's got really, really good yearlings," said Lovingier late last year. "He's got some really good fillies. He's going to do well."

Lovingier said Stay Thirsty's second Cal-bred crop looks very promising.

"One thing that's very impressive about Stay Thirsty is on his 2-year-old cumulative earnings; he's only \$10,000 away from Benchmark," said Lovingier. "Within the next two months he's going to surpass all the stallions in the history

of California. He's still got three more crops coming, plus, he's still breeding."

Stay Thirsty topped the list of California sires with more than \$5 million in earnings; however, most of those earnings were generated by foals from before his move to the Golden State.

Perhaps more importantly for 2022, Stay Thirsty finished atop the list of California's leading sires of 2-year-olds by progeny earnings at more than \$1.2 million—more than twice as much as

runner-up Stanford—the state's leading freshman sire.

Besides progeny earnings, Stay Thirsty also topped that latter list in runners (45), winners (16), black-type stakes winners (3), and black-type stakes horses (6). Stay Thirsty's stud fee for 2022 is \$15,000.

With Stay Thirsty siring winners from Kentucky, South America, and now California, he has proved that Lovingier made the right decision to bring the stallion to the West Coast. **BH**