

# Smiles all round in Brighthill corner

BY DENNIS RYAN

The biggest smiles ringside at Karaka earlier this week belonged to Brighthill Farm's Nick and Anne-Marie King, reflecting the weanling sale results realised by the first crop progeny of former leading Australian sprinter Perfectly Ready.

Along with former star colt Darci Brahma and another high class Australian sprinter Fast 'n' Famous, Perfectly Ready added a fresh and dynamic element to the offering in the weanling section of New Zealand Bloodstock's 2009 National Weanling, Broodmare and Mixed Bloodstock Sale.

The Oaks Stud-based Darci Brahma topped the sale with his half-brother to New Zealand Derby winner Hail at \$100,000, purchased with pinhooking intentions by South Auckland couple Tony and Clare Anderson, while the high point for Waikato Stud's Fast 'n' Famous was a \$52,000 result.

Perfectly Ready's best individual result was \$56,000, complemented by another six sales at \$30,000 or better and an average price for 15 sales from his 16-lot draft of just over \$25,000.

"Having 16 in the sale, which was easily the most of any of the first season sires, he was going to be well tested," commented Nick King. "We're absolutely thrilled to get the results we did at a sale with a \$9,000 average overall.

"The job was to have the types to meet the market and Perfectly Ready certainly did that. It's very pleasing to see those people who have supported the horse take the opportunity to make a nice dollar."

Perfectly Ready, a Group One-winning son of boom two-year-old sire More Than Ready from the Danehill mare Elle Duccio, stands at Brighthill under a partnership arrangement with original owners Vinery Stud and Sheikh Mohammed bin Kalifa al Maktoum.

"The Sheikh's man Tim Stakemire has been at the sale and he was stoked with what we've achieved to date," King added. "What's really exciting

is that Vinery and the Sheikh plan to be here in January, so after what's already happened I'm really looking forward to coming back here with his yearlings."

Perfectly Ready has served large books in his two seasons to date and hopes are understandably high that a similar level will be maintained in his crucial third year.

"We set our fee pretty tight in the first year and at \$12,000 we felt it was very fair," King said. "You've got to ensure that it can hold if at all possible for three years and you've also got to be conscious of the value you're offering broodmare owners."

Between them, first season sires provided six of the top 10 weanling prices at Karaka. Two each belonged to Perfectly Ready and Darci Brahma, with Fast 'n' Famous and the Australian shuttler Holy Roman Emperor (second top price at \$82,500) responsible for one apiece.

Other sires on the top 10 list were Pentire (\$50,000), St Reims (\$45,000), Volksraad (\$45,000), and Dehere (\$40,000).

Curraghmore Stud, who put through the top priced Perfectly Ready weanling, headed the vendors' aggregate list, while Paul and Cushla Smithies' Monovale Holdings, breeders of the



Lot 313, a \$32,000 Perfectly Ready colt from Dance Floor mare Energetic Dancer.

Holy Roman Emperor filly, topped the vendor averages.

Following a similar trend to the summer yearling sales, market correction reflecting the economy saw a one-third drop from last year's record average price, coming out at \$9,018

for the 267 weanlings sold.

One very heartening statistic was the clearance rate, which was running at a red-hot 94% during the second session on Wednesday morning and by the end of weanling selling was 88%, just one per cent below the 2008 figure.

Leading Lots					
Lot	Type	Breeding	Vendor	Purchaser	Price
207	B.C	Darci Brahma / Valley Court	ESKER LODGE	BALLYDOYLE (Papakura)	\$100,000
312	B.F	Holy Roman Emperor / Elusive Quarry	MONOVALE HOLDINGS	NZB as agent (Auckland)	\$82,500
242	B.C	Perfectly Ready / Axislass	CURRAGHMORE STUD	WELLFIELD THOROUGHBREDS (Palm Nth)	\$56,000
66	B.C	Fast 'n' Famous / Libourne	CURRAGHMORE STUD	NZB as agent (Auckland)	\$52,000
180	BR.C	Pentire / Stretto	ESKER LODGE	MR J MORRISEY (QLD)	\$50,000
133	B.C	St Reims / Quintessence	TWIN PINE THOROUGHBREDS	NZB as agent (Cambridge)	\$45,000
218	C.C	Volksraad / Worship	BRIGHTHILL FARM	JC & MA MORELL (Ngaruawahia)	\$45,000
301	B.C	Perfectly Ready / Deune	CURRAGHMORE STUD	MAARA GRANGE (Cambridge)	\$41,000
233	B.F	Darci Brahma / Anakela Bay	CURRAGHMORE STUD	NZB as agent (Auckland)	\$40,000
290	B.F	Dehere / Crocodile	MONOVALE HOLDINGS	MR PJ WALKER (Auckland)	\$40,000