

Ballena Vista Farm Integrity. . .Commitment. . .Compassion. . . . .It's All Here

We've come a long way since the Swycaffer family homesteaded 180-plus acres for a cattle ranch in Ballena, California, in the early days of the area in San Diego County now occupied by Ballena Vista Farm! Today, the more than 220- acre showplace is one of the most beautiful and successful Thoroughbred operations on the West Coast.

Built with early-California ambiance using adobe and mission tile construction with particular attention to the smallest detail, a truly unique atmosphere was created for both visiting and year-round equine residents. By providing the best care for mares and foals, breaking and training of young horses, rehabilitation of injured horses, and sales preparation for horses of all ages, Ballena Vista Farm has become a nationally recognized facility.

The Farm boasts irrigated grass pastures and individual paddocks of varying sizes, all with three-rail fencing centered in V-mesh wire. The 38-stall barn is constructed to provide plenty of ventilation, and each stall is equipped with a skylight, fly control, fire sprinkler system and an outside window. Two double-sized stalls with windows accessing the manager's residence allow for around-the-clock observation of foaling mares.

Ballena Vista Farm has a quarter-mile training track with a starting gate, as well as an indoor round pen with fully-padded walls, ventilation and client viewing area. State-of-the-art rehabilitation amenities include a fully enclosed six-horse free-moving Equi-Ciser. Individually adjusted feed rations of the highest quality alfalfa and grain, together with top veterinary and farrier care, keep horses in the best possible condition.

The farm's quality stallion roster is comparable to one which might be found at a Kentucky farm! Sea of Secrets is a top five California stallion by money won and number of winners. A Grade II winner by the legendary Storm Cat, he is the sire of 23 stakes horses from his first five crops to race, including 10 in 2007 and five so far this year, including Sea of Pleasure, Secret Kin, Thecatcamehome and graded stakes-placed Secret Gypsy. His total progeny earnings exceed \$9.8 million.

Grade I Super Derby and Travers Stakes winner and millionaire Deputy Commander joined the Farm two years ago. Currently the leading sire in California by number of races won and number of winners, he has sired 34 stakes horses including Ten Most Wanted (Travers-Grade I). He had 18 stakes horses in 2007 and 11 so far this year, including graded stakes performers Dubai Gold, Discreet Commander and Reporting for Duty. His runners have amassed over \$21.3 million in earnings.

Millionaire Grade I winner Beau Genius continues to be a leader among California's active sires, currently in the top five Leading Lifetime Sires in the

state. He is the sire of 76 stakes horses, 33 of them stakes winners, with total progeny earnings approaching \$31 million! He has 75 winners from his first four California crops, including stakes winner Snowdrop, triple stakes-placed Bid of Genius, and stakesplaced One Chin Again. Beau Genius has had five stakes horses so far this year, including My Creed, Beaulena and Snowdrop.

Joining the Farm's stallion roster for the 2008 season was Y-Lo Racing Stables' stakes winner and multiple graded stakes placed Spensive. By the Two Punch stallion Ponche out of the multiple winning mare Operate Quick, the big (17.2 hands) gray was a multiple winner of \$313,557 from twenty starts in his five year racing career. He hit the board in four consecutive stakes races at three, including the Grade II San Rafael and the \$500,000 Winstar Derby where he was second by a neck to multiple stakes winner Excessivepleasure.

Due to the clean-up process necessitated by last year's wildfires, including the rebuilding of sections of the farm's perimeter fencing, expansion plans for 2008 were postponed until 2009. Those plans include construction of a new stallion barn to house the Farm's current stallions as well as future additions to their stud roster.

Farm Manager Manuel Ochoa, with 30-plus years in the industry, leads an experienced staff. Managing the office and handling stallion promotions is Thoroughbred owner and breeder Vicki H. Rasmussen. Ballena Vista Farm stands by its motto "Integrity. . . Commitment. . .Compassion. . . .It's All Here". Please visit the farm's comprehensive website at [www.ballenavistafarm.com](http://www.ballenavistafarm.com) for further information and photos!