

MIDWEST / CANADA

ILLINOIS INDIANA IOWA MICHIGAN MINNESOTA NEBRASKA
NORTH DAKOTA OHIO SOUTH DAKOTA WISCONSIN CANADA



Too Bad Justice, who helped put sire Harry's Holiday atop the 2022 Indiana sires list through November, wins the Sagamore Sired Stakes

Inroads in Indiana

BREEDING PROGRAM PROVING AN ATTRACTIVE OPTION

By **JOE PEREZ**

WHEN IT COMES TO STATES with successful breeding programs, Kentucky, naturally, comes to mind. Then there are plenty of the usual suspects—New York, California, and Florida to name three. But one state making a big effort to improve its breeding program—and seeing some positive results—has been flying under the radar: Indiana.

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ALL SIRES LISTS ARE THROUGH NOVEMBER 2022

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2022 LEADING SIRES IN ILLINOIS



For daily updated sires lists visit BloodHorse

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB, Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Ghaaleb (08, Unbridled's Song), Wildwood Farm	Private	29/22	1/1	1/1	(W W Cookie Monster, \$120,960)	\$1,240,951	62	2	1.09	1.14
2	Forest Attack (04, Forestry)	N/A	35/11	1/1	1/1	(Huey Attack, \$60,220)	\$523,878	121	1	0.44	1.00
3	Well Positioned (06, Awesome Again), Wildwood Farm	Private	10/6	0/0	0/0	(W W Fitzzy, \$200,644)	\$367,445	37	1	0.79	1.01
4	Road Ruler (02, Unbridled's Song), JB Stables	\$1,000	12/5	0/0	0/0	(Move On Over, \$45,200)	\$215,239	134	0	0.74	0.70
5	Three Hour Nap (02, Afternoon Deelites), Oak Tree Farm	\$1,000	13/6	0/0	0/0	(Snoozer, \$39,615)	\$159,236	60	2	0.91	1.30
6	King's Empire (09, Empire Maker), Hondo Ranch	Died, 2021	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Stormy Empire, \$48,902)	\$149,922	12	0	0.57	0.54
7	Brave 'n Away (00, Skip Away)	N/A	8/3	1/1	1/1	(Way too Smarte, \$108,664)	\$146,198	52	1	0.48	0.65
8	Arcade (09, Tale of the Cat), Smokey Creek Farm	\$500	3/2	0/0	0/0	(You're in Corey, \$77,780)	\$111,071	9	0	0.56	0.33
9	Indy Snow (GB) (01, A.P. Indy)	N/A	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Stopshoppingamy, \$70,835)	\$92,745	47	1	1.00	0.81
10	Live From Appollo (04, Maria's Mon)	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Willow Moon, \$62,627)	\$62,627	11	0	0.79	0.71
11	El Medwar (04, Elusive Quality), Hondo Ranch	Private	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Lake Mills, \$34,758)	\$54,518	24	0	0.79	1.12
12	Country Be Gold (97, Summer Squall), Cutsinger's Stallion Station	\$500	9/3	0/0	0/0	(Principants, \$26,789)	\$54,329	89	0	0.55	0.92
13	Alluvial (02, Forestry)	Died, 2022	3/3	0/0	0/0	(Easy Doer, \$18,437)	\$42,175	140	0	0.50	0.90
14	West Ranger (06, Vindication)	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Time Break, \$29,288)	\$33,933	23	0	0.36	0.80
15	Ride the Lightning (08, Vindication)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Shine Down, \$23,823)	\$23,823	3	0	0.31	0.00

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals



Swifty Farms general manager Jerri Harmon said the various bonuses for Indiana-bred and Indiana-sired runners can make all the difference

This is not to say the Hoosier State is moving up to the heavyweight division, but a closer look might reveal pointers for other regional markets looking to take a step forward.

“Isn’t it amazing? I’ve always told people that we’re a really well-kept secret,” said Janice Jordan, who owns Dillsboro, Ind.-based Breakway Farm, home of Harry’s Holiday, who topped the 2022 state sires list through November in a tight battle with Swifty Farms’ Unbridled Express.

Not including 2022, for which numbers were not finalized at press time, Indiana has seen a steady rise in the number of mares bred to Indiana stallions for three consecutive years. That growth means Indiana stallions covered 1.7% of the mares bred in North America in 2021, up from 1.4% in 2019 while the state has done well to maintain its registered foal crop at 2% of the North American foal crop for each year from 2019-2021.

While Indiana faces challenges similar to all other regional markets—Kentucky-based stallions accounted for 57.8% of the mares reported bred in North America in 2021, up from 39.4% just 10 years ago—a cooperative approach to incentives in Indiana is sparking a modest yet noticeable turnaround for its stallions.

“I think it’s a combination of things,” said Indiana Horse Racing Commission director of racing and breed development Jessica Barnes. “I think that we

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2022 LEADING SIRES IN INDIANA



For daily updated sires lists visit [BloodHorse](https://www.bloodhorse.com)

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Harry's Holiday (11, Harlan's Holiday), Breakway Farm	\$7,500	34/20	0/0	0/0	(Too Bad Justice, \$192,920)	\$1,034,244	50	2	1.34	0.82
2	Unbridled Express (04, Unbridled's Song), Swifty Farms	Private	36/19	1/1	1/1	(Max Express, \$190,540)	\$1,022,104	91	10	1.43	0.99
3	Ready's Image (05, More Than Ready), Swifty Farms	Died, 2022	33/13	1/1	1/1	(Chipofftheoldblock, \$176,195)	\$843,276	*417	10	0.82	1.05
4	Notional (04, In Excess)	N/A	31/9	0/0	0/0	(No More Fake News, \$221,356)	\$605,366	380	7	0.73	1.04
5	Turbo Compressor (08, Halo's Image), Breakway Farm	\$2,500	16/6	0/0	0/0	(Mr Chaos, \$287,543)	\$589,505	59	4	0.87	1.01
6	Lantana Mob (05, Posse), Breakway Farm	\$1,500	18/7	1/1	1/1	(Me and Chili, \$87,602)	\$462,473	89	5	0.92	1.09
7	Prayer for Relief (08, Jump Start), R Star Stallions	\$3,000	19/9	0/0	0/0	(Bella's Prayer, \$80,297)	\$434,138	31	0	0.72	0.98
8	Skylord (08, Sky Mesa), Breakway Farm	\$2,500	25/11	0/0	0/0	(Double Tuff, \$55,902)	\$378,409	77	3	0.90	0.83
9	Victor's Cry (05, Street Cry), Holden Farm	\$25,000	24/8	0/0	0/0	(Spanish Ballerina, \$65,595)	\$370,021	144	2	0.88	1.12
10	Pataky Kid (10, Rockport Harbor), Swifty Farms	\$2,000	7/5	1/1	1/1	(Mansfield Tiger, \$173,030)	\$364,769	10	1	1.79	1.16
11	Sahara Sky (08, Pleasant Tap), R Star Stallions	\$3,000	7/5	0/0	0/0	(Anna's Tribute, \$76,894)	\$272,983	14	0	1.39	0.91
12	Domestic Dispute (00, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	4/3	1/1	1/1	(Stop Hammertime, \$145,787)	\$262,860	*339	3	0.85	1.12
13	Santiva (08, Giant's Causeway), Indiana Stallion Station	\$2,500	9/5	0/0	0/0	(Jeopardy Theory, \$120,257)	\$255,291	25	1	1.02	1.22
14	Pass Rush (99, Crown Ambassador), Swifty Farms	Pnsd	15/8	0/0	0/0	(Rockin All Night, \$60,230)	\$252,593	142	7	0.97	1.01
15	Elusive Bluff (06, Elusive Quality)	N/A	14/6	0/0	0/0	(Elusive Justice, \$52,600)	\$223,995	63	2	0.82	0.94

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals

have a great partnership with not only the racetracks, the racetrack, but also with the breeders and stallion owners. So I think it's a collaborative team effort that has really helped this program grow to where it is today."

There has been a need for more breed-development races in the state, and the state and racetracks have worked to make that possible. With the open purse account funding a portion of that program, the state has been able to increase the number of its breed-development races. Barnes added that Indiana-bred horses that race in open company are eligible to receive a 40% purse supplement if they finish first, second, or third.

"So that's a nice chunk of change for them," Barnes said. "And that also trickles down to the breeder and the stallion owner if it's Indiana-sired."

Swifty Farms general manager Jerri Harmon says it has been a big commitment.

"Indiana went out on a limb and offered quite a bit more," Harmon said.

Additionally, any breeder of a registered Indiana-bred that wins a stakes, allowance, or claiming race with a price of \$10,000 or more at the state's lone Thoroughbred track, Horseshoe Indianapolis, earns a bonus equal to 20% of the gross purse, according to the Indiana Horse Racing Commission website.

The state also has a lucrative program for Indiana-based sires. According to the IHRC, the owner or lessee of a registered Indiana sire whose registered



A pair of Indiana-based stallions have surpassed \$1 million in progeny earnings in 2022 through November: (above) Breakway Farm's Harry's Holiday, seen preparing for a start in the 2014 Kentucky Derby, and Unbridled Express (left), who stands at Swifty Farms

2022 LEADING SIRES IN IOWA



For daily updated sires lists visit BloodHorse

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Anchor Down (11, Tapit), Iowa State University Horse Farm	\$3,000	66/33	0/0	0/0	(Tappin Josie, \$91,300)	\$1,423,276	103	0	0.89	1.10
2	Stroll (00, Pulpit), Iowa State University Horse Farm	\$2,000	50/27	1/1	0/1	(Freedom Matters, \$144,000)	\$1,005,478	*372	18	0.99	1.19
3	Native Ruler (04, Elusive Quality)	N/A	24/14	0/0	0/0	(Peggy Rules, \$51,092)	\$533,084	85	1	0.88	0.76
4	Sing Baby Sing (03, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	17/6	1/1	1/1	(Angel's Melody, \$151,781)	\$309,551	116	4	0.58	0.81
5	Woke Up Dreamin (00, Holy Bull)	N/A	26/12	0/0	0/0	(Jaysker, \$47,385)	\$308,816	213	5	0.73	0.85
6	Formidable (05, Sky Mesa)	Died, 2020	14/10	0/0	0/0	(Bravo Kolt, \$50,752)	\$296,066	27	1	0.89	0.70
7	Jafmil (08, Distorted Humor)	N/A	10/3	0/0	0/0	(Smoky Blues, \$42,230)	\$159,068	39	1	1.01	0.92
8	Spaniard (06, Candy Ride), Bryant Thoroughbreds	\$1,500	5/2	0/0	0/0	(Gimbala, \$42,622)	\$81,085	57	0	0.82	1.38
9	Kirkendahl (02, Menifee), P & S Thoroughbreds	\$1,500	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Big Boy McCoy, \$21,261)	\$29,228	34	0	0.19	0.46
10	D Mac (06, More Than Ready)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Two Socks Mac, \$15,971)	\$15,971	3	0	0.19	0.40
11	Launch Commander (09, Master Command)	N/A	2/0	0/0	0/0	(Audibility, \$2,430)	\$3,644	3	0	0.28	0.77
12	Flight West (03, Gone West)	Died, 2020	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Bluegrass Flight, \$1,803)	\$1,803	24	0	0.32	0.76
13	Self Control (08, Lemon Drop Kid)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Stop the Storm, \$1,099)	\$1,099	7	0	0.04	1.23

2022 LEADING SIRES IN MICHIGAN

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Unbridled Energy (02, Unbridled's Song), Hubel Farms	Private	28/14	0/0	0/0	(Vacation Secret, \$72,901)	\$525,824	*293	5	0.79	1.05
2	Elusive Hour (00, Elusive Quality)	N/A	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Time to Shoot, \$49,728)	\$110,565	101	4	0.69	0.70
3	Zulu Magic (05, Johannesburg)	Died, 2017	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Mark of the Z, \$88,550)	\$99,533	31	0	0.66	0.50
4	Equality (99, Mt. Livermore)	N/A	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Easy Eyes, \$34,978)	\$76,336	180	7	0.62	0.78
5	Gun Power (97, Unbridled)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Peach Bellini, \$11,690)	\$11,690	60	0	0.46	0.68

2022 LEADING SIRES IN MINNESOTA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Kela (98, Numerous)	N/A	19/11	0/0	0/0	(Kela's Turn, \$132,436)	\$419,999	*298	4	0.91	0.89
2	Westover Wildcat (07, Forest Wildcat)	N/A	12/5	0/0	0/0	(Westons Wildcat, \$50,294)	\$146,305	24	0	0.50	0.55
3	Eye of the Leopard (06, A.P. Indy), Osborne Farm	Pnsd	11/5	0/0	0/0	(Stormbeam, \$45,886)	\$141,981	58	1	0.58	1.67
4	Matt's Broken Vow (05, Broken Vow), Dove Hill Farm	\$2,500	6/3	0/0	0/0	(Guest Check, \$20,012)	\$57,275	67	0	0.44	0.75
5	Sam Lord's Castle (98, Carson City)	Pnsd	2/2	0/0	0/0	(Sam Sez, \$30,063)	\$55,939	52	0	0.59	0.75
6	Timber Legend (99, Storm Cat)	N/A	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Mr. D's Legend, \$26,640)	\$50,945	70	1	0.42	0.47
7	Ford Every Stream (99, Seeking the Gold)	N/A	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Sunshine Fever, \$15,000)	\$24,019	159	1	0.53	0.77
8	Magic Cat (95, Storm Cat)	N/A	6/1	0/0	0/0	(Emmett Cat, \$10,133)	\$17,130	282	10	0.60	0.87
9	Classy Gent (01, Gone West)	N/A	2/0	0/0	0/0	(Fly With Class, \$3,276)	\$5,753	8	0	0.06	0.26
10	Joey Franco (99, Avenue of Flags)	Died, 2018	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Orts Dream, \$4,915)	\$4,915	87	2	0.46	0.67

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals



“THERE’S KENTUCKY, AND THEN THERE’S THE REST OF US, BUT I THINK WE COULD BE SECOND-BEST TO KENTUCKY.”

—SWIFTY FARMS’ JERRI HARMON

between success and failure.

“For the regional markets that really do enjoy a breed-to-race program, smaller breeders have to maintain their broodmares—management and care and upkeep,” Harmon noted. “The stallion fees are probably the least of their worries. But just being able to successfully navigate the cost of inflation and feeding and care and management of their horse to get it to racing age; I feel like that’s what I’m getting feedback on most right now.”

Barnes said that when people bring their mares to Indiana from Kentucky, they naturally compare the two.

“We have a much younger program than Kentucky,” Barnes said. “So that can sometimes be a detriment to us.

COURTESY OF JERRI HARMON

progeny win races (stakes, allowance, or claiming races, except when entered for a claiming price of less than \$10,000) at Horseshoe Indianapolis earns 10% of the gross purse.

There also are bonuses available out of state. When there is no live Thoroughbred racing in Indiana, breeders are eligible for an out-of-state award. Winners in another state, Canada, or Puerto

Rico earn 10% of the purse in any race except if the horse is entered for a claiming price less than \$10,000. Breeders also are eligible for this 10% bonus (up to \$10,000) in out-of-state stakes races and in juvenile races prior to July 1 of the race meet.

Harmon said as the costs of ownership and managing a horse increase, such bonuses can make the difference

2022 LEADING SIRES IN NEBRASKA



For daily updated sires lists visit BloodHorse

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Court Vision (05, Gulch), Pryor Ranch	\$2,500	83/37	1/1	1/1	(Decision Maker, \$236,495)	\$1,971,531	*414	9	1.10	1.25
2	Global Power (08, Pulpit), Morningstar Stables	Private	17/8	0/0	0/0	(Powerful Phil, \$52,086)	\$360,842	24	0	0.69	0.88
3	El Caballo (04, El Corredor)	N/A	11/7	0/0	0/0	(Queenscaballo, \$49,095)	\$187,763	39	0	0.51	0.61
4	Cougar Cat (02, Storm Cat)	N/A	8/3	0/0	0/0	(Phlash Drive, \$36,290)	\$115,087	48	0	0.51	0.76
5	Shadow Hawk (99, Mr. Prospector), Rogers Ranch	\$1,250	11/7	0/0	0/0	(For Reel, \$35,264)	\$114,181	105	0	0.59	0.63
6	Loveofthegame (05, Sky Mesa)	N/A	7/4	0/0	0/0	(Yayasgotmoregame, \$26,608)	\$60,358	21	0	0.30	0.44
7	Gold Schleiger (06, Lemon Drop Kid), Pryor Ranch	\$500	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Caleb On the Go, \$21,332)	\$51,631	48	0	0.26	0.79
8	Sexy Cowboy (04, Orientate)	N/A	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Want to Be Cowboy, \$8,745)	\$15,371	14	0	0.31	0.42
9	Sports Talk (11, Grand Slam), Cox Livestock	\$1,000	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Atokad Rose, \$1,913)	\$1,913	14	0	0.02	0.29

2022 LEADING SIRES IN NORTH DAKOTA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Royal Challenger (03, Touch Gold)	N/A	12/5	0/0	0/0	(Emmitt's Challenge, \$16,933)	\$73,608	31	0	0.11	0.26
2	Baseball Card Kid (06, Vindication)	N/A	9/4	0/0	0/0	(Tricky Kid, \$8,624)	\$31,535	40	0	0.10	0.10
3	King Cha Cha (01, Kingmambo)	N/A	7/0	0/0	0/0	(Tri Spot, \$8,930)	\$26,777	55	0	0.13	0.37
4	Captain Bodgit (94, Saint Ballado)	Died, 2019	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Gone a Lil Lu Lu, \$1,448)	\$3,035	438	11	0.72	1.10

2022 LEADING SIRES IN OHIO

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Dominus (08, Smart Strike), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	Private	96/57	4/6	3/4	(Thin White Duke, \$283,790)	\$3,264,722	265	12	1.18	1.07
2	Itsmyluckyday (10, Lawyer Ron), Maro Veterinary Services	\$2,000	67/33	1/1	1/1	(Sammy's Smile, \$121,883)	\$1,405,932	197	3	0.92	1.04
3	Sky Kingdom (09, Empire Maker), Maro Veterinary Services	\$2,000	54/23	0/0	0/0	(Tizzy in the Sky, \$156,000)	\$1,288,935	118	1	0.93	0.87
4	Mobil (00, Langfuhr), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	34/22	2/2	2/2	(Relish the Ride, \$146,115)	\$1,152,036	*226	7	1.26	1.23
5	Danza (11, Street Boss)	Died, 2021	62/34	0/0	0/0	(Eight Danzas, \$125,186)	\$1,139,802	168	2	0.67	0.89
6	Fort Larned (08, E Dubai), Duncan Farms	\$2,000	57/27	0/0	0/0	(Kissalot, \$125,890)	\$1,078,686	*211	2	0.82	1.18
7	Cowtown Cat (04, Distorted Humor), Mapleton Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	36/19	1/1	1/1	(Catabout, \$85,499)	\$952,188	263	6	1.13	1.13
8	Drill (09, Lawyer Ron), Raimonde Farms	\$2,500	38/15	0/0	0/0	(Drillomatic, \$71,470)	\$657,992	114	1	0.81	1.00
9	Tidal Volume (06, Tapit), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,000	30/15	0/0	0/0	(Aunt Bee, \$129,750)	\$639,539	94	0	0.62	0.81
10	Twinspired (08, Harlan's Holiday), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,500	20/10	1/1	1/1	(Baba Looye, \$66,922)	\$505,018	45	4	1.16	0.75
11	Kiss the Ghost (14, Ghostzapper), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$1,500	5/4	1/1	1/1	(R Three Angels, \$220,279)	\$343,759	6	1	1.88	0.71
12	Biondetti (08, Bernardini), Poplar Creek Horse Center	\$2,000	23/10	0/0	0/0	(Bion Magic, \$68,195)	\$343,486	155	2	0.72	1.18
13	Added Edge (00, Smart Strike)	Died, 2020	16/8	0/0	0/0	(Edge of Night, \$81,456)	\$324,951	198	7	0.67	0.76
14	William's Kitten (07, Kitten's Joy), Diamond Eyes Farm	Private	12/5	0/0	0/0	(Perfectingtheview, \$76,488)	\$287,224	28	1	0.84	0.58
15	Birdrun (06, Birdstone), Poplar Creek Horse Center	Died, 2021	10/7	0/0	0/0	(Runlikejackieo, \$57,964)	\$283,054	34	2	1.13	0.73

2022 LEADING SIRES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2022 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative		
									Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Seeking Beauty (06, Halo's Image)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(C K's Lucky Duck, \$25,378)	\$25,378	29	0	0.69	0.89
2	Coal Cutter (06, Mineshaft)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Big Bend Buckaroo, \$8,066)	\$8,066	16	0	0.17	0.04
3	Tales of the Wild (07, Tale of the Cat), Dean Hansen Ranch	\$500	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Heavenly Wild, \$5,587)	\$5,675	19	0	0.12	0.11

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals

But I think if people would just give us a chance, they'd see how great our program is doing."

But as a state that is looking to expand, there are still growing pains. One challenge is working with breeders who might be familiar with services available in Central Kentucky.

"We just don't have a lot of reproduction vets in the state," Jordan explained. "I'm really lucky where I'm located that

we do have a good one. But I know a lot of breeding farms that struggle with getting their vet care. ... We're competing with Lexington, and people like that kind of care. They want that kind of care, but they don't want to pay the same money."

On the other hand, Indiana's proximity to Kentucky can be an advantage when compared to that of other regional markets. There is easy access for Indi-

ana breeders to Kentucky stallions.

"That raises our Indiana-bred program to a high level of competition," said Harmon, whose Swifty Farms is located in Seymour, Ind. "It also makes us successful in getting high-quality stallions that might be better regional stallions.

"There's Kentucky and then there's the rest of us, but I think we could be second-best to Kentucky. In other words, I think we can be the second option."

2022 LEADING SIRES IN CANADA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2022 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	Cumulative				
							2022 Earnings	Foals	Stks Wnrs	A-E Index	
1	Stay Thirsty (08, Bernardini), Lovacres Ranch	\$15,000	182/89	2/3	0/2	(Mind Control, \$360,105)	\$4,413,314	*657	17	1.18	1.28
2	Grazen (06, Benchmark), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds	\$6,000	99/59	7/9	5/7	(Connie Swingle, \$323,564)	\$4,241,267	279	17	1.48	1.06
3	I'll Have Another (09, Flower Alley), Ocean Breeze Ranch	\$10,000	178/93	1/2	0/1	(Win Marvel, \$608,428)	\$3,536,931	435	4	1.03	1.08
4	Smiling Tiger (07, Hold That Tiger), Harris Farms	\$7,500	108/49	1/1	0/1	(Taming the Tigress, \$186,412)	\$2,662,673	336	9	0.98	0.97
5	Clubhouse Ride (08, Candy Ride), Legacy Ranch	\$5,000	68/43	3/7	2/3	(Brickyard Ride, \$274,000)	\$2,589,010	121	5	1.38	0.94
6	Mr. Big (03, Dynaformer), Legacy Ranch	\$4,500	81/41	4/4	4/4	(The Big Wam, \$167,160)	\$2,560,817	180	8	1.26	0.92
7	Square Eddie (06, Smart Strike)	Pnsd	84/36	1/2	1/1	(Self Isolation, \$281,990)	\$2,185,828	284	19	1.40	1.12
8	Vronsky (99, Danzig)	Died	77/47	2/4	1/2	(The Chosen Vron, \$182,000)	\$2,047,264	350	13	1.18	1.02
9	Graydar (09, Unbridled's Song), Milky Way Farm	\$4,000	81/45	0/0	0/0	(Erzulie, \$134,912)	\$1,813,400	*317	7	0.90	1.32
10	Acclamation (06, Unusual Heat), Harris Farms	\$4,000	59/30	2/2	0/2	(Burnin Turf, \$163,380)	\$1,472,785	203	5	0.99	1.15
11	Danzing Candy (13, Twirling Candy), Rancho San Miguel	\$5,000	60/23	1/1	1/1	(Moose Mitchell, \$163,500)	\$1,407,609	127	1	0.81	1.05
12	Sir Prancealot (IRE) (10, Tamayuz), Rancho San Miguel	\$15,000	70/38	2/2	0/2	(Sir Busker, \$427,973)	\$1,347,615	*377	11	1.19	0.91
13	Stanford (12, Malibu Moon), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds	\$5,000	68/32	0/0	0/0	(Flame McGoon, \$87,600)	\$1,252,581	114	0	0.67	0.95
14	Ministers Wild Cat (00, Deputy Minister), Tommy Town Thoroughbreds	Pnsd	56/33	0/0	0/0	(Minister of Soul, \$122,952)	\$1,205,852	533	21	0.93	0.87
15	Jersey Town (06, Speightstown), Daehling Ranch	\$3,000	60/33	1/2	0/1	(Regal Riot, \$131,984)	\$1,133,245	*222	7	1.01	1.03

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals



Co-breeder Micael Lauer was all smiles after Indiana-bred Max Express, a son of Indiana-based sire Unbridled Express, won the To Much Coffee Stakes at Horseshoe Indianapolis

Indiana stallions are showing promise, led by a pair of sires, each of whose progeny has earned more than \$1 million in 2022: the aforementioned Harry's Holiday and Unbridled Express. Harry's Holiday was paced in 2022 (through November) by Too Bad Justice while Max Express carried the banner for Unbridled Express.

Bred by Justice Farm and Greg Justice, Indiana-bred Too Bad Justice won the \$102,300 Sagamore Sired Stakes for Indiana-sired runners at Horseshoe Indianapolis and placed in two other stakes there. Bred by Michael and Penny Lauer, Max Express won a pair of restricted stakes at Horseshoe Indianapolis—the \$101,950 Empire Stakes for Indiana-breds by Indiana sires and

the \$171,375 To Much Coffee Stakes for Indiana-breds.

"The breeders the past probably five, six years have really increased the quality of horses that they're raising here in Indiana. I think our quality is really improved," said Barnes.

Along with that, in the past two years graded stakes winners Calculator, Cowboy Culture, Discreet Lover, Isotherm, Sleepy Eyes Todd, and Sombeyay have all begun their stud careers in Indiana.

Jordan said that in addition to the financial benefits, Indiana provides a good situation for those mares not having as much success in Kentucky.

"A lot of people bring the young mares to drop their first few babies, and maybe an older mare, that's not as good in Ken-

tucky," she said. "It's just a really nice, nice spot to put a horse that's not going to be quite so productive in Kentucky."

Jordan provided anecdotal evidence of how the program is strengthening. It's not just the purse money, but the overall expense. She said a client of hers lives in the Lexington area and frequently sends horses to New York. However, with the cost of shipping horses and the day rates to board them in New York being significantly higher than Indiana, the client is pulling mares from the Empire State and getting more to Indiana.

So is there a secret to the success of Indiana's breeding program?

"We have one of the best regional programs around, and I think news of that is just starting to carry," Barnes said. **BH**