

**NADETTE EARNS GUINEAS TRIAL BERTH BY WINNING TODAY'S COMEBACK
OUTSTRIP FILLY SHOWS INSTANT ACCELERATION OVER POLYTRACK MILE
FRENCH ONE THOUSAND GUINEAS ON MAY 15 AT LONGCHAMP IS HER GOAL**



Nadette looked powerful cruising to victory under jockey Theo Bachelot this afternoon on Chantilly's Polytrack.

Nadette displayed instant acceleration in winning her Chantilly comeback today in France and stamped herself as a Miler. There had been considerable discussion over the winter between trainer Romain Le Dren-Doleuze and Barry Irwin about the filly's true trip, as her runs last season did not offer enough evidence about whether she would be best at the Guineas (mile) or Oaks (10f) trips.

"Truth be told," Irwin said, "I thought that she might be best going 9 furlongs and likely would wind up being what is known as a 'tweener.' Tweeners have a rough go of it in Europe, as the number of races going a mile and an eighth are limited in number.

"But today, she answered the debate emphatically by summoning instant acceleration, which is the hallmark of a top Miler. On the track, compared to the other 5 fillies in the Classe 2 contest, she looked like a Miler as well. She is powerful, stout around the middle, loaded in the shoulder, with a deep chest. The others were long and lean.

"After breaking with the leaders, her jockey wisely and effectively eased her back to stalk. At all times Theo Bachelot had a monster hold on Nadette as she traveled against the bit. When the jockey eased her out for her run, the filly waited to be asked and, when she was, she went about her business in the style of a true professional. Much more savvy this season than last for sure."



Nadette won clear by a bit more than a length in a field made up of fillies just like her—fillies that had shown enough at 2 to be considered Classic candidates, but which lacked solid credentials. The point of the race was to see which filly or fillies had made the most progress over the winter. [LINK](#)

Le Dren-Doleuze spoke with Irwin an hour before the race and said “Barry: today is the day. I have her 70 percent ready. If she is good enough to contest at Group 1 level, she must handle this group being only 70 percent ready.”

After the race, Irwin asked the second-generation trainer what he thought the filly’s trip was and he said “For me, the way she looked cruising around the turn so sweetly, I could see her being most effective at 2000 or 2100 meters. However, I spoke to the jockey at length after the race and he said that for the time being at least he thinks that the 1600 meters is her trip because of the acceleration she showed today. I don’t know if I totally agree with him, but I must respect him.”

Irwin advised pointing for a Classic trial over 1400 or 1600 back in about a month, which could be followed a month later by a run in the Poule d’Essai des Pouliches—the French One Thousand Guineas set to be renewed May 15 at ParisLongchamp over a mile. The trainer agreed.

“I will find something suitable, hopefully on good ground she likes,” the trainer said. “Today we went on the Polytrack because it is firm and we know she likes that. But on turf we need sound footing.”