

By Brett Sturman who is a leading harness racing analyst in North America, and regularly handicaps races over at his website [HYPERLINK "http://Hometrackadvantage.com"](http://Hometrackadvantage.com) \t "_new" Hometrackadvantage.com. In this interview / article Brett discusses the stallion Mach Three, sire of Somebeachsomewhere and the Down Under Wonder 'Auckland Reactor' (now in North America) with leading stallion entrepreneur John Curtin of JC International.

Mach Three Flies Under the Radar in North America

Things are about to change for North America's most arguable underrated sire Mach Three, the eleven year old stallion by Matt's Scooter from the Abercrombie mare All Included.

In fact, International horse trader, John Curtin of JC International, believes Mach Three will be the world's most sought after sire within the next couple of years. The New Zealand businessman, who has performed an integral role alongside Mach Three owner Joseph Muscara in the key management decisions of the stallion, says he has screeds of evidence to back up those claims.

Mach Three is a shuttle stallion standing at Tara Hills in Canada and is two months into his Northern Hemisphere breeding season. According to Curtin, "His progeny are about to hit the North American racing scene in a way more explosive than ever before."

Mach Three's sensational five-year-old son, Auckland Reactor (sold by Curtin to North American interests for US\$3.5 million as a three year old) is about to make his much anticipated debut on a North American racetrack, and is staked to the tune of US\$4 million in potential purses. Curtin says Auckland Reactor can break the world record of 1:46.4.

Importantly, no longer is Mach Three's progeny in North America from fourth and fifth rated mares. "His 2-year-old crop (2010) from 125 mares oozes of quality breeding, and Auckland Reactor's presence will further add to his popularity," Curtin said.

"I expect Mach Three's impact in North America to be huge from this season onwards. You can't beat quality mares and he's finally got to serve a lot. He will be the hottest stallion ever in the next two years. If you were ever going to breed to Mach Three in North America it would have to be this year, you watch his 2-year-olds fly this season," Curtin emphatically says.

Curtin also says he is getting reports from several trainers in North America that have current Mach Three two year olds in training, and these reports are both exceptional and exciting. These exemplary reports do not come as the slightest surprise to Curtin either, the man with great faith in Mach Three (who incidentally he sold as a three year old racehorse for a then record US\$2.25 million).

Mach Three's first four seasons at stud in North America produced 129, 74, 50 and 46 live foals from mostly non popular mares, and in New Zealand he produced 124, 78, 64 and 18 live foals from the same type of mares. And even despite the quality and relatively small number of foals produced, Mach Three has already achieved the rare feat of siring two of the greatest pacing stars ever seen, one in each hemisphere no less! This includes Somebeachsomewhere p3,1:46.4 \$3,328,755 (from his second crop) and Down Under Wonder Auckland Reactor 1:53.5 \$1,407,891(from his first crop).

Checking siring statistics, one will note that Mach Three is already the sire of outstanding race horses from both sexes (best horses listed at the conclusion of this article), and his progeny have earned a massive \$21,000,000 in stakes to date in North America, alone.

And this is just from a total of 299 foals, three year olds and older, which is all the foals that Mach Three has sired to date in North America. Of those 299 foals, Mach Three has sired 239 starters for 214 winners.

In North America, Mach Three has a total of only 60 foals that have not raced to date, which represent only a mere average of just 15 foals a year for the four crops that he has racing.

"When you breed to Mach Three you have a great chance of getting a race winner, and a good one at that," says Curtin.

For every foal born in North America by Mach Three, his progeny have averaged an astounding \$71,018 in earnings to date. This is ten times the amount of his collected service fee, an exceptional result that every breeder is seeking.

Curtin ponders, "If any breeder looks at Mach Three's statistical record today, they would be in shock to see he has a record second to none in North America, and yet very few people know it. It is simply amazing and hard to understand that in North America, Mach Three has not gotten a full book of mares yet in 2010, and his service fee has remained the same from his very first year at stud, at just \$7,500."

This is in spite of Mach Three siring two of the greatest horses ever produced in the harness racing world, the previously mentioned Somebeachsomewhere and Auckland Reactor. Not to be forgotten, there too is the hard hitting 1:48.4 Free For All pacer Jeremy's Successor racing at the Meadowlands, and the very good mare Mach You And Me (\$717,000). And the list goes on.

In New Zealand, Mach Three is already fully booked for the next breeding season at a \$12,500 plus GST service fee.

Mach Three has bred books of 323, 217 and 297 mares in his last three seasons at stud in New Zealand. He is leaving such great gaited and great attitude horses that the trainers just can not get enough off them.

In the most prestigious race for three year olds just last week in the \$250,000 New Zealand Derby (a near equivalent of the \$1,500,000 North America Cup), Mach Three was represented by a record six (most starters by one sire ever in the NZ Derby) of the fourteen runners, and that is from a crop of just 58 three year olds!

He is the leading sire of three year olds in New Zealand with just under one million dollars in stakes to date. Mach Three is a close third on the overall list of New Zealand sires at this time, and especially when one considers his smaller sized crops, it truly is a stellar achievement.

Curtin wants to remind breeders with mares still to breed in 2010, "Just consider this: Your resultant foal will be ready to sell as a yearling when Mach Three has two of his biggest crops racing, as the 2010 two year olds will number 125 and the 2011 two year olds will number 123." As a result, he believes resultant yearlings will be some of the most valuable in North America when they come up for auction.

He says Mach Three is an ideal outcross stallion and can be bred to just about any mare in North America. Upon inspecting the top 20 earners by Mach Three in North America, you will see that he is represented by 18 different broodmare sires.

Specifically, they are Beach Towel, Colt Forty Six, No Nukes, Apaches Fame, Dare You Too, Jate Lobell, Artsplace, Die Laughing, Dragons Lair, Long Ago Blue Chip, Precious Bunny, Falcon Seelster, Jennas Beach Boy, Cam Fella, Flying Bret, Alwin Steady, Western Hanover and Cambest.

This is quite a remarkable result.

While giving a deeper look into Mach Three's New Zealand top 20 earners, the result was even more astonishing. What you find is 20 different broodmare sires from the top 20 earners!

Soky's Atom, Road Machine, Vance Hanover, Falcon Seelster, Beach Towel, Butler BG, Caprock, Il Vicola, Talk About Class, Camtastic, Live Or Die, Fitch II, Bo Scots Blue Chip, Sir Vancelot, Sands A Flyin, Holmes Hanover, New York Motoring, Smooth Fella, Nero's BB and Dream Away.

Here is Mach Three's North American statistical record year by year.

All statistics are at 5th April 2010

This is the record of 2004 foals that were bred in North America.

129 eligible to race (three dead and one exported)

111 starters

102 winners

18 not raced

Total earnings for the 111 that have started is \$11,872,455

That is earnings off \$106,959 per starter.

\$92,034 per foal eligible to race.

Best progeny to date are

Mach You And Me (m)	p3,1:51.2s, \$727,719
Canadette (m)	p3,1:51s, \$449,634
In The Irons (h)	p3,1:50.3s, \$443,593
Test Flight (h)	p4,1:50.4f, \$429,083
Arduous (h)	p5,1:52.2h, \$411,885
Jeremys Successor(g)	p5,1:48.4m, \$410,885
Lady Mach (m)	p4,1:51.3s, \$383,856
Stabilo (m)	p3,1:52.1s, \$249,784

This is the record of 2005 foals that were bred in North America.

74 eligible to race (three dead)

59 starters

54 race winners

15 not raced

Total earnings for the 59 that have started is \$6,916,237

That is earnings off \$117,224 per starter.

\$93,463 per foal eligible to race

Best progeny to race are...

Somebeachsomewhere (h)	p3,1:46.4m, \$3,328,755
Romantic Thriller (g)	p4,1:50.3f, \$267,323
Believeinbruiser (h)	p3,1:53s, \$249,654
Cuzzin Sid (g)	p4,1:50.2s, \$176,960
HBFS Tommy (g)	p4, 1:52.1f, \$152,817

This is the record of 2006 foals that were bred in North America.

50 eligible to race (three dead)

42 starters

40 race winners

8 not raced

Total earnings for the 42 that have started is \$1,867,844

That is earnings off \$44,472 per starter

\$37,357 per foal eligible to race.

Best progeny to race are ...

Shipp's Xpectancy (g)	p3,1:50.2s, \$483,193
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Smashbox (m) p4,1:52.3s, \$156,364

Mild Mannered (h) p3,1:53.3f, \$153,183

This is the record of 2007 foals that were bred in North America.

46 eligible to race (one dead)

27 starters

18 race winners

19 not raced

Total earnings for the 27 that have started is \$578,1000

That is earnings off \$21,411 per starter

\$12,567 per foal eligible to race

Best progeny to race are ...

Adrenaline (c) p2,1:55.2s, \$131,000

Brusiers Brother (c) p2,1:53.4s, \$120,926