

Ruler of the World's La Petite Coco Stuns Give Thanks Rivals

Coming into Saturday's G3 Irish Stallion Farms EBF Give Thanks S. with a growing reputation, Team Valor's **La Petite Coco (Ire)** (Ruler of the World {Ire}) only served to enhance it significantly as she ruled with an iron fist in the Cork feature.

Runner-up to the re-opposing **Willow (Ire)** (**American Pharoah**) in the June 23 Listed Naas Oaks Trial before dominating a conditions event over 11 furlongs at Killarney July 12, the 2-1 favourite was always travelling enthusiastically behind the front pair and when given her head by Billy Lee took off with 2 1/2 furlongs to race.



La Petite Coco | Racingfotos.com

Stretching clear over the furthest trip she has encountered so far, the bay hit the line strong to score by 5 1/2 lengths from the G3 Munster Oaks winner **Thunder Kiss (Ire)** (Night of Thunder {Ire}). "We've had her since April and she has not put a foot wrong," trainer Paddy Twomey said. "She is progressing physically and is enjoying training and has plenty of talent. She has plenty of entries and I said after Killarney that the [Oct. 17 GI] E. P. Taylor is a possible target, but I have her in the [Oct. 16 G1 QIPCO] Champion Fillies and Mares Stakes and the [G1] Prix Vermeille [at ParisLongchamp Sept. 12] also. She is versatile ground-wise and although she has the pace for 10 furlongs, a mile and a half is no problem to her."

La Petite Coco is the first runner from three live foals out of the unraced La Petite Virginia (Ger) (Konigstiger {Ger}), who is a half to the G1 Deutsches Derby hero Lavirco (Ger) (Konigsstuhl {Ger}) and his G2 Deutsches St Leger-winning full-brother Laveron (Ger) who was also third in the Deutsches Derby. Also kin to the G3 Furstenberg-Rennen winner Lyonel's Glory (GB) (Green Desert), she is a daughter of La Virginia (Ger) (Surumu {Ger}) who is the second dam of the G3 Badener Stutenpreis winner and G1 Premio Lydia Tesio runner-up Lacy (Ger) (Authorized {Ire}) and the G3 Preis des Winterfavoriten winner Langtang (Ger) (Campanologist). La Virginia is a full-sister to the group 3 scorer and G2 German 1000 Guineas runner-up La Colorada (Ger), whose own impressive progeny list is headed by the legendary triple group 1-winning champion and leading sire Lomitas (GB) with this being the dam line of the blue hen Love (GB) (Crepello {GB}). Her descendants include another Deutsches Derby hero in Lagunas (GB) and another notorious sire in Lord of England (Ger). La Petite Virginia's yearling filly is by Ivawood (Ire).