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SIP Report: 163 Steroid Tests Requested

by -

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From the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association

The [Sales Integrity Program](#) managed by the Thoroughbred Owners and Breeders Association released data compiling the number of exogenous anabolic steroid tests and ownership registry submissions for the Fasig-Tipton, Keeneland, and Ocala Breeders' Sales Co. summer and fall yearling sales.



**STEROID
TESTING**

The data provided to TOBA by the three sales companies consists of the total number of horses tested for exogenous anabolic steroids with the corresponding test results and the number of submissions to the ownership registry with the corresponding number of ownership registry inquiries. The data is inclusive of Fasig-Tipton's fall yearling sale in Lexington.

The data indicates that from a total of 6,230 yearlings sold in nine sales, 163 were tested for exogenous anabolic steroids. Of the 163

horses tested, one positive test result was returned from the August OBS sale. The positive finding did not result in a return as the buyer maintained ownership of the horse.

Information was voluntarily submitted to the ownership registry for 1,257 horses, and there were two inquiries made to view the ownership registry. OBS does not offer an ownership registry.

"This data gives us an interesting but preliminary indication of how the market is responding to our reform measures," said D.G. Van Clief Jr., chairman of the Sales Integrity Monitoring Committee. "The good news is probably that activity levels don't indicate high levels of concern amongst participants. Nonetheless, we will continue to monitor the markets closely to insure that they are operating with the utmost integrity."

In 2008, OBS was the first sale company to begin testing for steroids at 2-year-old sales. OBS tested 53 horses out of the 1,558 2-year-olds sold this year. No positive test results were returned. Keeneland and Fasig-Tipton will begin testing for steroids at their 2009 2-year-old sales.

The testing of weanlings and yearlings for exogenous anabolic steroids and the establishment of the ownership registry were added as new conditions of sale by Fasig-Tipton and Keeneland as a result of the recommendations of the Sales Integrity Task Force in 2007. In addition, the task force created an enforceable bloodstock agent code of conduct and an updated list of prohibited practices.

TOBA launched a [Web site](#) for the Sales Integrity Program in July that further describes an auction code of ethics.

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