

LIAM'S MAP LEADS SIRE CLASS BY GRADE 1 WINNERS

Liam's Map, a third-crop sire standing at Lane's End, reached an important milestone Jan. 23 when his 4-year-old son Colonel Liam became his first grade 1 winner on turf in the Pegasus World Cup Turf Invitational Stakes (G1T) at Gulfstream Park.

The 10-year-old son of Unbridled's Song now leads his sire class by number of cumulative grade 1 winners with three as of Jan. 25. His other elite performers include two-time grade 1 winner Basin, winner of the Runhappy Hopeful Stakes (G1) at 2 and of one division of the 2020 Arkansas Derby (G1); and 2019 Frittelle Stakes (G1) winner Wicked Whisper, who also won the 2020 Miss Preakness Stakes (G3).

Liam's Map is the third-leading sire of his class by cumulative graded stakes winners with four behind American Pharoah (eight) and Constitution (five) and is the co-third-leading sire by number of black-type stakes winners alongside Tapiture with seven apiece behind American Pharoah (14) and Constitution (10).

Liam's Map's progeny have been signaling for a couple of years their ability to succeed on turf. He has sired 14 winners from 69 runners on the grass, giving him a 20% strike rate from starters. In 2019

his daughter Song River placed in two turf stakes in South Florida, and in 2020 another son, Compensate, was runner-up in the Melody of Colors Stakes on the Gulfstream turf before Colonel Liam captured the Dec. 26 Tropical Park Derby over the same turf course.

Colonel Liam's second dam, multiple grade 1 winner Wonder Again, is a strong turf influence in the colt's pedigree. The mare is a five-time graded stakes winner on the grass and was third in the 2004 VO5 Breeders' Cup Filly & Mare Turf (G1T). Wonder Again is a full sister to Japanese champion Grass Wonder and also produced graded-placed Japanese

stakes winner Red Raven (by Smart Strike). Some affinity for turf might be coming through Liam's Map's dam Miss Macy Sue, who won the Presque Isle Downs Master Stakes on the Tapeta track at Presque Isle Downs and placed in the Ontario Fashion Stakes on the all-weather main track at Woodbine. Horses that succeed on synthetic surfaces often excel on turf. Among the top 10 sires by number of 2020 North American winners on all-weather surfaces, five sires are also among the top 20 sires by number of 2020 winners on turf and four of them are among the top 10 turf sires.

By Eric Mitchell



Liam's Map

COURTESY LANE'S END/ASUCION PINEYRUA

Bloodstock Updates

Grade 1 winner and champion male sprinter **Big Drama** was euthanized last week following complications from a stomach ailment. The 15-year-old son of Montbrook was one of five black-type stakes winners produced by Riveting Drama, a daughter of Notebook that Hal Queen purchased for \$36,000 as a 2-year-old. Big Drama was one of the mare's two grade 1 winners, the other being Sheer Drama. Big Drama won the 2010 Sentient Jet Breeders' Cup Sprint (G1) and was named that year's Eclipse champion male sprinter. As a stallion, he has sired four black-type stakes winners, including R Kinsely Doll, who won two of three Florida Sire Stakes division races in 2016. He also sired Trinidad and Tobago champion Whisper Light.

Grade 2-placed winner **Aurelius Maximus** was retired from racing and entered stud at Jay Adcock's Red River Farm near Coushatta, La. In a deal brokered by Andrew Cary's Cary Bloodstock, the

5-year-old son of Pioneer of the Nile will stand for a partnership that includes Stonestreet Stables, George Bolton, and Peter Leidel, who all raced the colt, and Nathan Granger. Aurelius Maximus broke his maiden at Belmont Park by 7¼ lengths in his second career start and was fourth in the Champagne Stakes (G1) behind grade 1 winners Complexity and Code of Honor. After injury interrupted his sophomore campaign, he returned at 4 with dominant allowance optional claiming victories at Fair Grounds Race Course & Slots and Churchill Downs, including a win over future grade 1 winner Bodexpress. He was then beaten a neck by Mr Freeze in the Hagyard Fayette Stakes (G2) at Keeneland. Aurelius Maximus is one of seven winners produced by grade 3 winner La Reina, who also foaled grade 2 winner Chief Havoc (by Giant's Causeway) and grade 3-placed Special Event (by Arch). He will stand for \$2,000.

FIRST REPORTED FOALS BY FIRST-CROP SIRES

Date	Sex	Sire	Dam	Broodmare Sire	Farm (Location)	Breeder
8-Jan	f	Catholic Boy	Hope So	Bodemeister	— (NY)	Pioneer Ventures
18-Jan	f	Om	All the Heat	Unusual Heat	Harris Farms (CA)	Al and Sandra Kirkwood
18-Jan	f	Waldgeist	Not Misbegotten	Invincible Spirit	Carrigbeg Stud (IRE)	Stephanie von Schilcher
22-Jan	c	Mitole	Kiss Mine	Mineshaft	Ballyrankin Stud (KY)	Jeff Gange