## 2024 Hokkaido September Sale Review

The 2024 Hokkaido September Sale catalogued the second-largest number in its history, which started in 2019. The three-day sale kicked off on Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Hokkaido Sales Complex.

Overall, 429 yearlings grossed a total of \$ 2,255,220,000 (US\$ 15,553,241) with an average of \$ 5,256,923 (US\$ 36,255) and a median of \$ 4,400,000 (US\$30,345). While the average price was down 8.6% from a year ago, the median stayed the same. The clearance rate for the sale was up 4.77 points from the last year to 80.34%, which is the highest recorded in the Hokkaido September Sale's history.

The highest price of the sale was Lot 5, a Mr Melody (USA) colt out of Ange Libre (JPN), sold by Grand Stud for  $\pm$  27,500,000 (US\$ 189,655). His dam was a JRA winner by Kurofune (USA) and he is her first foal. With his first crop of 2-year-olds racing this year, Mr Melody (USA) is a first-season sire who has six winners so far. 8 of his yearlings sold for a total of  $\pm$  70,510,000 (US\$ 486,276) in the sale.

Moanin (USA) became the leading sire of the sale after his 16 yearlings sold for a total of  $\frac{140,470,000}{159,310}$  (US\$ 968,759). He's the sire of the second-highest lot in the sale: Lot 283, a colt out of JRA winner Spice Shower (JPN), who was sold by Blooming Farm to Shadai Farm for  $\frac{120,000}{159,310}$  (US\$ 159,310).

Hidaka Keishuba Ikusei Kousha sold 22 yearlings for a total of \$ 154,110,000 (US\$ 1,062,828) and claimed the leading consignor title of the 2024 Hokkaido September Sale. They sold one of the top five lots, who was also the highest-priced filly. Lot 477, the Silver State (JPN) filly out of a Group 1 placed mare, Harlan's Ruby (USA). The mare has produced six winners including the Group 2 winner/ Group 1 placed Mozu Bello (JPN). The filly was purchased by Normandy Farm for \$ 21,450,000 (US\$ 147,931).

The Japan Racing Association (JRA) purchased 12 yearlings for a total of \$ 96,800,000 (US\$ 667,586) and claimed the leading buyer of the sale, as was also the case at the Summer Sale. Those yearlings purchased by the JRA go through the breaking and pretraining process at their own facilities and will subsequently be offered at the JRA Breeze-Up Sale in 2025.

The second-largest Hokkaido September Sale has concluded with a record clearance rate. The only yearling sale left in Japan is the Hokkaido Autumn Sale which starts from Tuesday, October 15th.

## US\$1 = JP¥145



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<sup>\*</sup>Written by Toshihiro Onikubo