



Rally Farms, Millbrook, N.Y., showed the grand champion of the open and junior on-foot steer shows at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition this week. From left to right, the individuals posing with the steer are: Judge Gary Minish, Urbana, Ill.; Jesse and Gayle Bontecou, owners of Rally Farms; Jim Glass, president of the N.E. Region of the American Chianina Association; and Fred Smalstig, manager, Rally Farms. Glass presented the Bontecous with a 5000 check for showing a Chianina to the grand championship.

## Chianina-Angus wins Keystone steer show

By JOANNE SPAHR  
HARRISBURG - A 1130 pound Chianina-Angus crossbred bred by Rally Farms, Millbrook, N.Y., was named grand champion of the on-foot open and junior steer shows at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition last week. "Rally Mr. Friggio," a half-blood Chianina sired by Friggio," was first named lightweight champion and grand champion in the open show before besting the junior show champ, an Angus-Angus crossbred, shown by 17-year-old Mary Rice of Huntertown, Ind. Along with Rally Farms' win came a \$5000 stipend from the American Chianina Association for taking the grand champion of show through their breed. The reserve grand

champion, over all, was also a Chianina-Angus shown by K.O. Cattle Company of Clinton, Ind. The 1295 pound heavyweight was first named champion of its class and reserve champion of the open show, before taking the reserve title over all. Rally Farms who bred the grand champion, raises approximately 250 registered Angus cattle, and breeds only 25 of those to Chianina each year. "We choose to breed our bottom end to Chianinas, hoping to get 50 real good commercial cows," says Fred Smalstig, farm manager. "There's also a real good market for the steer calves," he points out, saying that a Chianina feeder calf can go for twice the price of an Angus. The calves require no

special handling--the mothers raise them themselves, and there's no creep feeding.

"I like Chianinas, they'll really grow," says Smalstig, pointing out that the grand champion's mother was the smallest Angus at Rally Farms.

Although he appreciates Chianina, Smalstig points out that he is really out to promote the Angus breed, since in his estimation, it takes a good Angus mother to make a Chianina a winner.

"You look at the champions," he challenged, "and you'll see that most of them are black. Angus will really hang up the carcasses--they have the marbling."

This is the fourth year Rally Farms has been breeding with Chianina and the first year they have shown in a national show.

"Our prime reason for entering this show was the carcass contest with it,"

says Smalstig. "This is the only show we know of that also judges the carcasses."

Although they have been showing at New York state fairs and county shows, Smalstig says they have never officially measured the carcass quality of their Chianina-Angus show animals and "this way with the college doing it is the most factual, unbiased way to find out." In Wednesday's carcass results Rally Farm's steer placed third in the light-weight class.

Other top winners in the open steer competition included Harry J. Molitor's family of Fayetteville, Ohio, with the champion middleweight steer, a Limousin Cross. Reserve middleweight champion was a Simmental-Angus cross shown by Gary White of Eaton, Ohio.

The reserve champion heavyweight, another Chianina, was shown by Jim Glass of Millbrook, N.Y.

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