

437), as well as a colt by **Kendargent (Lot 442)**. "All three of these yearlings are out of fast mares," explains Honoré, "and I like this sale a lot. It focuses on the physique of the individual and features yearlings with two-year-old pedigrees."

Among the best horses bred at Haras d'Ommeel is dual Gr.1 winner **Toronado**, who had his first season at stud this year at the National Stud. The son of **High Chaparral** went through the ring at the Arqana August Sale in 2011, when he was purchased by Amanda Skiffington for €55,000. "Amanda fell in love with the horse straight away and kept coming back to see him. He was bred on the stud for Paul Nataf and we had the mare here for many years, so his successes were very special for us. He always was quite a character, a complete show off, and I worried that it might be a problem in his racing career but thankfully that proved not to be the case! We also bred Pornichet in recent years. He was by **Vespone**, who was not a very fashionable stallion but produced some talented horses from small crops. I owned half of Pornichet in the beginning and then kept a quarter of him until he was sold to Gai Waterhouse (for 425,000gns at Goffs London Sale) last year. He is a horse that is improving all the time and Gai thinks very highly of him for the Cox Plate. She is someone whom I admire very much in racing and a great example of the new way of thinking in the sport. She is very active on social media and communicates very well with her owners and the public. I like to see people trying different ideas, which is why I try to have fun with my advertisements in order to stand out from the crowd. Racing needs more innovation and to be less static in



A yearling being prepared for sale at Haras d'Ommeel.

order to attract youngsters. If the people in charge do not use forward thinking now it will be too late to assure the future of our industry."

This is clearly something Honoré feels very strongly about, as he is very active politically for the future of racing. He is currently in his third year as Chairman of EFTBA and was recently part of a delegation that visited Brussels to defend the interests of the European racing industry. Having somebody with the passion and dedication of Hubert Honoré fighting its corner, it looks like a very bright future for French racing.

Sally Ann Grassick

**Looking for Hubert!**

Hubert HONORE, yard T.  
If you don't see me, call +33 6 07 42 40 37.