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SCANDINAVIAN OPEN YEARLING SALE

Lot	Age	Sire – Dam	Vendor	Purchaser	Price (DKr)
106	c	MOOHAAJIM – Queens	Stutteri Hjortebo	Cathrine Erichsen	650,000
13	c	APPEL AU MAITRE – Whistler	Stutteri Hjortebo	Thomas Velin	520,000
100	g	GLENEAGLES – Perfect Day	Stall Sigfridsson	Thomas Velin	520,000
71	f	LOPE Y FERNANDEZ – Jive	Long Racing	Kajsa Lindsjö	500,000

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SCANDINAVIAN OPEN YEARLING SALE

MOOHAAJIM COLT TOPS A SUN-SOAKED SCANDINAVIAN OPEN YEARLING SALE

If you need a blast of heat, head north to Scandinavia, writes Xander Brett. The region has basked in high temperatures for a week or so, with the Stockholm Cup playing out in glorious conditions on Sunday and blue sky over York Stutteri yesterday, where trade unfurled at the annual Scandinavian Open Yearling Sale.

It may have been the Danish 'Dannebrog' that fluttered over the Elsass family stud, but a healthy splattering of Swedish and Norwegian voices was testament to this being a congregation for Scandinavia's pan-regional racing and breeding industry.

After a queue of visitors, the star arrivals from Jutland's Stutteri Hjortebo – full-brothers to **Schamyl (Appel Au Matire)**, who won this year's Swedish and Norwegian Derby, and **Brigadier (Moohaajim)**, who landed the Danish version – earned the high price tags they deserved.

This time 12 months ago, it was Cathrine Erichsen who bagged the sale's top lot for DKr520,000. A year on, the Norwegian trainer went to DKr650,000 to secure **Lot 106**, a full-brother to **Brigadier**, signing the ticket next to Kjell Andenaes.



Lot 13, a full-brother to this year's Swedish and Norwegian Derby victor **Schamyl (Appel Au Maitre)** © Burt Seeger.

Another ripple of applause met the sale of **Lot 13, Schamyl's** full-brother, who was knocked down to Thomas Velin for DKr520,000. Velin also signed for the Stall Sigfridsson-consigned **Lot 100**, who emerged as the day's joint-second top lot. With the second dam of that colt being the Gr.1 Irish 1,000 Guineas heroine **Yesterday (Sadler's Wells)**, such a high price was surely unsurprising. This family also includes the Gr.1 Moyglare Stud Stakes winner and successful broodmare **Quarter Moon** (also by **Sadler's Wells**) and the Listed victrix **Alouette (Darshaan)**, whose progeny include the multiple Gr.1 winners **Alborada** and **Albanova** (both by **Alzao**).

Thomas, a professional showjumper who has competed in two Olympics, assists his father Flemming, a trainer of the thoroughbred variety. This year saw Flemming welcome the former Ballydoyle-trained **Greenland (Saxon Warrior)**, who won the Gr.3 Prix Greffulhe in the care of Aidan O'Brien and landed Klampenborg's Gr.3 Scandinavian Open Championship on his first start in Scandinavia. Yesterday's purchase will become one of Flemming Velin's only Scandinavian-bred runners.

Lot 13, out of the five-time winner **Whistler (Academy Award)**, a half-sister to the multiple Listed winner **Appelina (Appel Au Maitre)**, was led up by Hjortebo's co-owner Iben Hjorth Buskop, whose husband Morten and son Christian watched on from a sliding entrance door.

Hjortebo could also breathe a sigh of relief as a first batch of yearlings by its sire **Red Cactus** was topped by the sale of **Lot 44**, knocked down to Helene Lillelund for DKr330,000. Out of the unraced **Eko Palace Bay (Siyouni)**, he is a half-brother to this year's Gr.3 Stockholms Stora Pris and Listed Danish Jockey Club Cup victor **Good Fortune (Appel Au Maitre)**.

"I was drawn to him because of **Good Fortune**," Lillelund explained, adding that she hopes her new purchase will be good enough to race in Dubai. The colt will go into training with Oscar Berneklint, who already has a number of Lillelund's horses in his stable. Berneklint was on hand yesterday, pouring celebratory champagne alongside his girlfriend Rebecca Stalhåndske. Enjoying the first year with a professional licence, he featured in EBN's 'Young Bloods' series.

Jessica and Pdraig Long consigned the third top-priced lot (**Lot 71**), a filly by **Lope Y Fernandez** who was purchased by trainer Kajsa Lindsjö for DKr500,000, on behalf of owners that include Niels Petter Gill, whose **Mondo Man (Mondialiste)** has made waves in France under the tutelage of Pia and Joakim Brandt.

"We liked the individual," Gill said of his new purchase. "She was the best-looking horse at the sale."

Lindsjö took out a professional licence at the start of the year and has also been the subject of an EBN 'Young Bloods' article. Having set up in the countryside near Malmö, she will shortly make a cross-border move to Denmark's Klampenborg racecourse, a track that Gill holds a stake in. She echoed Gill's description, calling her new addition "the best in the sale".

"It was really exciting," she added. "I'm embarking on a new chapter, and I couldn't have wished for a better start. It's brilliant to start like this. To have that support is amazing."



Jessica Long (far left) with Kajsa Lindsjö (cap in centre) and Nils Petter Gill (far right) after the sale of **Lot 71**.

© Galopspor.dk

"It's the biggest sale we've had for many years," said Dansk Galop's CEO Henrik Villadsen before the off. "It's good to see that consignors have paid careful attention to the demands of the market, and that they've invested in quality bloodstock."

The sale operated without competition from Sweden's SÅEF this year, making it the only Scandinavian sale of 2024. Villadsen was swift in welcoming visitors from across the water.

"We always look forward to seeing our Swedish friends and colleagues," he explained in the run-up to trade. "This year's Scandinavian Open Yearling Sale is an excellent example of ever-expanding cooperation in the Scandinavian countries. More than half the horses in the catalogue are Swedish-bred. We're very thankful to all the consignors who've placed their confidence in us."

Swedish visitors may have received welcoming handshakes, but the impact of their weak currency was cause for uncertainty. "A relatively weak currency is always a concern," Villadsen admitted. "That said, there are always plenty of Swedish and Norwegian buyers at the sale in Denmark. Quality will sell, and I think it's a clear benefit that we now have a well-paid race for horses sold at this sale not only in Denmark, but also in Sweden."

Villadsen was referring to last week's announcement from Svensk Galopp. It informed buyers that a new sales race will take place over 1200m of the Jägersro dirt track from October 2025, with funds arriving from Dansk Galop and the Swedish Jockeyklubben. Set to be worth over SKr500,000, it will complement Klampenborg's Dansk Galops Auktionsløb, whose 2024 edition takes place this afternoon.

After withdrawals, around 120 of the 133 catalogued lots passed through the ring. "Yearlings from across Scandinavia are here now," said auctioneer Andrew Nolan of Goffs, who first came

out to a Danish sale 24 years ago, and who returned this year with the now familiar face of spotter Josh Bleahen.

"I think the fact that there'll be two sales races in 2025 – one in Denmark and one in Sweden – is a massive incentive. That impact can't be understated. It's life-changing for this sale in my opinion. It's terrific, and a big step forward!"

York's Alexander Elsass was delighted with results as trade came to a close. "We've pushed the barrier a bit," he laughed, referring to the top lot. "We've had plenty of people in attendance and are delighted!"

Preliminary figures show that 60 of the 124 offered lots were sold for an aggregate of DKr 7,435,000 and an average of DKr123,917.

FIRST-CROP YEARLING SIRES (DKr)

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ALSON

74	f	ex Koko Taylor	220,000
125	g	ex Spiritual Flame	80,000
131	c	ex Swedish Streak	90,000

ECONOMIC MODEL

9	f	ex Vanilla Ice	n/s 40,000
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JAPAN

45	c	ex Elysian Fields	n/s 70,000
119	c	ex Seattle Speight	240,000

LOPE Y FERNANDEZ

71	f	ex Jive	500,000
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LUCKY VEGA

78	c	ex Levanto	210,000
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MKFANCY

63	f	ex Holy Glory	n/s 15,000
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RED CACTUS

26	c	ex Appele Amour	90,000
37	f	ex Code Red	n/s 20,000
44	c	ex Eko Palace Bay	330,000
49	c	ex Fancy Legend	n/s 40,000
61	f	ex Hidden Fairytale	n/s
75	f	ex Koo Koo Sint	220,000
84	f	ex Meringue	n/s 130,000
90	f	ex Monza	n/s 35,000
94	c	ex Neverstopdreaming	n/s 10,000
111	c	ex Reed Door	n/s 35,000
116	f	ex Saint Irini	20,000
126	c	ex Starlight Runner	n/s 80,000

SUPREMACY

1	c	ex Dehbanu	n/s 70,000
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