Fasig Tipton Midlantic Fall Sales Analysis

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The Fasig-Tipton Midlantic Fall Yearling Sale continues to be one of the best regional markets in the U.S. and statistics show that in recent years the sale conducted on the Maryland State Fairgrounds in Timonium stacks up well against any yearling sale in North America. The reasons for the sale's success are multi-fold, with performance by the sale's graduates on the racetrack and the chance to quickly earn back some of the purchase price thanks to significant gaming-enhanced purse incentives at tracks in the region are just two of the key factors.

According to statistics in *The Blood-Horse MarketWatch*, the Midlantic Fall Sale saw 1,262 yearlings sell from over a three-year period from 2008 to 2010 and that group sold for an average of \$15,928.

The average earnings of graduates of the sale during that time is more than twice the sale's average, coming in at \$37,629 and a remarkable 763 of those graduates earned more than their purchase price. That means 60% of the yearlings sold in Timonium earn more

than they brought in the ring, the best percentage of any regional or boutique yearling sale in North America.

Unquestionably the reason for those positive returns is through the gaming-enhanced purses now in play in Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. The average daily purse distribution at tracks in the region ranges from about \$200,000 on the low end to

nearly \$1 million on the high end, the chance to earn back a significant chunk of a yearling's purchase price is not only possible but realistic.

The Midlantic Fall Yearling Sale numbers when it comes to graduates earning more than their sales price are better than the Louisiana August, CTHS Ontario, OBS August and Barretts October. The numbers are better than the Fasig-Tipton Saratoga and July Sales and Keeneland September Sales.

A healthy 22% of the sale's graduates during that same three-year period from 2008 to 2010 were winners as 2-year-olds and 3.1% were stakes winners and a 9.1% were stakes competitors.

Leading graduates

One year removed from 2011 Kentucky Oaks-G1 and 2012 Apple Blossom H.-G1 winner **Plum Pretty** gracing the Midlantic Fall Sale catalogue, the 2013 cover horse is again one of the leading fillies in training in the U.S.



Dancing Afleet, a graduate of the 2011 sale on a bid of \$28,000 from Tim Ritchey, Dancing Afleet won for the third time in five starts this season in the Delaware Oaks-G2 on July 13 at Delaware Park.

She defeated next-out Saratoga winner Maracuya and others in the Delaware Oaks and could be the poster girl for the above-mentioned statistics, with a bankroll of more than \$248,000 for her connections.



Other Midlantic Fall graduates performing on some of racing's biggest stages include **So Many Ways**, a graduate of

the 2011 sale who won the 2012 Spinaway S.-G1 and Schuylerville S.-G3 and added the Eight Belles S.-G3 earlier this season. A \$22,000 buy at the 2011

sale, So Many Ways has earned more than \$484,000 and was fourth in the Prioress S.-G1 and Test S.-G1 at the recent Saratoga meet.



Eighttofasttocatch showed he's among the leading older horses on the Mid-Atlantic circuit with a game second in the Grade 3 Pimlico Special earlier this spring, an effort that followed a victory in the Henry Clark S. A \$47,000 buy at the 2007 Midlantic Fall Sale, Eighttofasttocatch boosted his career bankroll earlier this summer to more than \$709,000.

Ponzi Scheme, a bargain \$3,500 purchase out of the 2008 sale, continues to go strong in 2013 as a 6-year-old and won this year's Stymie Stakes at Delaware and finished third in Monmouth Cup S.-G3. He's earned \$410,930.

Among the other consistent top stakes performers from recent editions of the Midlantic Fall Sale include Grade 1 winner **Ask** the Moon, Grade 3 winner **Done Talking, Bad Debt, Concealed Identity, Get Serious, Joy, Long on Value, Marilyn's Guy, Manuka Honey, Moon Philly, Mystic Love, Ravalo, Redeemed** and **Tujoes**.