

Livestock Breed Names Reveal History of Industry in World

HARRISBURG— International flavor at the forthcoming Pennsylvania National Livestock Exposition will be provided not only by breeders from all sections of the United States, but also by the animals themselves.

William L. Medford, show chairman, pointed out today that of the 23 breeds of animals to be exhibited at the Keystone International, November 10 through 14, in the State Farm Show Building in Harrisburg, American developed breeds form a distinct minority group.

For example only the hornless or polled strains of the Hereford and Shorthorn cattle breeds were developed in America, the Poland China, Spotted Poland China and Chester White breeds of hogs are American selections and the Columbia sheep breed are native.

White-faced Hereford, Black Angus and reddish Shorthorn cattle all originated in the British Isles, the Herefords in Herefordshire, the Shorthorns in the Tees River Valley between Durham and York Counties and the Aberdeen-Angus in Northern Scotland in the counties of Aberdeen, Eanff, Kincardine and Angus.

England as the original home of many of the popular swine breeds. The Berkshire was a cross between native swine and Chinese or Siamese swine developed in Berkshire. Hampshire hogs were developed in England also, and it is suspected they may share a common ancestry with the Berkshire. The white Yorkshire hog also was developed in England.

The ancestry of the Duroc breed is vague, but most authorities agree that Spain probably was the original home of the breed. However, there are some who say Durocs originated in Africa.

United States swine breeders have been responsible for the development of the Poland China, the Spotted Poland China and the Chester White.

Farmers in Southwestern Ohio, during the period when Cincinnati was known as "Porkopolis," wanted a hog that would provide a good carcass with plenty of meat. They crossed native "woods hogs" with some imported Russian stock. The result was the Poland China. Later Indiana breeders refined the hog further to suit their needs and it became the Spotted Poland China.

Chester County, Pennsylvania, is the home of the Chester White hog. About the year 1818 Captain James Jeffries imported from England a pair of white pigs, which are spoken of as Bedfordshire pigs, and as Cumberland pigs. Captain Jeffries used the boar on the native white pigs of the district with good results. Later, it is stated, white Chinese pigs were imported to Chester County and crossed on the native pigs. Eventually the different strains were combined and from this combination came the original Chester White breed," according to G. E. Day in the Cyclopedia of American Agriculture.

Great Britain also is the birthplace of many of the popular sheep breeds to be shown at the Pennsylvania National Livestock Exposition. These include, Southdown, Sussex County, Hampshire, Hampshire County, Shropshire, Shropshire and Stafford Counties, Oxford, Oxford County, Dorset, Dorset and Somerset Counties, Cheviot, Northumberland County, England, and Roxburg County, Scotland, and Suffolk and Shropshire County.

Corriedales came to the United States from New Zealand, the Merinos from Spain and Rambouillet from France.

The only native American sheep is the Columbia. The breed was originated in Wyoming and Idaho by the University of Wyoming and the United States Department of Agriculture to give Western sheepmen a strain or breed

that could be hardy foragers and produce strong lambs and good fleeces.

Breeds contributing to the Columbia crosses were Lincoln and Rambouillet. First breeding stock as made available to the public about 1920.

This will be the first showing of Columbia sheep in a major show in Pennsylvania. Rambouillets have been shown in the State Farm Show, although this will be their first appearance in the Keystone International.

Included with the Pennsylvania Livestock Exposition are the first Mid-Atlantic National Truck Show, an Armed Forces Show and a World Championship Rodeo, all at the State Farm Show Building, Harrisburg.

Farm And Square Dance Entries Close 17th

HARRISBURG — Square dance teams seeking state championship titles in the second annual Folk Dance Festival and Contest at the 1959 Pennsylvania Farm Show have only one week in which to file entries, according to John B. McCool, Farm Show director.

Entries close November 17, McCool said. The festival and contest will be held in the large arena Tuesday night of Farm Show Week, January 12 to 16, 1959. Entry blanks can be obtained from any County Agricultural Agent or from McCool at the Farm Show Building, Harrisburg.

Twenty sets will be accepted in each of three classifications, in the order of applications received. A maximum of 60 sets will perform.

Of the three divisions eligible for folk dance competition, Division A is composed of dancers under 21 years of age, Division B is for mixed age groups, and Division C is for dance sets in which all members are over 21.

Folk dancing was made a part of the Farm Show for the first time last year replacing the Rural Talent Festival. This year the number of participants and prize money has been increased.

Contestants will be judged on their performance in two required square dances, during which the outstanding sets will be selected to compete in a final dance. The sets will be judged on the techniques of the dancers, uniformity of action, response to calls, and rhythm of the dancers.

Each set must be uniformly, appropriately and attractively costumed.

A record premium total of \$62,287.50 will be offered at the 1959 Farm Show in 30 departments. Of this total, \$870 will be offered in the Folk Dance Contest.

Holstein Group Slates Meeting

BLUE BALL — Donald S. Eby, president of the Lancaster County Holstein-Friesian Association, has announced plans for the group's Eighth Annual Meeting and Banquet, Wednesday, Nov. 19 in the Blue Ball Fire Hall.

Speaker for the evening will be the Rev. C. D. Spotts, professor of religion, Franklin and Marshall college. Musical entertainment will be provided by the Herald Aires Quartet.

The program also will include a regular business session, including reports of various committees, state association fieldmen and extension personnel.

J. Robert Hess, Strasburg RD 1, is vice president of the dairy-men's group; Paul B. Hess, Litzitz RD 1, treasurer, and J. Lester Charles, Landisville, secretary.

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