



# El Tormenta

## El Tormenta

Own: Sam-Son Farm



Dk. b or b. g. 4 (May)  
Sire: Stormy Atlantic (Storm Cat) \$10,000  
Dam: Torreadora (El Prado) Ire  
Br: Sam-Son Farm (Ont-C)  
Tr: Cox Gail(56 4 13 7 .07) 2019:(66 4 .06)

Life	12	3	3	0	\$307,998	98	D.Fst	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
2019	5	1	1	0	\$174,828	98	Wet(352)	0	0	0	0	\$0	-
2018	5	2	2	0	\$126,600	82	Synth	1	0	0	0	\$305	74
2017	5	2	2	0	\$126,600	82	Turf(346)	11	3	3	0	\$307,598	98
Wo	10	3	3	0	\$307,370	98	Dst(358)	2	1	1	0	\$67,800	77

24Aug19-9WO fm 7f ① 223 :44 1:07 1:19 1:34 PlayKing-G2 93 1/6 5 52 52 54 42 1/2 Hernandez R M L123b 1.85 98-04 Silent Poet <sup>1</sup> Sable Island <sup>mk</sup> Curlin's Honor <sup>3</sup> Off slw,blocked str
21Jly19-3WO gd 6f ① 223 :45 1:08 1:14 1:34 Alw 105025wc 95 4/6 2 53 63 32 2 1/2 Contreras L L121b *1.10 92-13 Silent Poet <sup>1</sup> El Tormenta <sup>no</sup> Call Me Wally <sup>1</sup> Angled out str,rallied
23Jun19-9WO fm 6f ① 222 :44 1:07 1:14 1:34 Hilandr-G1 87 3/9 7 87 96 83 42 1/2 Contreras L L123b 8.80 92-08 Wet Your Whistle <sup>1</sup> Extravagant Kid <sup>1</sup> White Flag <sup>1</sup> Bmp start,steady rail
1Jun19-8WO fm 7f ① 231 :44 1:08 1:20 1:44 Conght Cp-G2 98 6/7 5 41 31 1hd 1mk Contreras L L116b 7.35 96-10 El Tormenta <sup>mk</sup> Emmaus <sup>2</sup> Curlin's Honor <sup>4</sup> 2w,forced path/4,best
19Apr19-6Kee vl 5f ① 212 :45 1:05 1:05 1:44 Alw 80713w2x 75 11/11 11 119 119 96 63 Leparoux J R L118b 13.50 82-15 Totally Boss <sup>1</sup> Lawton <sup>mk</sup> Johnny Obvious <sup>2</sup> Widest str, belatedly
28Oct18-7WO fst 6f ① 222 :44 1:07 1:13 1:34 OC 62k/c-N 74 6/10 9 95 64 94 84 1/2 Contreras L L118b 6.05 90-11 CllMWly <sup>2</sup> SnNcolThundr <sup>mk</sup> Loknforpursmon <sup>1</sup> 4-5w,never contentious
8Sep18-7WO fm 6f ① 222 :44 1:07 1:13 1:34 Alw 71520w1x 82 5/10 7 11 12 13 1 1/2 Contreras L L117b *1.85 96-10 El Tormenta <sup>2</sup> Chill <sup>hd</sup> Hold'emforransom <sup>3</sup> Restrained early,drug
4Aug18-8WO fm 1 1/8 ① \$ 233 :46 1:09 1:39 3+ Alw 66240w1x 82 4/7 11 11 11 12 2 1/2 Contreras L L117b *1.65 95-14 Mr Ritz <sup>2</sup> El Tormenta <sup>1</sup> Woodbridge <sup>2</sup> Failed to hold late
30Jun18-3WO fm 1 ① 223 :45 1:09 1:32 1 CBarleyB105k 77 5/7 16 13 12 12 2 1/2 Contreras L L117b 5.50 96-05 Ride a Comet <sup>2</sup> El Tormenta <sup>1</sup> Elusive Mischief <sup>2</sup> Clear pace,outfinished
27May18-4WO fm 1 ① 23 :45 1:09 1:32 3+ Md Sp Wt 73k 77 1/10 21 32 1hd 12 1 1/2 Contreras L L118b 6.90 96-05 El Tormenta <sup>3</sup> Waterkloof <sup>3</sup> English Classic <sup>1</sup> Brk inwd,ridden out

- El Tormenta, whose named translates from Spanish as “The Storm,” will be looking to work out a smoother trip in the Ricoh Woodbine Mile after recent traffic woes. “He’s really had some troubled trips,” said trainer Gail Cox. “It’s unfortunate, there have been some races that with a better trip he was going to be right there. But he hasn’t disappointed us at all, because he’s run very well every time.”
- El Tormenta was one of the first Sam-Son Farm runners trained by Cox, who had galloped for the outfit when both were competing in different spheres.
- “He’s always been a nice horse,” said Cox, who started El Tormenta just twice in his first campaign. “He was injured, late in the summer of his two-year-old year. He went to their farm in Florida and needed time off.”
- Returning to Cox’s care as a gelding the following spring, El Tormenta burst out of the blocks for a front-running maiden victory over one mile of turf and then finished a good second in the Charlie Barley over the same course and distance. “He was quite aggressive when he ran,” said Cox. “He was pretty speedy out of the gate and acted like he didn’t want to go that far.”
- El Tormenta, lightly raced again at three, was back with Cox at Keeneland this spring and began his campaign in a second-level allowance on the Keeneland turf course. Breaking from the outside post, over “yielding” going, El Tormenta showed a new dimension while closing strongly to be beaten just three lengths. “It was actually a really good race,” said Cox. “He didn’t break the greatest, and he made up ground. And, I wouldn’t think that’s his favourite type of turf.”
- “He seems the same horse to train, but definitely his running style has changed,” Cox continued. “I had him with me in Florida this year, at Payson Park, and I think it’s really good for him to be there to train. We let him grow up a little bit.”
- Back at Woodbine, the new and improved El Tormenta broke through for his first stakes win in the Grade 2 Connaught Cup over seven furlongs of grass. And while continuing to employ his stalking style, El Tormenta has had little racing luck in three subsequent outings.
- Perhaps the most frustrating of those occasions came last time out in the Play the King, a seven-furlong turf race which serves as the major local prep for the Woodbine Mile. “He got stuck, didn’t get out early, and waited hoping for a hole. It just never happened. He made a huge run. To be honest, a lot of horses wouldn’t make a run like that after the trouble he was in.”
- New rider Eurico Rosa da Silva will be looking to engineer a change of fortunes for El Tormenta in the Woodbine Mile and Cox believes her charge is ready to retry the longer distance. “I don’t think he’s a difficult horse to ride. He always comes running, and he always gallops out very strong.”
- And despite his name, Cox says that El Tormenta has a sunny disposition. “He’s just the nicest horse to be around. You’d barely know he was in the stall. He’s kind. He can be aggressive to train, but he’s very nice to have in the barn.”

## Owner – Sam-Son Farm

Industrialist Ernie Samuel founded Sam-Son Farm in the 1970s, won his first Sovereign Award as Canada’s Outstanding Owner in 1980 and in 1988 won his first Queen’s Plate. In 1991, he was named Canadian racing’s Man-of-the-Year as his Dance Smartly became the first Canadian-owned and bred horse to win a Breeders’ Cup race, taking the Distaff at Churchill Downs. She remains the only filly to win the Canadian Triple Crown, is the only mare to foal back-to-back Plate winners (Scatter The Gold in 2000 and Dancethruthedawn in 2001) and was inducted in the National Museum of Racing Hall of Fame at Saratoga Springs in 2003. Samuel was inducted into the Canadian Racing Hall of Fame as a builder in 1998, but died in May of 2000. The stable was then managed by his wife Liza and daughter Tammy Samuel-Balaz. In early 2008, both Tammy and Liza passed away. Yet, the operation has remained a force in Canadian racing, as Ernie’s son Mark is now the CEO, while Tammy’s husband Rick Balaz is the President and General Manager. Sam-Son Farm has earned Sovereign Awards as Canada’s Outstanding Owner on 10 occasions and seven times has been named Outstanding Breeder. They’ve bred and/or raced some of Canada’s most famous horses who have been inducted into either the Canadian, U.S. or both Racing Halls of Fame. Dance Smartly (1991), Sky Classic (1992) and Chief Bearhart (1997) all won Eclipse Awards as North American champions. The stable has won five Queen’s Plates: Regal Intention (1988), Dance Smartly (1991), Scatter The Gold (2000), Dancethruthedawn (2001) and Eye of the Leopard (2009), and won their eighth Woodbine Oaks this year with Desert Ride.

## Trainer – Gail Cox

Gail Cox, born and raised in the Toronto neighbourhood of Willowdale, was an early participant in the show horse world and opted to pursue that vocation following high school, riding for Sam-Son Farm when that outfit was a major player in the field. When Sam-Son made their move into Thoroughbred racing, Cox continued with the show horses while also starting to gallop Thoroughbreds. Her first employer at Woodbine was trainer Jim Bentley and she went on to work for Dave MacLean and for Sam-Son at the racetrack when Jim Day was their trainer. Later, while an exercise rider for trainer Danny Vella, Cox took out her trainer's license and started out with one horse, saddling her first winner at Woodbine in the fall of 2006. Her most accomplished performer to date has been Something Extra, whom she also owned in partnership with John Menary and was a winner of five stakes races and \$1 million.

## Jockey – Eurico Rosa Da Silva

Born in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Eurico Da Silva got his start in his homeland before moving to Macau. He counts the Brazil Derby, a two-mile Group 1 turf race, among his most memorable scores early in his career. Da Silva came to Woodbine in 2004 and has enjoyed tremendous success since. He's finished as Woodbine's leading rider five times, first accomplishing the feat in 2010. He's won the last four consecutive meet titles, including last season, where he won 237 races, breaking Mickey Walls' record of 221 wins in a single Woodbine meet set back in 1991. Da Silva has won six Sovereign Awards as Canada's Outstanding Jockey and was a part of the Horse of the Year campaigns by Pink Lloyd (2017), Up With the Birds (2013), Biofuel (2010) and Fatal Bullet (2008). His 239 career North American stakes wins include back-to-back Queen's Plates with Eye of the Leopard in 2009 and Big Red Mike in 2010, and a record 10 ¾-length victory with Bullards Alley in the Grade 1 Pattison Canadian International in 2017. Da Silva has announced that this will be his last year in the saddle as he will retire at age 44 in order to spend more time with his family and explore opportunities coaching other athletes.

## Previous Ricoh Woodbine Mile Starters

Sam-Son Farm	Gail Cox	Eurico Rosa Da Silva
2014 – 8 <sup>th</sup> – His Race to Win 2011 – 9 <sup>th</sup> – Grand Adventure 2010 – 8 <sup>th</sup> – Grand Adventure 2009 – 9 <sup>th</sup> – Grand Adventure 2008 – 6 <sup>th</sup> – Mulmur 2006 – 11 <sup>th</sup> – Shoal Water <b>2004 – 1<sup>st</sup> – Soaring Free</b> 2004 – 4 <sup>th</sup> – Surging River 2003 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Soaring Free 2002 – 7 <sup>th</sup> – Strut The Stage 2002 – 11 <sup>th</sup> – Quiet Resolve 2001 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Quiet Resolve 2000 – 6 <sup>th</sup> – Think Red <b>1999 – 1<sup>st</sup> – Quiet Resolve</b> 1999 – 15 <sup>th</sup> – Sky Colony 1998 – 6 <sup>th</sup> – Skybound 1997 – 4 <sup>th</sup> – Skybound	N/A	2018 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Mr Havercamp 2017 – 8 <sup>th</sup> – Tower of Texas 2016 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Tower of Texas 2015 – 7 <sup>th</sup> – Tower of Texas 2014 – 8 <sup>th</sup> – His Race to Win 2010 – 12 <sup>th</sup> – Signature Red 2009 – 9 <sup>th</sup> – Grand Adventure 2008 – 6 <sup>th</sup> – Mulmur 2007 – 14 <sup>th</sup> – Estevan



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