



2014 MISSION AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The Agriculture and New York State Horse Breeding Development Fund (“the Fund”), by law, supports several facets of standardbred racing in the state. These important issues include:

FAIRS:

In 2014, the Fund conducted standardbred racing at 22 New York State county fairs, of which 3 meets were canceled due to the weather. Also, each county fair was eligible to participate in the fund’s repair and racing administration reimbursement program. By law, the fund can reimburse a county fair up to \$6,000 provided that the fair meets that plateau in overall repair costs in a given year, and that 25% or \$1,500 of that cost can be proven to promote the standardbred sport.

In addition to the repair reimbursement program, the Fund also reimburses each fair up to \$2,000 for the cost of racing administration for each fair.

The Fund reimbursed 16 of the 22 fairs which submitted their support for fair repair and administration costs in the amount of \$90,525.

In addition, the Fund provided \$657,750 in purses to the county fairs, which included horsemen fees.

The Fund also supports New York State’s Goshen Historic Racetrack for its July 4th holiday racing schedule. The Fund distributed \$132,000 in purse money to Goshen and also sent reimbursement for their repair and administration costs, similar to the other county fairs. The Fund also contributed \$50,000 in grant money to the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame, which is adjacent but separate from the racetrack.

The Fund also approved and sent \$2,500 in grant money to the Hemlock Lake Union Agricultural Society for improvements to the museum located in Livonia, NY.

EQUINE RESEARCH:

The Fund has a history of support for educational programs, especially to the 4-H program. Based at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, the program provides the state’s youth with educational opportunities and information on possible careers within the breeding and racing industries.

The Fund contributed \$76,835 of grant money to 4-H, which provided for supplies and training for their staff. Supplies included educational materials such as books, visual aids and videos.

The Fund also contributed \$13,900 to the USTA Harness Driving School Proposal designed to teach the basics of training and driving to individuals aged 16 and older.

The Fund is also involved with both equine research and equine education. Two percent (2%) of the funds received from the New York Racetracks and OTBs goes to the Harry M. Zweig Memorial fund for equine research. Total amount submitted in 2014 was \$291,462.

BREEDING:

In 2008, legislation expanded video lottery terminals (VLTs) to the state's seven pari-mutuel standardbred tracks. The addition of VLTs provided the industry with a huge increase in terms of public exposure and increased purses for horsemen.

The following is a breakdown by year of breeding statistics:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Mares Bred</u>	<u>Registered NY Stallions</u>	<u>Nominated Yearlings</u>
2014	1,674	60	791
2013	1,434	60	965
2012	1,402	65	939
2011	1,613	69	1,108
2010	1,585	69	1,064

In 2014, the Fund dispersed \$716,485 in breeders award money to 319 horsemen.