

FALCON SEELSTER MARES STRONG IN CUP DAY RESULTS



Chase Auckland and Natalie Rasmussen race clear of King Of Swing in the \$170,000 NRM Sires Stakes Three-Year-old Final at Addington on November 14.

The depth of Falcon Seelster as a broodmare sire was again highlighted in the \$170,000 NRM Sires Stakes Three-Year-Old Final at Addington on New Zealand Cup Day with him having a hand in the quinella.

He is the damsire of brilliant winner Chase Auckland (3g Auckland Reactor-Delicata, by Falcon Seelster), who remained unbeaten taking out the Gr. 1 Final for co-trainer and driver Natalie Rasmussen in an allcomers NZ record of 2:16.1 (1:52.2 mile rate) for the 1950m.

Runnerup King Of Swing also has a Falcon Seelster influence with his third dam Imprint, being by "Falcon" from former NZ record-holder Smarty Pants.

The Alabar Racing Syndicate-owned Chase Auckland snatched the age group 1950m record from last year's NRM Sires Stakes Three-Year-Old winner Ultimate Machete, also prepared by the Allstars trainers, Mark Purdon and Natalie Rasmussen, who won in 2:16.5 (1:52.6 mile rate).

The allcomers record was subsequently lowered three days later by now four-year-old

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Ultimate Machete in the Gr1 \$260,000 Woodlands New Zealand Free-For-All when he wore down Tiger Tara and Jack's Legend in 2:15.7, a 1:51.9 mile rate.

Chase Auckland, a \$45,000 yearling purchase at the Australasian Classic Yearling Sales, is from the first crop of former track star Auckland Reactor (1:51.4), who like Chase Auckland, didn't begin racing until a spring three-year-old.

Both sire and son won their race debuts a decade apart on the same day, September 16.

Auckland Reactor brilliantly overcame the outside front row draw of nine to win the Gr1 \$184,000 NRM Sires Stakes 3YO Final at Addington in 2007 at his fifth start.

The son of Mach Three won his first 17 on end and retired winning 32 of 53 starts for \$1.8 million in stakes.

Chase Auckland's dam Delicata won twice and is a half-sister to the Cup Day fast class free-for-all runnerup Hug The Wind (1:56.3, 10 wins & \$427,656), a son of Bettor's Delight and earlier the 2014 Group One NZ Sires Stakes 2YO winner for the Allstars stable.

Delicata is also a half-sister to (Our) Summer Wind (1:54.8, 15 wins & \$94,436).

Falcon Seelster also featured on NZ Cup day 2017 as the broodmare sire of another impressive three-year-old winner in The Dorchester (Mach Three-Meet My In Mayfair, by Falcon Seelster) and also featured as the damsire of Jack's Legend (4g Bettor's Delight-Larissa Rose, by Falcon Seelster-Regent Guest), the runnerup to Lazarus in the \$800,000 Christchurch Casino NZ Cup.

A \$37,000 buy at the 2016 Australasian Classic Yearling Sale, The Dorchester is a grandson of English Elegance (1:53.2, US, 13 wins), winner of the 2001 Great Northern Oaks before racing successfully in North America.

The Dorchester is now a winner of five from six starts for Rangiora trainer Mitchell Kerr, and owners, Trevor Inwood, Keiran Keane, Anton Lienart-Brown, Mark Haase, Kyle Marshall, Howard Stone, the Few Beers Bit Of A Yarn Syndicate, and Shane Fleetwood.

Last month, he set a NZ three-year-old 2400m record of 2:52.5 at Ashburton on October 23.

On NZ Cup Day, he fought tenaciously in a rating 65-80 pace on NZ Cup Day to hold last season's Jewels Two-Year-Old Emerald winner Ashley Locaz.

The Dorchester rated a smart 1:54.4 for the 1950m, and will now have a let-up before tackling next year's three-year-old features.

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Jack's Legend, from the Tondeleyo family, was the best of Lazarus's rivals in the New Zealand Cup and furthered his early 4YO racing in the open class features, also running third in a three-way finish to Friday's Gr1 \$260,000 Woodlands NZ Free-For-All, won in record time by Ultimate Machete from Tiger Tara.

An upset Gr1 Harness Jewels 3YO Emerald winner at Ashburton in June over Ultimate Machete in 1:51.8 for the 1609m for Clevedon trainer Barry Purdon and driver Zachary Butcher, Jack's Legend was the first four-year-old starter in a NZ Cup for the trainer.

Being a late January 5 foal, Jack's Legend doesn't turn four in real terms until the New Year.

He concluded Cup week, extending his career record to six wins and nine placings from 21 starts, for \$306,531 in stakes.

Bromac Lodge proprietor Bob McArdle still retains some chilled semen from Falcon Seelster (who died in 2011), which is available to breeders this season.

Jeff Scott