



CALIFORNIA-BRED PROGRAM IS MORE VITAL THAN EVER

In early October, The Jockey Club released the most recent breeding statistics detailing both the number of mares bred in 2022 and the estimated 2023 live foals from mares covered in the various states. According to TJC, approximately 85-90% of live foal reports are complete. After several years of either stable or small increases in the annual production of foals, California is showing a decline of 12.7%. In fact, of the 10 states/provinces listed, six are reported with a percentage decline in live foals (see chart below).

This listing of live foals pertains strictly to the state of conception and does not represent the total number of foals born in a particular state. For California, when factoring in the roughly 200 California

foals conceived in Kentucky and elsewhere, the current-year foal crop should approach 1,400.

While this decline is alarming and needs to be addressed with other industry stakeholders, we need to also focus on quality as well as quantity. With four different California-breds already winning grade 1 races this year across the country, it is evident that California breeders continue to upgrade and bring quality bloodstock to the state.

The total Cal-bred program, at more than \$35 million a year in restricted purses and incentive awards, continues to fuel the investment by California breeders. As mentioned earlier, the CTBA will continue to work with others in the industry to not

only protect the purses, opportunities, and awards available, but to also grow them as much as possible.

As California-breds continue to make up roughly half of the field sizes north and south and California racing becomes more dependent on locally bred horses, it is vital for the future of racing in the state that breeders and owners have such a strong state-bred program. It is also important to note that, even with the decline in the number of foals, California still bred more mares than any state other than Kentucky. And this is without revenue from other forms of gambling. Restricted purses and incentives continue to remain strong strictly through the pari-mutuel handle. **CTB**

REPORT OF MARES BRED

	2022 Mares Bred	2022 Live Foals	2023 Live Foals	Percent Change in Live Foals
Kentucky	16,827	11,460	11,564	0.9%
California	1,867	1,303	1,138	-12.7%
Florida	1,529	927	829	-10.6%
New York	987	576	590	2.4%
Louisiana	924	570	564	-1.1%
Maryland	744	481	498	3.5%
Ontario	587	402	301	-25.1%
Pennsylvania	448	340	250	-26.5%
Indiana	558	231	243	5.2%
Oklahoma	481	293	220	-24.9%