

# NY THOROUGHBRED BREEDING AND DEVELOPMENT FUND 2021 PERFORMANCE MEASURES REPORT

## NAME OF PUBLIC AUTHORITY

New York Thoroughbred Breeding and Development Fund Corporation

## PUBLIC AUTHORITY'S MISSION STATEMENT

To promote by monetary incentives the responsible breeding of quality Thoroughbred racehorses in keeping with the founding legislation to preserve New York's irreplaceable farmland.

## PERFORMANCE GOALS

1. Promotion of Responsible Breeding

*Increase the number and quality of foals*

2021 Action: The 2021 foal crop of 1,492 was down slightly from 2020 but remains roughly 22% higher than the decade's low mark of 1,225 foals in 2011. During 2021, 29 new mares arrived in the state after having been purchased at public auction for \$50,000 or more. This was the result of a rule change made by the Fund in late 2020 that allowed non-resident mares purchased at public auction for \$50,000 or more to enter the state to foal and then leave to be covered by an out-of-state stallion, provided that they return to the state within 120 days and have a second New York foal. Both foals are then eligible to be registered as NY-breds and earn breeder and owner awards. For more information on the rule:

<https://www.nybreeds.com/rules/resident-non-resident-mares>

*Promote NY-breds at auction to confirm they are gaining in public acceptance as quality Thoroughbreds.*

2021 Action: Auction revenue from NY-bred weanlings, yearlings and two-year-olds have more than tripled over the past decade, from \$16.4 million in 2010 to \$57 million in 2021. Such auction results demonstrate why Fasig-Tipton President and Chief Executive Officer Boyd Browning proclaimed "The New York-bred racing and breeding program continues to be the best in the United States."

*Ensure that the Registry Compliance Team visits all NYS Thoroughbred breeding farms to collect data pertinent to our state-bred registry.*

2021 Action: Our field inspectors visited all 259 farms in the state at least once during the year.

*Promote the responsible breeding of Thoroughbreds.*

2021 Action: Field inspectors look at horses and facilities during their inspection visits and did not report any horses or facilities to be in poor circumstances.

*Demonstrate the Fund's support for ex-Thoroughbred racehorses.*

2021 Action: Based on the understanding that many potential horse racing fans perceive that Thoroughbreds are not valued once their track careers are behind them, and that such a perception is an impediment to ownership, breeding and fan-base growth, the Fund made promotional spends with multiple aftercare organizations.

We promoted events and facilities in NYS that have been approved by the TAA/Thoroughbred Aftercare Alliance: ACTT Naturally, Akindale Thoroughbred Rescue, Equine Advocates, Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program, Lucky Orphans Sanctuary, Old Friends at Cabin Creek, ReRun Thoroughbred Adoption, New Vocations Racehorse Adoption/North Country Horses, Second Chance Thoroughbreds, Therapeutic Horses of Saratoga and the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation.

The Fund posts success stories concerning off-track Thoroughbreds (OTTBs), and uses the Fund website (NYBreds.com) to communicate the importance of finding second careers for them. The website also hosts free web ads for the nationally acclaimed Finger Lakes Thoroughbred Adoption Program and Old Friends at Cabin Creek.

*Provide monetary incentives to promote responsible breeding.*

2021 Action: The Fund paid its award earners over \$15 million in breeder, owner and stallion owner awards in 2021. This total represents an increase of over 44 percent compared to the 2020 figure as a result of the easing of the COVID-19 pandemic during the year.

The Fund supplied \$1,782,791 in purse enrichment to NYRA and Finger Lakes Gaming and Racetrack in 2021, an increase of over 40% compared to the figure for 2020.

*Promote the preservation of farmland.*

2021 Action: The Fund supports the American Farmland Trust by distributing their brochures at interested farms. The pamphlets provide information on topics such as selling development rights in order to preserve farmland. Due to COVID-19 restrictions the Fund was unable to support events such as farm tours and Thoroughbred adoptions days.

*Ensure that all prospective NY-bred horses satisfy all requirements for registration, as well as applicable equine-health-related statutory or regulatory requirements.*

2021 Action: Oversight by the Executive Director and Registrar of the registry process ensured that these requirements were satisfied for all horses included in the Fund's registry.

*Improve the registration process.*

2021 Action: We continued to make enhancements to our registration system and website in order to improve our ability to provide status updates on pending registrations. The registry system has been upgraded to comply with the new rules with respect to withholding breeder awards if conditions for the registration of sales mares purchased at public auction for \$50,000 or more have not been satisfied. Supporting reports have been created so that the Registrar is informed regarding the volume of such sales mares with foals submitted for registration. In addition, the website has been modified to document for the clients the details of the new rules, and the application includes a new field for the designation of such sales mares.

## 2. Equine Research

*Provide 2% of revenue to the Zweig Fund at Cornell University.*

The Fund is required by statute to contribute 2% of its annual revenue to the Harry M. Zweig Memorial Fund for Equine Research.

2021 Action: The amount contributed to the Zweig Fund for 2021 is \$399,308.

## 3. Communication with Stakeholders

*Keep stakeholders informed of industry trends, potential changes in purse enrichment, the awards program, and the accomplishments of NY-breds.*

2021 Action: Communication pathways established in previous years were maintained: email blasts, messages from the Executive Director to shareholders included with award checks, relevant stories posted on the Fund website [www.NYBreds.com](http://www.NYBreds.com) and shared in Facebook posts and on Twitter.

## 4. Promotion of Quality Thoroughbred Racehorses

- Awards Program: Distribute performance-based awards to Thoroughbred breeders, stallion owners, and racehorse owners.

- With assistance from the Jockey Club, maintain the Fund’s award system to ensure the accuracy and integrity of award calculations.
- Use advertising and articles to enhance demand for NY-bred racehorses by highlighting their on-track performance and the increased profit potential that comes with owning and racing NY-breds, and by informing those in the horse industry about the solid sales performance of NY-breds at auction.

#### 5. Efficient Administration of the Fund

- Efficiently and effectively administer the Fund within statutory cost ceilings.
- Streamline operations consistent with an adequate system of internal controls through periodic review and revision of processes and staffing.
- Ensure compliance with all regulatory filing and reporting requirements of NYS control agencies.

2021 Action: In 2021 the Fund remained within the statutory caps for administrative and promotional spending set by the State.