

## RADUX - FS

ASH Reg: 703

RADUX - FS has the distinction of being the oldest Foundation Stallion that was classified into the Australian Stock Horse Stud Book.

Born in 1946, RADUX - FS was 25 years old when classification of horses began in 1971. RADUX - FS had 75 registered foals in the Stud Book which is an amazing number for a horse that was so old at that time. It is interesting to note that 29 of the horses registered by him had no recorded birth date as, no doubt, by the time they were presented for classification their owners had forgotten when they were born. Of those that did record a birth date his progeny ranged from birth dates in 1959 to 1975.

"I think they were the best horses I ever had anything to do with," said Frank Webeck, who had a lot of horses by him including his great campdraft horses SUNNYSIDE ROCKY and Sunnyside Larry and his well known stallion SUNNYSIDE TYRONE.

"Maurice O'Neill won the Chinchilla Grandfather Clock Campdraft on Rocky, I still have the clock at home," continued Frank.

"They were horsemen's horses though, I remember them saying to Dad when I was about to break the first one in, 'Tell that young fellow when he gets on the first time, ride around the yard once and go straight out otherwise he mightn't get out. I never had any trouble with them. Once you had them on side they were the best horses.'"

"RADUX - FS was one of those horses," continued Frank, "that wasn't eye catching but when you really looked at him there was nothing really wrong with him. He was bred by Bob Crowther at Gloucester. Keith McCarthy used him a lot on a rough block of country, 'Monkeycot' which is high, rough country north of Gloucester that actually backs on to 'Glenrock Station' in one place. Keith declared he was the best bush horse he ever chased cattle on. In those days everything was packhosed up to that country and my family also had a block at Curracabark which was similar country up in the tops. I remember the first time I went to Curracabark as a primary school child and we would ride in through Ted Hooke's 'Myra'. I can remember them bringing RADUX - FS over to be led up to Curracabark years ago. I used to take my mares to Max Laurie's property at Nowendoc to get them in foal as that's where he ended up. AM (Max) Laurie, I believe, was a nephew of Bob Crowther. The last time I took a mare up there, RADUX - FS was 27 years of age and they were really looking after him to keep him going but unfortunately I never got a foal."

RADUX - FS produced some very good foals when joined to a mare called PIOBMOR SUSIE owned by CE Wright. The first foal, MISS BUTTERCUP, produced eight foals for the Miles Family's Cedar Downs Stud, including CEDAR DOWNS YVETTE who was the dam of OAKS ACORN the 2000 National Futurity Winner.

Her second foal LEINO DELRAY was a stallion owned by MJ (Maurice) O'Neill that had 21 registered progeny and Maurice also had her third foal a gelding named LEINO BEN.

"I remember Maurice winning some big campdrafts with this horse," said Frank.

RADUX - FS ASH Reg: 703	Bignells Radiant	Radium	Cecil	
			Black Bess	
	Mac Whites Dawn		Taylor's Saladin Sire	
			Silver Girl	
	Radianter	Radium		Cecil
				Black Bess
Australia Mare			Australia	
			Unknown	

The fourth foal PIOBMOR SUEDUX produced six foals which included two successful sires, ABDUX (58 progeny) and SOUTH HILL RIVAL (48). The latter sire was used by the well known Wiljohn and Wombramurra Studs. ABDUX was the sire of GLENMORE PARTNERSHIP BUSTER (37 progeny). Her fifth foal was another colt, SOUTH HILL PREFECT but he only had 3 registered progeny.

The sixth foal MARATHON MOUNTAIN MAID proved a very productive mare for the Sherrins, 'The Manors Stud' at Attunga, producing 10 foals.

The seventh and final foal was Max Welch's well known sire, SOUTH HILL DUX (28 progeny).

RADUX - FS owes his success as a Foundation Stallion to the fact that he produced progeny that bred on. His most successful sire son was SMYTHS RADIUM (40) but he had a string of sire sons that were used including GARRABALDI GENERAL (27), SUNNYSIDE TYRONE (25) (who was the sire of KYWONG SIM RAY (73)), GLEN GRANT METRAY (21), LEINO DELRAY (21), BRIMSTONE (19) and several others. He was also strong with his female line including a mare called SLATERS MISS RADIANT who was the dam of the very good mare WANSEY CLIX who produced 12 foals including three sires, GAVINS CLINKER (16), GAVINS CLIPPER (31) and GAVINS CLICHE (6). It is interesting to note that the winner of the 2007 Abbey Open Challenge at the National titles, 12 year old stallion, CLOVERLEIGH BILLABONG is by GAVINS CLIPPER. I remember talking to Alan Hannaford about GAVINS CLIPPER one day and he said his progeny were the best horses to work with.

A mare by RADUX - FS, STANTON STUD SELINA, "Kick started my polocrosse career," said polocrosse great, Darryl Smith.

The breeding of RADUX - FS is very interesting as he was by a Radium sire, Bignells Radiant, and out of a Radium mare which line bred him to that famous horse. It is reported that Radium died in 1947. RADUX - FS was by Bignells Radiant, a grey horse that has the honour of siring the oldest Foundation Stallion in the Society, RADUX - FS, 1946, and also of siring the oldest



Foundation Mare in the Society, LADY RADIANT - FM, 1945. Bignells Radiant has proved a key Impact Tap Root Sire having sired the Foundation Stallion RADUX - FS, the Foundation Mare, LADY RADIANT - FM and is the sire of Glamor the dam of Foundation Stallion, REALITY - FS, second only to ABBEY - FS as the most successful Foundation Sire of all time. His daughter, LADY RADIANT - FM is also the dam of Foundation Stallion, REGAL - FS.

This interesting piece appeared in the Eastern Branch of the ASH Society's Magazine, The Stockwhip, in 1975. In this article Bignells Radiant is referred to as Radiant.

#### *Radiant - A Shining Light For The Eastern Branch*

*Radiant was a grey stallion bred by Mr Lester Brogan. He was from Dawn by Radium. Dawn was bred by Mr Mac White. She was from Silver Girl and by Taylors creamy Saladin colt from Dungog. Dawn was a half sister to Mr RR White's Dinkum. (A very well known sire in the Gresford district).*

*Mr Alf Bignell purchased Radiant from Mr Brogan when he was a 2 year old colt. Soon after Mr Bignell moved from Gresford to Maitland where for many years he stood Radiant and drafted him.*

*Radiant was one of the top drafters in the state. He won 45 campdrafts including two World Championships at the Royal Easter Show. Radiant sired many top drafters in the Hunter Valley.*

*To mention a few; Tony owned by Mr M Brooker and later by Mr Ray Thomas and Locket owned by Mr Ken McGregor, Rhonda bred by Mr Gordon Burley and later owned by Mr Keith Packham and she is the dam of Rocky. (An outstanding drafter).*

*LADY RADIANT, owned by Mr Len Digby, the dam of Mr H Willard's BLUE, Mr A Thomas's REGAL and Mr L Digby's My Radiant.*

*A mare called Freckles bred by Mr H Hopson and ridden by Mrs M Johnston.*

*Radiant was sold to Mr Kirkby of Bellata (near Moree) where he went on to sire many more station and campdrafting horses.*

*He died around the mid 1950's.*

#### *End of Extract*

It is interesting to pick up these snippets from earlier magazines as they are written so much closer to the time and have not become distorted by too many re-tellings.

The dam of RADUX - FS, Radianter, was a mare also owned by Bob Crowther of Gloucester.

"I can't remember seeing Bob Crowther campdraft," said Frank Webeck, "but I understand he was a very good horseman."

If a good horseman was keeping a colt we would assume that Radianter was more than an average mare. Radianter was also by Radium; take the fact that Radium, himself, was born at "Levedale", Gloucester in 1918 made both sire and grandson products of this district. The stories of Radium are legendary and many have been told through this journal, however it is fitting to remind readers that the five most successful Australian Stock Horse sires, ABBEY - FS, REALITY - FS, PETER - FS, RIVOLI RAY - IS and STANTON STUD DODGE - FS all have Radium in their pedigrees with ABBEY - FS and STANTON STUD DODGE - FS having a double cross. Radium of course was by the taproot sire Cecil who was born in 1899 at 'Glenayre' at Glenrock on the opposite side of the range to Gloucester in the Hunter Valley.



*Bignells Radiant, sire of RADUX - FS won 45 campdrafts including two World Championships*



*RADUX - FS*

RADUX - FS resembled his forbear, Cecil, in the fact that both horses were reported to be outstanding horses in the bush in rough mountain country where they worked. Unlike Cecil, however, RADUX - FS was not competed whereas Cecil proved so successful as a competitor that at the 1913 Gearys Flat Rodeo where the best horsemen and their horses came to compete, Long Arch Simpson, the owner of Cecil, was asked to leave him at home as he was regarded as unbeatable.

Radianter was out of an Australia Mare and looking at the original registration paper for RADUX - FS, written under Australia Mare on the papers is Branga Plains mare. This conjures up the speculation as to who on the classification day had this extra information. Could it have been co-founder of The

Australian Stock Horse Society, Bert Griffith who himself had been at Branga Plains for some time before coming to Scrumlo Station. It was interesting that Bert had brought a mare from Branga Plains to Scrumlo with him known as Branga Prudence who was to figure heavily in the breeding of Foundation Mares, SCRUMLO NITA, SCRUMLO BRANGA PRUDENCE and SCRUMLO VICTORIA. The Australia Mare was of course by Australia.

Many people say The Australian Stock Horse Society began in 1971 and if they are referring to the recording of the breed they are right but when you look at the oldest Foundation Sire, RADUX - FS, it doesn't take many lines of the pedigree before you are back in the 1800s.

Today people take care with the breeding of their horses as they may want to win at the show or on the sporting field but in days gone by the importance of breeding a good horse was the difference between spending your day working with a horse that really made the job easy or nigh impossible. The ability of these people, many years ago, to select the right bloodlines to breed their horses has set the strong foundation for today's horses. 🐾