

York County Farmer Has Best Swine Carcass in Local Event

John Strawbridge, Stewartstown, York County, had the best of 20 hogs entered this week in the annual carcass show sponsored by the Lancaster County Swine Producers Association.

The competition began at the Vintage Sales Stables with live judging by the swine producers, followed by grading of the carcass at the E. W. Martin farm on Route 30 at Bridgeport.

Mrs. Clair Haitman, Gratz, Dauphin County, did the best job of placing the live animals in the order of their carcass quality, as confirmed by carcass evaluation. She was the only female contestant.

The top animal, owned by Strawbridge, had an outstanding ham and loin percentage of 43.2. The animal had a very large loin

eye of 7.16 inches. The animal was 30 inches long and had back fat of 1.3 inches.

Mark Nestleroth, Manheim RD3, Swine Association president, emphasized that the Strawbridge animal had an exceptionally high percentage of quality meat.

The winning animal last year had a ham and loin eye of only 41.8 per cent of the total carcass weight, compared to 43.2 per cent for the Strawbridge animal. This year the top five animals had a higher ham and loin percentage than last year's winner, and the average ham and loin percentage of the top 10 animals this year was 41.37 per cent.

Nestleroth also noted that the leading animals this year had very large loin eyes. The average for the top 10 animals was 6.025 inches and the average for the entire 20 animals was 5.41 inches.

The top 10 animals this year averaged 1.17 inches of back fat, 30.62 inches long, 6.025 inches of loin eye and 41.37 per cent of ham and loin.

The entire 20 animals averaged 1.28 inches of back fat, 30.58 inches long, 5.41 inches of loin eye and 39.90 per cent of ham and loin.

Other top 10 entries in the carcass competition in order of placing were animals from the following:

2. Masonic Homes, Elizabethtown, 1.2 inches of back fat, 31.9 inches in length, 5.75 inches of loin eye, and 42.5 per cent of ham and loin.

3. Real Farm, Tipton, Pa., 9 inches of back fat, 28.8 inches long, 7.17 inches of loin eye, and 42.5 per cent of ham and loin.

4. Willow Glen Farm, Strasburg RD1, 1.1 back fat, 31 inches long, 6.5 loin eye and 42.3 per cent ham and loin.

5. Dutch Valley Farm, Manheim RD3, 1.2 inches back fat, 31.2 inches long, 5.90 loin eye and 41.9 per cent ham and loin.

6. Clair Hartman, Gratz, 1.1 30.3, 4.95 and 41.2 per cent.

7. Melvin Martin, Lititz RD1, 1.1, 31.0, 6.05 and 40.6 per cent.

8. Carl Harrison, Johnstown, 1.3, 30.4, 4.85 and 40.6 per cent.

9. Leon L. Arnold, Lebanon, 1.3, 31.1, 5.76 and 39.8 per cent.

10. Robert Armstrong, Drumore, 1.2, 30.5, 6.16 and 39.1 per cent.

Others entering animals were: B. Russell Sauder, Manheim RD3; Melvin Huber, Lititz RD1; Joe Lefever, Manheim RD4; Jet-Age Swine Breeders, Paradise; Richard Sholley, Jonestown; Ervin Rutt, Manheim RD3; Elwood Houser, Lebanon; Roger Leaman, Ronks RD1; John Hastings, Kirkwood RD1, and Ezra Good, Denver RD1.

In winning the swine evaluation contest, Mrs. Hartman had a score of 32 (low score wins), followed by Mark Nestleroth with 37.

Other top scores were James Horton, Masonic Homes, 40; Fred DelGrosso, Tyrone RD2; John Henkel, Strasburg RD1, and John Strawbridge, Stewartstown, all 42.

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(from Chemical & Engineering News, Dec. 21, 1970)

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