

Hokkaido Summer Sale Review

The 2021 renewal of the Hokkaido Summer Sale continued to show the Japanese sales market's strength this year. The sale brought in the highest gross the sale has ever had before in the history of the Summer Sale. It grossed ¥6,912,400,000(US\$62,840,000) this year, a 20.8% increase from last year, which had also been a record. While not a record, the clearance rate stood firm at 75.1%, showing the demand for racehorses that kept the Japanese thoroughbred industry rolling on unimpeded throughout the pandemic. The average, ¥6,884,860(US\$ 62,589), held steady from last year with only a 0.7% decrease. The median, ¥5,500,000(US\$50,000), remained the same from last year. One of the most impressive aspects of this year's sale was the pace; there was no bottom to it. The lowest price at the sale was ¥1,100,000(US\$10,000), which aside from being a record high for the lowest price at the sale but was also an incredible increase of 25% from last year. The solid back end of the sale was yet another sign of the strength of the domestic market.

The sale topper came right at the start of the first day with Hip 1, a colt by Henny Hughes(USA) that sold for ¥46,200,000(US\$420,000) to Toshiya Miyazaki. He is a half-brother to Dance with Joy(JPN) by Sinister Minister(USA), who won his debut on July 17th. Two lots tied for the second-highest price of the sale, ¥36,300,000(US\$330,000). First was Hip 87, a Suzuka Causeway(JPN) colt bought by Yoshizawa Stables. The second was Hip 1112, a colt by Silver State(JPN) bought by Kozo Ninomiya.

Hokko Tarumae(JPN) grossed the most out of all the stallions, though he had the most of the sale. He sold 38 of his 42 lots ¥301,400,000(US\$2,740,000) while averaging ¥7,931,578(US\$72,105). Sinister Minister(USA) is routinely one of the best dirt sires across the dirt surfaces of Japanese racetracks and always sells remarkably well. He grossed the second-highest of the stallions selling all 19 of his lots for a gross of ¥244,200,000(US\$2,220,000) and an average of ¥12,852,631(US\$116,842). Leontes(JPN)'s early crops have shown a lot of promise on the track, much like his half-brother Epiphaneia(JPN). He sold 25 of his 29 yearlings offered, grossing ¥229,790,000(US\$2,089,000) and averaging ¥9,191,600(US\$83,560). Silver State(JPN) has been a sensation, with his first crop burning up the track this year. He sold 14 of his 15 lots successfully sold at the Summer Sale, grossing ¥223,850,000(US\$2,035,000) and averaging ¥15,989,285(US\$145,357). Henny Hughes(USA) is always wildly popular and sold all of his 18 lots. He grossed ¥223,410,000(US\$2,031,000) and averaged ¥12,411,666(US\$112,833). Henny Hughes(USA)'s best son at stud in Japan is Asia Express(USA) grossed just under his sire. His 28 lots accumulated ¥218,020,000(US\$1,982,000) and averaged ¥7,786,428(US\$70,785). Drefong(USA) has also shown a lot of early potential with his first crop that is currently debuting. He sold all of his 17 lots, grossing ¥204,270,000(US\$1,857,000) and averaged ¥12,015,882(US\$109,235). Espoir City(JPN) has been a reliable producer of dirt horses during his handful of crops and is still very popular with breeders. His 28 yearlings grossed ¥193,710,000(US\$1,761,000) and averaged ¥6,918,214(US\$62,892). This year, Majestic Warrior(USA) had his first domestic graded stakes winner, which kept buyers' confidence high. He sold 18 yearlings of 21 sold, grossing ¥186,670,000(US\$1,697,000) and averaging ¥10,370,555(US\$94,277). Dunkirk(USA) has had a respectable strike rate for his first few crops in Japan and sold 20 of his 26 yearlings, grossing ¥152,570,000(US\$1,387,000) and averaging ¥7,628,500(US\$69,350).

The next yearling sale is the Hokkaido September Sale on September 21st and 22nd.

US\$1 = JP¥110



Sale Topper Hip 1 (Henny Hughes (USA) x Tiny Dancer (JPN)) sold for ¥46,200,000