

MIDWEST / CANADA

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



While United States tariffs were not enacted on Canada's Thoroughbred industry, the prospect of it occurring altered the plans of some breeders

“O Canada”

***THERE'S RENEWED REGIONAL FOCUS TAKING PLACE
NORTH OF THE BORDER***

By **JOE PEREZ**

THE ONTARIO RACING Thoroughbred Improvement Program has been in place since 1974, but it has found itself proving not just more beneficial recently, but also more relied upon.

Concerns over whether tariffs implemented by United States President Donald Trump would find their way into horse racing has led to more horsemen looking for options both in breeding and racing in Canada.

ALL SIRES LISTS ARE THROUGH DEC. 7

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2025 LEADING SIRES IN ILLINOIS



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Ghaaleb (08, Unbridled's Song), Wildwood Farm	Private	28/18	1/1	1/1	(Mama's Memories, \$105,180)	\$857,658	75	3	1.10	1.00
2	Three Hour Nap (02, Afternoon Deelites), Oak Tree Farm	\$1,000	17/6	0/0	0/0	(Kelly's Girl, \$63,290)	\$240,650	81	2	0.81	1.26
3	Forest Attack (04, Forestry)	N/A	17/6	0/0	0/0	(Cloyer Attack, \$62,706)	\$216,666	134	1	0.46	0.98
4	King's Empire (09, Empire Maker)	Died, 2021	6/5	0/0	0/0	(Gunny Sack, \$65,840)	\$153,249	16	0	0.75	0.51
5	Well Positioned (06, Awesome Again)	N/A	10/3	0/0	0/0	(Faith Hope N Love, \$56,585)	\$144,564	49	1	0.72	0.91
6	Risk and Return (11, Kitten's Joy)	N/A	4/2	0/0	0/0	(Lone Return, \$20,430)	\$52,614	9	0	0.56	0.23
7	Country Be Gold (97, Summer Squall)	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Prancipants, \$39,334)	\$40,125	89	0	0.57	0.90
8	Soul of Ekati (07, Perfect Soul)	N/A	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Harper Briana, \$37,355)	\$37,355	9	0	0.30	0.27
9	Drill Sergeant (09, Awesome Again), Cahokia Farm(708)	\$1,500	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Playground Warrior, \$32,664)	\$33,661	6	0	0.35	0.23
10	Big Time Player (16, Candy Ride)	N/A	8/1	0/0	0/0	(Inspiring Indeed, \$18,460)	\$31,418	18	0	0.30	0.48
11	Road Ruler (02, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	5/2	0/0	0/0	(Diamnd Con Suerte, \$16,458)	\$29,962	139	0	0.72	0.68
12	¶ Shogood (13, Nobiz Like Shobiz), McCrosky Farm	\$3,000	5/1	0/0	0/0	(Sho Domina, \$16,800)	\$18,287	8	0	0.12	0.56
13	Brave 'n Away (00, Skip Away)	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Madam Lee, \$10,220)	\$13,027	55	1	0.46	0.65
14	Arcade (09, Tale of the Cat)	N/A	3/1	0/0	0/0	(Song of Victory, \$6,912)	\$11,545	12	0	0.50	0.43
15	El Medwar (04, Elusive Quality)	N/A	3/0	0/0	0/0	(Dripping Springs, \$1,440)	\$3,388	26	0	0.72	1.12
16	Chosen Deputy (05, Deputy Minister)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Bear Rilla, \$260)	\$260	24	0	0.72	0.90
17	Guest Star (08, Storm Cat), Cutsinger Stallion Station	\$500	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Krueless, \$180)	\$180	14	0	0.25	0.90

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals; ¶ Indicates a first-crop sire

Sandra Snyder, the administration and governance senior manager for the Horse Improvement Program, said that even though there are no tariffs in place, trying to move mares into the U.S. to be bred with sires standing there has become more complicated.

She said the benefits of the stallion awards program, in particular, solidifies the regional roots of the program. In the spring of 2025, the uncertainty had an immediate impact on Canada's horse industry.

"It did change people's choices and behaviors in the spring, for sure, when the first tariffs ... to horses going back and forth across the border (were first mentioned), people made different decisions about where they were going to sell their yearlings," Snyder said. "They made different decisions about taking yearlings across the border earlier if they were selling; that was the plan. Some mares were relocated maybe earlier than they might have been. I think at this stage in the game, people are taking a wait-and-see approach, as I think they are in many businesses, and not making significant long-term changes. But I wouldn't want to say for sure what the long-term implications might be."

Even though tariffs were never put into place, the fear of the financial implications was significant. Adding to the confusion, according to the American Horse Council, there were U.S. Border Patrol agents applying tariffs on not just



At his Anderson Farms in Ontario, David Anderson has bred many notable stakes winners including 2018 Sovereign Award Horse of the Year Wonder Gadot

the horses, but trailers, tack, bedding, and feed. While some of that is permissible, the possible overall cost of importing a horse served as a deterrent to some.

That's where TIP becomes a life saver. The program had a 2025 budget of \$15.3 million.

Most of the funding comes from Home Market Area wagering, or betting on horses that physically takes place in Ontario. The provincial government sends a percentage of the money generated by pari-mutuel wagering to TIP.

"It's been a tremendous program that we've had in Ontario for several years now," said David Anderson of Ontario-based Anderson Farms. "It's really helped the local breeders and the local owners. It's been a great security blanket, knowing that we've had government support and working with the government, creating jobs, and allowing our industry to flourish."

While breeders and owners can't assume there will be a check every month because it is results oriented,

THIS PAGE: ANNE M. EBERHARDT; OPPOSITE PAGE: MICHAEL BURNS

2025 LEADING SIRES IN INDIANA



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Maximum Security (16, New Year's Day), Breakway Farm	\$3,500	102/41	2/4	0/2	(Instant Replay, \$574,120)	\$2,868,734	144	2	0.86	1.01
2	Tapwrit (14, Tapit), Indiana Stallion Station	\$2,500	121/55	0/0	0/0	(These Apples, \$113,628)	\$2,095,028	252	5	0.81	1.18
3	Qurbaan (13, Speightstown), Indiana Stallion Station	\$2,500	17/8	2/3	1/2	(Charlene's Dream, \$465,484)	\$1,166,838	36	2	1.59	0.84
4	Harry's Holiday (11, Harlan's Holiday), Breakway Farm	\$5,000	46/25	1/1	1/1	(Mackadoo, \$136,464)	\$1,120,450	101	3	0.95	0.87
5	Unbridled Express (04, Unbridled's Song), Breakway Farm	\$1,500	37/20	0/0	0/0	(Kingsbury Road, \$111,475)	\$1,045,517	148	10	1.22	0.94
6	Madefromlucky (12, Lookin At Lucky)	N/A	54/25	0/0	0/0	(Lucky Cougar, \$88,735)	\$1,008,483	141	2	0.68	1.13
7	Forever d'Oro (13, Medaglia d'Oro), Breakway Farm	\$2,000	22/11	0/0	0/0	(Spooky Ridge, \$143,940)	\$673,700	37	1	0.97	0.85
8	Ready's Image (05, More Than Ready)	Died, 2022	20/14	0/0	0/0	(Imagine the Moon, \$158,506)	\$659,686	*436	10	0.82	1.02
9	Lantana Mob (05, Posse)	Died, 2025	14/6	1/1	1/1	(Spirited Justice, \$132,686)	\$525,004	97	7	0.92	1.05
10	Bahjatty (17, Carpe Diem), Indiana Stallion Station	\$1,500	3/2	0/0	0/0	(Sir Bahjiy, \$295,055)	\$455,586	4	0	3.53	0.68
11	Isotherm (13, Lonhro)	N/A	17/9	0/0	0/0	(Terminally Handsom, \$103,770)	\$430,334	23	0	0.74	0.89
12	Pataky Kid (10, Rockport Harbor), Swifty Farms	Private	11/8	0/0	0/0	(Get Even Kid, \$79,150)	\$411,658	24	3	1.48	0.96
13	Storm's Eye (06, Storm Cat)	Died, 2025	6/4	0/0	0/0	(C. J's Storm, \$202,590)	\$394,144	22	0	1.07	0.88
14	Prayer for Relief (08, Jump Start)	N/A	21/9	0/0	0/0	(City Prayers, \$71,450)	\$389,009	56	0	0.65	0.90
15	Skylord (08, Sky Mesa)	Died, 2024	19/10	0/0	0/0	(Dreaming Girl, \$73,563)	\$350,050	104	3	0.80	0.79
16	Sahara Sky (08, Pleasant Tap)	N/A	6/3	1/2	1/1	(Mister T, \$140,338)	\$345,956	29	1	1.19	0.85
17	Csaba (09, Kitten's Joy)	N/A	9/5	0/0	0/0	(Innisfree Lass, \$141,040)	\$345,855	57	0	0.47	0.93
18	Charming Kitten (10, Kitten's Joy), Breakway Farm	\$2,500	20/6	0/0	0/0	(Hoosier Daddy Now, \$85,888)	\$335,056	36	0	0.73	0.81
19	Speightsong (11, Speightstown), Midwest Equine	\$2,000	15/8	0/0	0/0	(Gatling Girl, \$52,463)	\$285,263	24	0	0.59	0.77
20	Shagaf (13, Bernardini)	Died, 2023	11/5	0/0	0/0	(Dr. Alex Is In, \$73,390)	\$259,209	21	0	0.91	0.82
21	Santiva (08, Giant's Causeway), Indiana Stallion Station	\$1,500	11/6	0/0	0/0	(Highest Memories, \$82,520)	\$239,706	39	1	0.89	1.10
22	Turbo Compressor (08, Halo's Image)	Pnsd	18/7	0/0	0/0	(Oil Man, \$44,880)	\$237,910	77	4	0.79	0.93
23	Elnaawi (10, Street Sense), Indiana Stallion Station	\$2,500	13/5	0/0	0/0	(Gin and Whiskey, \$97,205)	\$233,558	28	0	0.42	0.60
24	Pass Rush (99, Crown Ambassador)	Pnsd	5/2	1/1	1/1	(Crosley, \$119,288)	\$187,808	159	9	0.95	0.98
25	General a Rod (11, Roman Ruler)	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Private Moment, \$66,702)	\$185,187	14	0	0.89	0.99

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals; † Indicates a first-crop sire

when the check does come, it makes a big difference.

"When it shows up on the 15th of the month, it pays a lot of bills, whether it's the feed man or the blacksmith or the hay man," Anderson said. "It goes a long way over the course of the year, and it's been a hugely successful program."

TIP's purpose is to increase the quality and value of racehorses bred in the province. The breeders and owners of registered horses bred or sired in Ontario are eligible to receive benefits from the program.

Those breeders and owners are finding incentives in various ways: breeder awards, purse bonuses for Ontario-bred horses, Ontario-restricted stakes races, Ontario Sires Stakes, the Sales Stakes Program, stallion awards, and mare and foal incentive programs.

Ontario breeders awards send \$4.75 million back into the industry, while the stallion awards give back \$320,000, and there are awards of \$250,000 for the performance of Ontario-bred horses in graded and group stakes outside of the province.

Another popular element is the mare purchase program, which has no less than \$400,000 allocated. That amount could rise based on Home Market Area



Breeders and owners are rewarded by TIP's incentives in a variety of ways, including bonuses for Ontario-bred horses and Ontario-restricted stakes races

wagering. The mare incentive program runs in alternating years since its founding in 2020. In that time, 181 mares have been brought into Ontario, according to Ontario Racing.

Anderson believes the mare purchase program might be the best such program not just in Ontario or Canada, but in North America. The program returns half of the purchase price in

Canadian dollars for any in-foal mare that is brought to Ontario.

"It's allowed Ontario breeders to go outside of Canada and buy some better quality mares and bring them back to the province and foal them and raise them in the province and subsequently have them race there as well," he said.

Perhaps not bringing horses into the U.S. has created unease for Canadian

2025 LEADING SIRES IN IOWA



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

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Anchor Down (11, Tapit)	N/A	47/24	0/0	0/0	(Ibn Toulon, \$336,800)	\$1,228,136	153	1	1.01	1.03
2	Free Drop Billy (15, Union Rags), Iowa State University	To Be Announced	66/23	0/0	0/0	(Amber Cascade, \$216,763)	\$862,096	148	1	0.58	1.04
3	Stroll (00, Pulpit)	N/A	34/16	1/2	0/1	(Smarty Hardy, \$121,620)	\$726,066	*422	19	0.95	1.15
4	Timeline (14, Hard Spun), Iowa State University Horse Farm	\$1,500	16/8	0/0	0/0	(Ante Meridiam, \$68,610)	\$308,838	32	0	0.61	0.98
5	Woke Up Dreamin (00, Holy Bull)	N/A	10/4	0/0	0/0	(Dreaminonthenile, \$61,052)	\$140,708	220	5	0.72	0.84
6	Spaniard (06, Candy Ride)	N/A	5/4	0/0	0/0	(Shame On Steve, \$26,431)	\$72,374	60	0	0.78	1.28
7	Sing Baby Sing (03, Unbridled's Song)	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Sing Lucy Sing, \$21,223)	\$69,172	121	4	0.57	0.80
8	Blueblood (15, City Zip), Iowa State University Horse Farm	\$1,500	6/2	0/0	0/0	(Miss Mingo, \$26,498)	\$65,967	13	0	0.43	0.59
9	Flight West (03, Gone West)	Died, 2020	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Hollywood Movie, \$1,574)	\$1,574	26	0	0.31	0.71

2025 LEADING SIRES IN MICHIGAN

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Unbridled Energy (02, Unbridled's Song), Hubel Farms	Private	20/9	0/0	0/0	(You Bet a Fortune, \$62,570)	\$217,584	*312	5	0.76	1.04
2	Elusive Hour (00, Elusive Quality)	N/A	9/7	0/0	0/0	(Timeless Bounty, \$42,903)	\$170,635	104	4	0.69	0.74

2025 LEADING SIRES IN MINNESOTA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Liaison (09, Indian Charlie)	N/A	36/14	0/0	0/0	(Talkin Cadee, \$84,712)	\$494,594	383	3	0.66	1.03
2	Eye of the Leopard (06, A.P. Indy)	Pnsd	4/3	0/0	0/0	(Arjun for Karz, \$46,624)	\$97,765	66	1	0.53	1.58
3	Sam Lord's Castle (98, Carson City)	Pnsd	2/2	0/0	0/0	(Sir Sterling, \$45,131)	\$75,936	52	1	0.64	0.74
4	Westover Wildcat (07, Forest Wildcat)	N/A	15/5	0/0	0/0	(Dame Lorraine, \$10,701)	\$43,690	50	0	0.32	0.61
5	March Twelfth (06, Macho Uno)	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(First Takela, \$41,019)	\$43,124	7	0	0.29	0.98
6	Timber Legend (99, Storm Cat)	Died, 2023	3/1	0/0	0/0	(B L's Concerto, \$15,539)	\$20,249	74	1	0.39	0.44
7	Matt's Broken Vow (05, Broken Vow)	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Sioux Revenge, \$14,180)	\$16,422	72	0	0.44	0.70
8	Classy Gent (01, Gone West)	N/A	2/0	0/0	0/0	(Thinkn Bout Drinkn, \$2,183)	\$3,608	13	0	0.07	0.22

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals; ¶ Indicates a first-crop sire



Colebrook Farms' Frac Daddy, a multiple graded stakes winner, has been among the top Ontario sires since entering stud in 2016

horsemen. But TIP, which supports not just Thoroughbreds but Quarter Horses and Standardbred horses as well, helps relieve some of the concerns associated with a change in plans.

Anderson said that because tariffs were never put into place by the U.S., it's business as usual for him. But that

doesn't mean that TIP hasn't convinced him and others to place greater emphasis on staying at home.

He foals all of his mares in Ontario, but commercially, he breeds to mostly Kentucky sires for his personal program. That, he said, is changing.

"Now I'm looking at bringing more

in Ontario moving forward, because of the government support, and unfortunately, we've suffered from a decline in foal crop, just as everyone else has. But there's opportunity in Ontario. We don't have the competition that you would otherwise have in some of the bigger jurisdictions in the United States."

And there simply isn't a concern about the funds evaporating. Ontario's provincial government agreed to a 19-year funding plan that runs through 2038.

Neither the horsemen, Ontario Racing, nor the provincial government are resting on their laurels. Changes are made as the industry evolves and there are always thoughts on new or revised incentives.

ANOTHER VIEW

Not everyone views TIP, or at least its current state, positively.

John Burness, who owns Colebrook Farms, believes the program has been in decline over the past decade. He points toward industry-wide factors such as declining foal crops, reduced betting

MICHAEL BURNS

2025 LEADING SIRES IN NEBRASKA



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Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Court Vision (05, Gulch), Pryor Ranch	\$2,500	42/15	0/0	0/0	(Tommie G, \$123,920)	\$654,261	*447	9	1.03	1.16
2	Global Power (08, Pulpit)	N/A	12/7	0/0	0/0	(Oklahoma Joe, \$60,704)	\$242,534	31	1	0.81	0.86
3	Twice as Bad (01, Stormy Atlantic), Acyn Farms	Private	8/4	0/0	0/0	(Mister Wayside, \$87,771)	\$135,829	47	0	0.35	0.48
4	Giant Expectations (13, Frost Giant), Pryor Ranch	\$1,500	6/3	0/0	0/0	(They Call Me Moose, \$50,219)	\$131,737	18	0	0.53	0.58
5	Gold Schleiger (06, Lemon Drop Kid)	N/A	6/3	0/0	0/0	(P R Odds Setter, \$26,838)	\$65,057	52	0	0.31	0.72
6	Shadow Hawk (99, Mr. Prospector)	N/A	7/3	0/0	0/0	(Rocketship Run, \$24,051)	\$61,843	113	0	0.55	0.62
7	Most Mischief (16, Into Mischief), Marvin Johnson Racing	\$1,500	1/1	0/0	0/0	(Mischief's Pride, \$19,680)	\$19,680	4	0	0.64	0.57
8	Remembering Rita (14, Spring At Last), Condon Stables	\$1,000	1/0	0/0	0/0	(Ritaville, \$2,237)	\$2,237	12	0	0.07	0.62
9	El Cabello (04, El Corredor)	N/A	4/0	0/0	0/0	(Rainbow Dash, \$915)	\$2,058	40	0	0.51	0.61
10	Sports Talk (11, Grand Slam)	N/A	1/0	0/0	0/0	(S C Husker Girl, \$483)	\$483	17	0	0.07	0.25

2025 LEADING SIRES IN NORTH DAKOTA

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Baseball Card Kid (06, Vindication), DeMontigny Ranch	\$500	4/1	0/0	0/0	(Jezamae Kidd, \$7,603)	\$16,383	43	0	0.10	0.10
2	¶ Calculated Risker (14, Into Mischief), Neudorf Stables	N/A	2/1	0/0	0/0	(Pumpkin Princess, \$4,101)	\$6,261	4	0	0.10	0.53

2025 LEADING SIRES IN OHIO

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	National Flag (15, Speightstown), Blazing Meadows Farm	\$2,000	39/32	1/1	1/1	(Villian, \$239,900)	\$1,674,730	50	2	1.41	1.06
2	Dominus (08, Smart Strike), Duncan Farms	Private	52/27	2/3	1/2	(City Scene, \$145,275)	\$1,376,824	306	14	1.14	1.05
3	Higher Power (15, Medaglia d'Oro), R.C. Cline Thoroughbred Farm	\$2,000	86/29	0/0	0/0	(Higher Force, \$155,285)	\$1,242,337	146	0	0.50	0.96
4	Drill (09, Lawyer Ron)	Died, 2024	41/21	0/0	0/0	(Drills Wild Brat, \$126,706)	\$1,044,680	159	1	0.77	0.97
5	Sky Kingdom (09, Empire Maker)	N/A	42/21	2/2	1/2	(Doctor Abbie, \$113,490)	\$1,014,955	150	3	0.95	0.85
6	Mobil (00, Langfuhr), Duncan Farms	\$2,000	32/17	0/0	0/0	(Mystical Mobil, \$62,892)	\$830,430	*250	8	1.22	1.19
7	Danza (11, Street Boss)	Died, 2021	26/13	0/0	0/0	(Marmalade Skye, \$256,447)	\$748,216	179	2	0.69	0.87
8	Rivers Run Deep (11, Ready's Image)	N/A	27/15	0/0	0/0	(Dunn's River, \$106,305)	\$676,760	48	0	0.70	0.79
9	Dynamic Racer (16, Run Away and Hide)	N/A	17/11	0/0	0/0	(Praise N Glory, \$145,395)	\$627,819	24	0	0.96	0.96
10	Texas Red (12, Afleet Alex), Buckeye Stallion Station	\$5,000	36/15	1/1	0/1	(Redline, \$60,525)	\$530,395	138	2	0.64	0.98
11	Fort Larned (08, E Dubai)	N/A	28/13	0/0	0/0	(Counteveryblessing, \$107,094)	\$516,153	*239	3	0.80	1.16
12	Itsmyluckyday (10, Lawyer Ron)	N/A	29/12	0/0	0/0	(Red Chips, \$94,239)	\$472,047	224	3	0.83	0.97
13	Corfu (11, Malibu Moon), Duncan Farms	\$2,000	18/12	0/0	0/0	(Whiskey Diamond, \$47,260)	\$381,723	76	0	1.01	0.82
14	Indy Wind (02, A.P. Indy)	N/A	13/6	0/0	0/0	(Ronnis Second Wind, \$112,710)	\$364,138	110	2	1.34	0.95
15	Biondetti (08, Bernardini)	N/A	12/7	0/0	0/0	(Biondettisnitemare, \$75,180)	\$325,732	176	3	0.70	1.15
16	Birdrun (06, Birdstone)	Died, 2021	8/5	0/0	0/0	(Coloryoureggs, \$104,300)	\$307,187	40	2	1.06	0.77
17	Twinspired (08, Harlan's Holiday)	N/A	16/8	0/0	0/0	(Eagle Nest, \$70,722)	\$285,076	65	4	1.01	0.75
18	Kiss the Ghost (14, Ghostzapper)	N/A	8/6	0/0	0/0	(Just Like Rambo, \$113,038)	\$270,673	17	1	1.13	0.79
19	Wildcat Red (11, D'wildcat), Howlett Ranch	\$2,500	18/8	0/0	0/0	(Wildcat Minny, \$45,913)	\$241,924	49	0	0.78	0.98
20	Dreamliner (14, More Than Ready)	N/A	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Reigning Dream, \$60,771)	\$232,491	13	0	0.94	0.45

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals; ¶ Indicates a first-crop sire

in Ontario, as well as Woodbine's role in cutting back the Ontario sire purse program. It was \$320,000 in 2025.

In 2016, Woodbine informed horsemen that the bonuses paid out the two previous years had exceeded expectations, and it was going to reduce the program. It paid out \$4.4 million in 2015 and reduced that to nearly \$3 million for 2016. This was done by cutting back on the number of races exclusively restricted to Ontario-sired horses.

At that time, Woodbine Entertainment Group in a letter to horsemen wrote, "As declining horse supply becomes a growing factor, WEG can no longer support a parallel program of open races and restricted OS races."

"IT'S BEEN A TREMENDOUS PROGRAM THAT WE'VE HAD IN ONTARIO FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW. IT'S BEEN A GREAT SECURITY BLANKET, KNOWING THAT WE'VE HAD GOVERNMENT SUPPORT AND WORKING WITH THE GOVERNMENT, CREATING JOBS, AND ALLOWING OUR INDUSTRY TO FLOURISH."

—DAVID ANDERSON OF ANDERSON FARMS

Colebrook stands one of Canada's top sires, Frac Daddy, who is by Scat Daddy.

"I think we were sort of the model for what's happened in New York and what's happening in several of the states now by

having the (sire) program," Burness said.

Burness said that one of the issues facing Canadian horsemen is the taxes in Canada are restrictive, especially when compared to the permanent 100% bonus

2025 LEADING SIRES IN CANADA



For daily updated sire lists visit BloodHorse.com

Rank	Stallion (Foreign foaled), (YOB,Sire), Where Stands	2026 Stud Fee	Rnrs/ Wnrs	BT SWnrs/ Wns	Rstrct SW/ BT SW	(Chief Earner, Earnings)	2025 Earnings	Foals	Cumulative BT SWs	A-E Index	Comp Index
1	Ghostzapper (00, Awesome Again)	Pnsd	158/86	7/12	0/7	(Banishing, \$1,615,930)	\$9,681,337	*1354	105	1.92	1.82
2	Tapiture (11, Tapit), Highfield	\$6,000	275/155	5/5	3/5	(Tapit Quick, \$212,678)	\$7,201,170	*693	35	1.04	1.10
3	Souper Speedy (09, Indian Charlie)	Died, 2024	114/63	6/7	6/6	(Maximum Fifty, \$249,444)	\$3,752,902	316	20	1.53	1.32
4	Reload (09, Hard Spun), Northern Dawn Stables	\$5,000	98/56	4/5	3/4	(Ready to Collect, \$178,665)	\$2,826,335	217	8	1.41	1.26
5	Mohaymen (13, Tapit), Saintsbury Farms	\$5,000	78/44	1/1	0/1	(Regaled, \$583,113)	\$2,301,086	*171	5	1.00	1.11
6	Mucho Macho Man (08, Macho Uno), Adena Springs North	\$4,500	117/56	2/2	0/2	(Goldeneye Magic, \$213,518)	\$2,213,936	*364	13	1.23	1.05
7	Silent Name (JPN) (02, Sunday Silence), Adena Springs North	\$8,000	72/32	2/2	2/2	(Summer Commander, \$118,573)	\$2,005,717	*605	40	1.46	1.22
8	Shaman Ghost (12, Ghostzapper), Adena Springs North	\$3,500	85/46	1/1	1/1	(Forgiving Spirit, \$108,221)	\$1,881,065	187	6	0.94	1.10
9	Frac Daddy (10, Scat Daddy), Colebrook Farms Stallion Station	\$4,000	58/28	1/2	1/1	(Little Teddy, \$216,067)	\$1,724,636	163	7	1.27	1.17
10	Point of Entry (08, Dynaformer), Adena Springs North	\$4,500	70/29	2/2	2/2	(She Makes a Point, \$120,313)	\$1,686,621	*420	21	1.20	1.40
11	Tamarkuz (10, Speightstown), Ballycroy Bloodstock	\$3,000	54/29	0/0	0/0	(Red Flag, \$191,238)	\$1,390,244	*134	3	0.85	1.01
12	Big Screen (09, Speightstown), Spring Farm	\$3,000	31/19	2/2	1/2	(Full Screen, \$160,773)	\$1,095,650	101	5	1.09	1.20
13	Old Forester (01, Forestry)	N/A	52/28	0/0	0/0	(Foresters Exec, \$128,990)	\$1,065,722	586	25	1.34	1.34
14	Society's Chairman (03, Not Impossible)	N/A	40/16	0/0	0/0	(Paramount Prince, \$98,397)	\$891,079	198	9	1.40	1.29
15	Yorkton (14, Speightstown), Adena Springs North	\$5,000	30/13	1/2	0/1	(Piper's Gift, \$226,845)	\$822,222	51	1	1.02	1.15
16	Ami's Holiday (11, Harlan's Holiday)	N/A	34/20	0/0	0/0	(Saratoga Holiday, \$70,765)	\$695,229	98	2	0.96	1.10
17	Danish Dynaformer (12, Dynaformer), Humber Stables	\$2,500	23/13	0/0	0/0	(War Painter, \$95,742)	\$580,459	57	1	1.11	0.71
18	Counterforce (13, Smart Strike), Empire Equestrian	\$3,000	27/16	1/1	0/1	(Loveaboveandbeyond, \$65,465)	\$504,838	43	5	0.87	0.81
19	Bakken (10, Distorted Humor), Stoneridge Farm	\$2,500	38/23	0/0	0/0	(Tool Time, \$34,775)	\$457,974	108	6	0.76	0.91
20	Sungold (02, A.P. Indy)	N/A	28/18	2/2	2/2	(Viva La Diva, \$48,932)	\$435,926	139	13	0.84	0.99
21	Gamble's Exchange (11, Exchange Rate), Ballycroy Bloodstock	\$4,000	16/11	0/0	0/0	(Mason's Gamble, \$68,965)	\$426,931	31	2	1.55	1.11
22	Seattle Serenade (12, Smart Strike)	N/A	26/9	0/0	0/0	(Indy One, \$92,825)	\$414,574	93	0	0.62	1.30
23	Ami's Flatter (12, Flatter), Ballycroy Bloodstock	\$3,500	16/12	0/0	0/0	(Raging Fury, \$69,140)	\$396,502	25	0	0.93	0.91
24	Lent (10, Pulpit), Emerald Acres	\$2,000	25/14	1/2	0/1	(Rondelito, \$116,764)	\$386,211	79	6	0.67	0.69
25	Not Bourbon (05, Not Impossible), Flying Horse Farm	\$1,500	10/5	0/0	0/0	(Awesome Bourbon, \$163,681)	\$382,463	145	2	1.00	1.18
26	Perfect Timber (09, Perfect Soul)	N/A	16/9	0/0	0/0	(Talk to Ya Later, \$77,693)	\$355,073	47	2	1.23	1.31
27	Medallist (01, Touch Gold)	N/A	8/4	1/1	1/1	(Houghton Shuffle, \$139,880)	\$329,558	224	8	1.23	1.26
28	Nonios (09, Pleasantly Perfect), Dunroven Farm	\$1,250	24/12	0/0	0/0	(Betterlucknexttime, \$57,823)	\$293,079	83	0	0.60	0.75

* includes Southern Hemisphere foals; ¶ Indicates a first-crop sire

depreciation law in the U.S. It keeps some horsemen from buying or breeding in the U.S. In Canada, top sires stand for \$5,000-\$8,000.

"We have maybe about 150 or so people that can afford to go to the U.S., pay the higher dollar and send mares down there, and breed to (a) stallion down there," he said. "But most of the small people that are involved in regional programs, they just don't have the funds to be able to do that. They're kind of stuck here breeding to the Ontario sires."

Having been part of the industry for more than 50 years, Burness said older participants are having a harder time with just a small number of mares and small acreage. He said with the cost of land skyrocketing, many older horsemen are choosing to cash out and "live happily ever after."

PUTTING HEADS TOGETHER

As for a solution, Burness would like to see Ontario Racing and Woodbine "get together and put up X number



The Ontario-sired stakes program featured a dozen races during Woodbine's 2025 meet including the Ballade Stakes won by Olivia Rose

of dollars to go directly to the breeders that are in the game to help them sustain and have them bring in better broodmares, better stallions to get the program up to where we were at one time, back to a better position than we certainly are in now."

"Unless we have some financial help from those entities ... I don't think the sustainability is going to be there," he said.

Still, the program's endgame is to make life easier for Ontario horsemen.

Perhaps it is not as impactful as years past, but it is still making a difference.

Open channels of communication is key. If horsemen see something that needs to be adjusted, there is receptiveness to dialogue.

"We're engaged in a really good listening exercise, gathering information and obtaining feedback," Snyder said. "And there are lots of great ideas out there. One of the good things about being as historic as this program is, we like to try new

things, and we will probably be sharing some things over the next couple years after we sort of finish with our listening exercise and getting feedback from everybody. We always get positive feedback from folks who have used a program and it has worked out well for them. Sometimes, not every program services every participant. There are sometimes things they're requesting to change and (we try to) figure out how to benefit different services." **BH**

WOODBINE/MICHAEL BURNES

FRAC DANCER

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Frac Dancer is the kind of stallion who could stamp his foals with a strong shoulder, deep girth, and a fluent walk that turns into an easy, efficient stride. He's correct, balanced, and carries himself like he knows where the wire is.

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