

SOUPER SUCCESS – First stakes winner in Ontario for Mickey Demers



Photo caption: Souper Success and jockey Jesse Campbell winning the \$100,000 Woodstock Stakes on Saturday, April 27. (Michael Burns Photo)

By Jennifer Morrison

You could say that Mickey Demers has done very well buying yearlings at the Canadian Premier Yearling Sale. Just super.

Demers, who began racing horses in his home province of Alberta in 2005, began buying yearlings at the CTHS Ontario sale just a few years ago. He quickly picked a winner with his 2017 purchase Souper Success who gave him his first stakes win in Ontario this spring.

Purchased for just \$15,000, the 3-year-old son of Souper Speedy – My Sweet Tooch by Tejabo, trained by Mike DePaulo, won the \$100,000 Woodstock Stakes at Woodbine in April and has since placed in two more stakes races. His career earnings total over \$142,000.

“Mike and I picked the horse from the sale,” said Demers. “We had been watching him and watching him and he has come out and done very well.”

DePaulo recalls eyeing Souper Success, a member of the first crop of Ontario-sire Souper Speedy, at the 2017 sale.

“At the time I wasn't too sure about the first crop sire since they had not raced yet' said DePaulo. “But I had liked him physically; he had nice conformation and there was some grass in his pedigree. We liked the grass breeding aspect since we have a lot of grass races here at Woodbine.”

Bred by John Carey, who stands Souper Speedy at his T C Westmeath Stud in Shelburne, ON, Souper Success' dam was third in the Wonder Where Stakes on grass and was a career earner of \$141,000.

Aptly named Souper Success, the youngster showed promise from his early training and won his second career start by almost five lengths in a fast time of :57 2/5 for five furlongs.

DePaulo was seeking an allowance race for the dark bay gelding's first start of 2019 but when that race did not draw enough entries, elected to enter him in the Woodstock Stakes.

Under jockey Jesse Campbell, Souper Success forged his way through rivals in deep stretch to win the six furlong stakes by a length at 16 to 1 odds.

Campbell had fallen in love with the gelding before he even raced.

“He’s been a cool cat since he was two, a long ways before he had ever run, and he’s still showing it today. I’m just very proud of the connections and this horse – he’s just a neat little guy.”

Souper Success followed up his Woodstock win with a fourth place finish in the \$125,000 Queenston Stakes.

In his grass debut in the Bold Ruckus Stakes, Souper Success was edged by a neck in a second place finish and came back with another runner-up placing in the King Corrie stakes.

Souper Success scored his third career win from seven starts on Aug. 10 when he won a five-furlong turf allowance race on Woodbine's inner turf in a sizzling time of :56 3/5 for five furlongs.

“He’s been a bit of a push-button horse,” said DePaulo. “He’s very rateable and every time we’ve asked him to do something, he’s come through for us.”

For Demers, the success of his 'super' gelding, figures to lure the Edmonton resident back to the upcoming 2019 Canadian Premier sale on Aug. 29.

“He gave my first stakes win in Ontario and I'm very happy.”