

EVERSTON Park's Gordon Evans gives his horses every opportunity for success. As a stud owner heavily invested in the breed he promotes, Gordon believes in his product and the foals he is responsible for; but he also knows that there is no shortcut to success, so it is Everston Park's duty to tick every single box along the way.



# *Sophistication Made Simple* Everston Park

**T**oday, most know Everston Park as Australia's home of Sophisticated Catt. A top equine breeding facility in southern Queensland's Darling Downs region, Everston Park has for some years now imported the frozen semen of US sires Dualin Gun, Peppy From Heaven and Light Of Rey. More recently, they have handled the breeding of three time US AQHA World Champion cutting horse Sophisticated Catt in Australia, as well as twin embryo brother Palo Duro Cat. But people are beginning to learn that Everston Park isn't just about breeding horses, but rather breeding a product and seeing it onto high-level success.

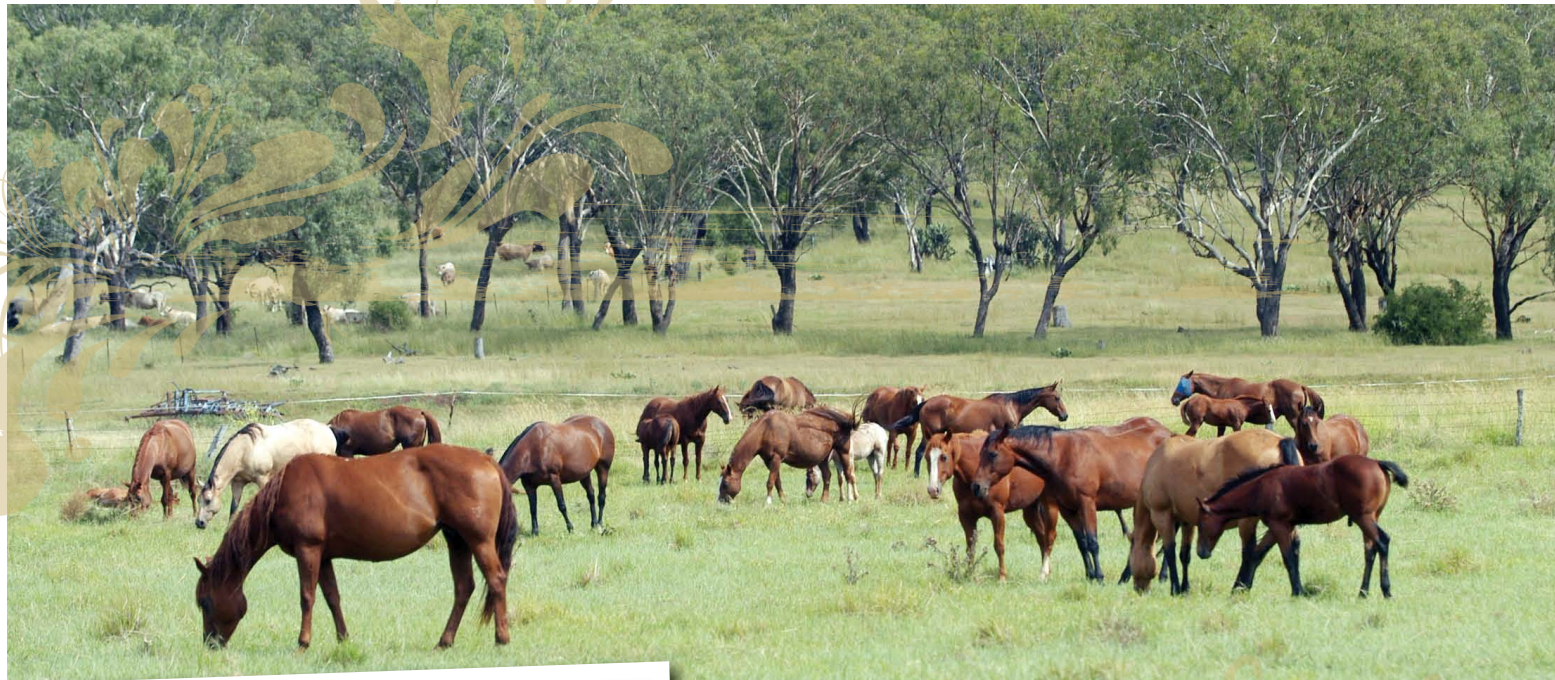
Owner and stud manager of Everston Park Gordon Evans was a pioneer in the importation of quarter horse frozen semen to

Australia. Gordon worked in the US during the 2002 breeding season and has developed a strong relationship with Brightstone Ranch owners Keith and Sharon Feister of Gainesville, Texas. He has been operating as a breeding agent for five of their colts and in 2011 Sophisticated Catt is a freshman sire for Brightstone Ranch and Everston Park.

'We understand that there is a lot riding on the Futurity this year,' says Gordon, 'and that is why we have got his foals into the best hands possible.' He talks of the Sophisticated Catts in training for the futurities in 2011, all of which he has heard positive reports about from their riders.

'We believe in the stallion, so like many [others] we too have a couple in training for this year.' By High Brow Cat from US





Some of the Everston Park broodmares and foals



*Sophisticated Catts getting started  
"Melody" Gordon starting a 2013 futurity prospect*

NCHA Futurity winner Shania Cee, Sophisticated Catt is arguably the best bred 'Cat' stud in the US. Todd Graham has two three year olds by Sophisticated Catt owned by Everston Park in Tamworth this month and both are held highly by the NCHA all-time leading money earner.

'Todd is happy with them. EP Spin O Catt had four months cutting training with Ian Francis before he decided to slow down his training operation and Todd was able to take the mares. Fortunately for us, Todd moved in just eight kilometres down the road. ...EP CD Catt went directly to Todd's. I'm really looking forward to spending more time learning from Todd.'

Graham is not the only rider showcasing a Sophisticated Catt at Tamworth this month, top-ranking money earner Aaron Wheatley of Kaarimba in Victoria also has a three year old by the son of High Brow Cat. Shania Niner, bred by Copperwood Ranch, has been praised at preworks

as one of the most solid three year olds in the country, while Shania Catt is also shaping up nicely for Pinkett trainer Rob Hodgman.

Non Pro John Breckelmans of Gracemere, Queensland holds nothing but praise for his Sophisticated Catt three year olds, one named Ducks Dux from Dashing Duckling, the other Precious Duck from Ducks Playtime.

'They've both been easy to get along with', states Breckelmans. 'They're both very talented, one of them [Ducks Dux] is talented enough for me to get someone else to show her, so Clint Allen will show her at Tamworth... I've never got anyone to do that for me before.'

'Ducks Dux is the closest I've had to Oaks Fancy Duckling [her grand DAM], the mare I got second in the Futurity on about twenty years ago. She is just real low and crouchy, with heaps of look on a cow.'

Ensuring that Sophisticated Catt's foals are in work with Australia's best cutting horse trainers is one thing, but Everston Park goes much further by facilitating each individual horse's success from day one.

'We've always believed that mares have a lot of say in the ability of a foal. While we



"CD Catt" 2011 futurity entrant 2011 with Todd Graham



"Spin O Catt" owned by G & L Evans & R & C Greer  
2011 Futurity with Todd Graham

try to attract great mares, we [also] have purchased and leased quality broodmares to breed from.' Three year olds EP Spin O Catt and EP CD Catt are foals from two deeply well-bred Everston Park mares, sired by Docs Spinifex and CD Olena respectively. But over the last decade there have been many solid performers boasting the Everston Park prefix not just





Everston Park Weanlings



*'Our interest is not just cutting; we believe we breed horses with the ability to succeed in other performance horse arenas.'*



EP Sophisticated Playgirl



"Sophisticated Oak" sold in training with Corey Holden 2012 futurity



Millenium Catt

in cutting, but in campdrafting and reining.

'Our interest is not just cutting; we believe we breed horses with the ability to succeed in other performance horse arenas.' Nonetheless, horses bred by Everston Park have the same solid start every time, Evans believing they must be started early, and physically and mentally nurtured during their training programs.

'I break-in most of our horses here [at Everston Park], I'm currently starting our foals born in 2009 for the 2013 Futurity.' Sophisticated Catt's first crop of foals was started at Everston Park with the help of Frank Fleming, Rob Greer, and Garry, Brendan and Cody Spencer. Fleming, from Kingaroy, took EP Spin O Catt for six weeks before she went to Francis. Frank gave her plenty of hours under saddle doing general stock work. She is now owned in partnership with Rob and Col Greer.

Started slowly and given a lot of slow, steady riding simply made them 'horses' before they were cutting horses, the early start however ensuring they still had plenty of time to be solidly trained before the NCHA Futurity. As far as training goes, everyone with a Sophisticated Catt states the same thing; they're trainable. Making the Sophisticated and complex training program of a cutting horse simple, all Sophisticated Catts seem to start well and come-on fast, traits their father also held as a two year old.

According to ex-pat Australian cutter Darren Simpkins, the trainer of Sophisticated Catt,

the son of Shania Cee took to training exceptionally well. He was more mature than most colts, well balanced and very willing. Sophisticated Catt went on in his show career to amass \$183, 838 in lifetime earnings under four great riders; Simpkins, Boyd Rice, Phil Hanson and Lloyd Cox. Just last year he and Rice won their third consecutive AQHA World Championship, a fitting feat to retire upon.

Gordon and Leoane Evans of Everston Park very proudly stand Sophisticated Catt, offering frozen semen by both he and full brother Palo Duro Cat. Each year they also offer for sale foals from mares by Docs Spinifex, CD Olena, Docs Freckles Oak and Acres Destiny to name a few, foals they wish to give every chance at success.

'While we are breeders, we are also owners and riders ourselves. I aim to show our pair of three year olds in the coming years and am really looking forward to the challenge, as well as learning from the likes of Todd [Graham] and lifelong friend and coach Ian Francis.'

The opportunity is alive to own a well-bred and well prepared foal by Sophisticated Catt, facilitated by Gordon Evans' commitment to the horses he promotes. Everston Park has invested much interest into Sophisticated Catt progeny, not to mention money, proving that Gordon stands by his product. Not many stallion agents believe in their product like Everston Park, that is the difference Gordon Evans invites you to experience. 🐾