



## **2015 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 2015, the Fund conducted standardbred racing at 21 New York State county fairs, of which 1 meet was 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. These funds for repairs and admin were reimbursed to 14 of the 21 fairs who submitted for reimbursement in 2015. Total amount in 2015 less horsemen fees paid was \$79,900. Seven fairs did not submit paperwork for reimbursement as of December 31, 2015.

In addition, the Fund provided \$626,800 in purses to the county fairs, which included horsemen fees of \$42,800.

The Fund also supports New York State’s Goshen Historic Racetrack for its July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday racing schedule. The Fund distributed \$178,200 in purse money to Goshen. The Fund also contributed \$40,000 in grant money to the Harness Racing Museum and Hall of Fame, as well as \$40,000 to the Goshen Historic Track.

The Fund also provided \$5,200 in grant money to the NYS Association of Agriculture Fairs for production of county fair brochures.

### **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 \$40,000 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 approved and sent \$6,748 in grant money was sent to the Harness Horse Youth Foundation.

The Fund also granted \$5,000 to the Racing Under Saddle (RUS) program in 2015.

An annual grant from the Fund is the Harry M. Zweig Memorial Fund which, by law, receives 2% of the wagering/VLT funds from New York state racetracks and OTBs. Total amount submitted in 2015 was \$296,064.48.

**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:

<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Mares Bred</u></b>	<b><u>Registered NY Stallions</u></b>	<b><u>Nominated Yearlings</u></b>
2015	1,343	60	943
2014	1,681	60	791
2013	1,434	60	960
2012	1,403	65	939
2011	1,613	69	1,108
2010	1,585	69	1,064

In 2015, the Fund dispersed \$949,927 in Breeders Award monies to 331 breeders.