

Czech *TRIPLE CROWN* *WINNER*



LINKED TO KENTUCKY EQUINE RESEARCH

In the history of horse racing in the Czech Republic, only seven horses have successfully claimed the most prestigious accomplishment on the racing calendar—winning the Czech Triple Crown. On September 30, Age Of Japa completed this crusade by triumphing in the Tattersall's Saint Leger at Prague's Velká Chuchle racetrack. Age Of Japa is fed and conditioned on the Fitmin brand of horse feeds and supplements produced by Kentucky Equine Research (KER) Team Member Dibaq a.s.

The ascension of Age Of Japa to racing's elite was not without its troubles. Born and bred at SK Strzegom Stud in Poland, Age Of Japa was offered for sale as a two-year-old. He was eventually acquired by a Czech purchaser for \$75,000 USD to be conditioned by well-respected trainer František Holčák. Apparently, the horse was extremely difficult during its first weeks in the Czech Republic, and the new owner decided to give up on his recent acquisition.

Holčák, seeing potential in the large bay colt, felt obligated to quickly find a new owner. "I was going around Moravia with a hat in my hand," Holčák said. Eventually he was able to convince Mr. Radim Bača, the mayor of the small Czech village of Palkovice, to take on the ownership of the horse. At the time, Bača had not realized that he had made the decision of his life. From his first start in his new owner's colors of striking orange and black, the colt soared from one success to another. For the 2009 season, he was unbeaten in all six starts earning over 3,235,000 korunas, the currency of the Czech Republic (\$188,000 USD). As well as conquering all contestants in the 2009 Czech Derby, Age Of Japa also triumphed in the 2009 Slovakian Derby and is the unrivaled contender for Czech Horse of the Year honors.

As with some successful horses, Age Of Japa has become something of a celebrity in the



PHOTOGRAPH | COURTESY OF DIBAQ A.S.



Left: Age Of Japa trounced his competition in the Tattersall's Saint Leger, completing the Czech Republic's Triple Crown of racing. The colt is the leading contender for Horse of the Year honors in that country.

Right: A throng of supporters stand for the win photo after Age Of Japa's victory. The colt is fed a KER-formulated feed manufactured by Dibaq a.s. under the brand name Fitmin.

Czech Republic. Fans come from near and far to support his career. Several busloads of well-wishers from Palkovice, most decorated in the owner's silk colors of orange and black, cheered on Age Of Japa at the Saint Leger event.


František Holčák, one of the Czech Republic's leading trainers, was elated with Age Of Japa's Triple Crown victory. In his career, Holčák has trained five Czech Derby winners, six winners of the Velká Pardubická steeplechase, and count-

Dibaq a.s., one of KER's European partners, provides feed and consultation services to František Holčák as well as many other top equine operations throughout the Czech Republic. Dibaq a.s. offers trainers feed products for horses of all ages and disciplines under the brand name Fitmin. With KER's assistance, the company produces high-quality feeds designed to complement the local forages and grains grown in the vast areas of the largely rural Czech Republic. It manufactures concentrated protein, mineral and vitamin

With KER's assistance, the company produces high-quality feeds designed to complement the local forages and grains grown in the vast areas of the largely rural Czech Republic.

less winners of prominent races in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Italy, and other European countries. This year, Holčák started his horses on the Fitmin nutrition program, using feeds and supplements manufactured by Dibaq a.s., and thus far he is most pleased with the results.

feeds, high-fat feeds, and complete feeds along with a full line of equine supplements.

Kentucky Equine Research is pleased to be associated with Dibaq a.s. and is proud of the prominent role the company plays in its support of the racing industry in the Czech Republic. 



**Reprint Courtesy of
Kentucky Equine Research, Inc.**

3910 Delaney Ferry Road
Versailles, KY 40383
Phone: 859-873-1988
Fax: 859-873-3781
Order Department: 800-772-1988
www.ker.com
info@ker.com