

Racing GenePak Result: Australia/New Zealand

Horse Details



R

Result: Australia/NewZealand

About the Speed Gene Test

- The Speed Gene Test examines differences in the myostatin gene to make a prediction of a horse's best race distance
- The myostatin gene is a major determinant of race distance aptitude because it influences:
 - Skeletal muscle growth
 - The proportion of fast twitch (glycolytic, Type IIB) muscle fibre required for short bursts of power and the proportion of slow twitch (oxidative, Type I) muscle fibre types required or stamina
- Race distance aptitude is almost entirely determined by the genetic make-up of this gene
- Test result is based on the combination of "C" and "T" genetic variants, one inherited from each parent



About the Dirt Vs Turf Test

- Identifies a horse's genetic pre erence for a turf or dirt race surface
- Result categorises horses into one of four categories:
 - Dirt Pro (Strongly prefer dirt surfaces)
 - Dirt (Prefer dirt surfaces)
 - Turf (Prefer turf surfaces)
 - Turf Pro (Strongly prefer turf surfaces)

Many consider surface preference to be indicated by pedigree and physical type since sires are often ranked according to the success of their progeny on different surfaces. However, it is often unclear until a horse has raced a number of times as to which surface it is best suited to.

Similarly, some stallions can produce progeny with different surface preferences and with the global movement of stallions, pedigree may not always be the best indicator of a horse's surface preference type.

About the Distance Plus Test

- The Distance Plus Test looks at 50,000 genetic markers to provide an enhanced level of information when combined with the Speed Gene Test
- Refines the predicted optimum race distance, sub-categorising the Speed Gene Types into "Short" or Long" (e.g. C:T Short or C:T Long)



As well as the most influential gene, m ostatin, many other genes with functions in anabolic processes, insulin signalling, the hypoxic response and fat metabolism, contribute in a small way to distance aptitude.

This test uses genes from the whole genome to more precisely predict likely best race distance in a particular race region.



(Sample size = 1,696)

The vast majority of Australian runners are Turf Pro. Turf Pro horses greatly over-perform on Australian Turf surfaces.

Observations of this result for Horses In Training



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TWO-YEAR-OLDS



Two-year-old C:T horses perform best at 1400m+

- At 1000-1199m, C:T horses under-performed, winning 18% of the prize money available, despite providing 34% of the runners at this distance
- At 1200-1399m, C:T horses under-performed, winning 37% of the prize money available, despite providing 40% of the runners at this distance
- At 1400m+, C:T horses over-performed, winning 61% of the prize money available, providing 48% of the runners at this distance

THREE-YEAR-OLDS

% of Runners by distance by Speed Gene type





Flat races, Australia & New Zealand, 2010-2018 (Sample size = 1,740)

Use this result for Young Stock | Breeding

R

Three-year-old and older C:T horses

• At 1000-1399m, C:T horses under-performed,

providing 34 $\%\,$ of the runners at this distance

• At 1400-2599m, C:T horses over-performed,

61% of the runners at this distance

Strike Rate and % Winners

T:T horses at shorter distances

winning 24% of the prize money available, despite

winning 68% of the prize money available, despite providing 60% of the runners at this distance
At 2600m+, C:T horses under-performed, winning

59% of the prize money available, despite providing

• A higher percentage of C:T horses won at 1400-

• C:T horses recorded a higher strike rate than C:C and

T:T horses in races at 1400-2399m, outperforming

2399m races relative to C:C and T:T horses

perform best at 1400m-2599m

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YOUNG STOCK

C:T horses precocity in line with the industry average

50% of C:T horses had their first run within 35 months of their date of birth, which is a month longer than C:C horses, and four months shorter than T:T horses, but mirrors the average for the general population



Use this result for Breeding

BREEDING

- · Horses inherit one copy of the myostatin gene, containing either a "C" or "T" variant, from both the sire and the dam
- Different combinations can arise from the same mating depending on the variant that is passed on
- A C:T horse has inherited a C variant from either the sire and the dam, and a T variant from their other parent

This explains why full siblings can be completely different types of horse, and why race distance or precocity cannot be reliably predicted from pedigree alone.



Dam carrying a C or T variant (Could be any Speed Gene Type)



To learn more about the research behind the Speed Gene Test, please visit the following link: https://www.plusvital.com/equine-genetics/equine-research/