

# Casey Tibbs<sup>(IRE)</sup>

*Sadler's Wells - Fleur Royale by Mill Reef*

**Predicting the affinities as a stallion of Tobe Or Nottobe, now there's a question! To find the possible answers, we delve into the female line of the Champion 3yo Sprinter of 2004. The object is to see what other big runners have emerged and how they were bred. These can provide the signposts for future ways to go.**

## Best Progeny

**HILGROVE** - dam by Truely Nureyev, who is by Nureyev out of a mare with Never Bend as her damsire. Nureyev is a 3-part brother to Caey Tibb's sire Sadler's Wells, Never Bend is the sire of Mill Reef, damsire of Casey Tibbs. In Casey's own pedigree Never Bend combined with close relative Bold Reason (damsire of Sadler's Wells). Hilgrove's grandam Envy is by Contraband, whose third dam is Sheba. The latter is a full sister to the mares Durban and Heldifann to which Djeddah is inbred 3x2. Djeddah is the sire of Lalun, to whom Casey Tibbs is inbred 4x4.

**FESTIVE OCCASION** - dam by Al Mufti, who is inbred 3x4 to Turn To, sire of Hail to Reason. The latter is the sire of Bold Reason (damsire of Sadler's Wells). Taking into account the lines of La Troienne and Djebel from the mare Lalun, Bold Reason becomes a close genetic sibling of Al Mufti's dam Lassie Dear (Buckpasser, Turn To, My Babu). Lassie Dear is also close to Mill Reef.

**PLAY CATCH** - inbred 4x4 to full siblings Special (grandam of Sadler's Wells) and Thatch (sire of Golden Thatch). Second dam Wild Winter (by Golden Thatch) is out of the mare Hella Hella, by Red God out of a Buckpasser mare. The dam of Play Catch has a very strong Fair Trial & Owen Tudor background (known as Court Martial genetic siblings).

**SWEET VIRGINIA** - dam by Royal Prerogative, whose grandam Netherton Maid is a noted Nearctic genetic sibling. Casey Tibbs himself is inbred to Nearctic and another genetic sibling, Ballymoss. Sweet Virginia's fourth dam is by Fair Trial, to which Casey Tibbs' grandam is inbred.

**HEAT OF THE NIGHT & NAUGHTY PRINCE** - inbred 4x4 to genetic siblings Bold Reason and Halo. As seen earlier, Casey Tibbs is himself inbred 3x3 to genetic siblings Bold Reason and Never Bend (both sons of the mare Lalun, with matching elements in their sires). Never Bend and Halo are genetic siblings as well, giving the trio 4x4x4.

### **This adds up to a mixed bag at first glance.**

Special & Thatch. Bold Reason with Halo & Never Bend. Nearctic & genetic siblings through Ballymoss. Sweet Mimosa & genetic sibling involving Ballymoss, le Levanstell. Never Bend's son Mill Reef & genetic sibling. Court Martial genetic siblings.

Putting it all together, though, the main lines appear to be from Sadler's Wells (Nearctic, Bold Reason, Special) and from Casey's bottom female line (Ballymoss, who is a Nearctic genetic sibling).

**T**he pedigree of Casey Tibbs closely resembles successful stallion In The Wings, another son of Sadler's Wells. In The Wings is out of a mare by Shirley Heights, Casey Tibb's out of a mare by Shirley Height's sire Mill Reef. Further down in the pedigree of In The Wings his third dam is by stallion Panaslipper - who is by Solar Slipper out of a daughter of the mare Astrid. Casey Tibbs fourth dam Feevagh is by Solar Slipper out of another daughter of Astrid. All this makes sense in the context Casey Tibbs' best offspring so far.

Probably the best offspring of In The Wings is his multiple Gr1 winner & sire Singspiel, who is a half brother to Rakeen and inbred to Hail To Reason - one line coming from Sadler's Wells damsire Bold Reason, the other from Singpiel's damsire Halo. This is also the way Rakeen's best son Jet Master is inbred - 4x4 Hail To Reason. The same pops up in In The Wings' highclass son Tillerman, whose dam is by Roberto (by Hail To Reason). Then there's Italian champion 3yo colt Kafhar, whose dam is by Caerleon (by Nijinsky, second dam by Hail To Reason). Sadler's Wells and Caerleon both have Northern Dancer and Hail To Reason close up in their pedigrees. Another major performer is Nabhaan, whose dam is by sire Hail The Pirates (by Hail To Reason, his dam a genetic sibling of Northern Dancer's sire Nearctic). In The Wing's best filly Annaba is out of a mare by Mill Reef.

Pull the two affinities together, and the common thread is the male line of Hail To Reason: Turn To and his sire Royal Charger.

**ICE TIBBS** - inbred 3x4 to genetic siblings Sweet Mimosa (grandam of Casey Tibbs) and Some Swallow (Ice Tibb's fourth dam) - both combine Mossborough and Le Levanstell close up in their pedigree. There also a close relationship between Sadler's Wells and the mare's damsire Imperial March, involving Northern Dancer and Forli.

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## PICK OF THE BUNCH

*Suitable mares for Casey Tibbs could include*

1. Mares with Hail To Reason, Turn To (Roberto, Mullineaux, Rollins, Rakeen, other Halo, Sir Tristram)
2. Mares by sons or grandsons of Northern Dancer (widespread, Rakeen a nice one)
3. Mares with elements from Sadler's Wells female line (Nureyev, Thatch - leading to Golden Thatch, Waterville Lake, Thatching)
4. Mares with Never Bend (Riverman, Mill Reef - notably Truely Nureyev)
5. Mares with Nearctic genetic siblings (Royal Prerogative, St Cuthbert, Sister Sublime)
6. Mares with sires who have strong Court Martial genetic affinities (Dominion Royale, Lyphard/Elliador, Fine Edge, Averof/Foveros, etc.)
7. Mares with lines of Djebel (My Babu) or Joy, Dowdstown Charley, Prince Florimund, etc.

A final word on Casey Tibb's dam Fleur Royale, the next dam Sweet Mimosa, and the latter's full brothers Levmos and Le Moss - all of them topclass racehorses. Sweet Mimosa and her full brothers are by Le Levanstell, whose damsire Ballyogan is a noted Court Martial genetic sibling. The bottom female of the threesome carried many of the elements required to qualify as a Court Martial genetic sibling, Fair Trial the major ingredient.

## Where From Here

From the In The Wing's connection mares with Hail To Reason make sense: Roberto, Rollins, Singpiel's half brother Rakeen a 'must' to try. For the Turn To & Royal Charger connection, it is Perfume (as in My Babu) who comes into focus.

To catch Ballymoss right, Casey Tibbs would need mares by sons of (or at most grandsons of) Northern Dancer. To capitalise on the Nearctic (sire of Northern Dancer) connection, mares with Nearctic genetic siblings in their pedigree could be important. In that context Royal Prerogative, St Cuthbert, Sister Sublime come to mind, although they might be getting quite far back in pedigrees.

Sadler's Wells comes from an important female line, which has also produced Nureyev and Thatch. Any mares carrying those lines make appeal, and there is much of it around in South Africa - including full brothers Golden Thatch, Thatching, Waterville Lake. These three also provide a link into the Court Martial genetic sibling elements from Casey Tibbs' bottom female line.

Then there is the option of adding more of Never Bend, to extend the inbreeding from Casey Tibbs' own pedigree. In this context Truely Nureyev makes strong appeal, his Oaks winning daughter Festive Occasion a living example.

That leaves one further strategically placed influence in Casey Tibbs' pedigree, his second damsire Le Levanstell. This grandson of Djebel, with his apparent Court Martial genetic sibling affinity, has not left any major legacy other than from Casey's female line (Ice Tibbs was inbred that way). His elements combined, however, make traditional sense in the South African context.