

How do you dominate a tobacco show?

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN
LANCASTER — How do you dominate a countywide tobacco show in a county that grows the most tobacco throughout the state?

If this year's Lancaster County Tobacco Show, recognized as the preliminaries for the State Farm Show, is any indication, there are at least three factors that can lead to almost total domination:

First, you follow growing practices, some of which admittedly involve extra production costs, which will give you good-looking, quality tobacco

Next, you keep the show competition in mind constantly as you strip the tobacco and know what the judges will be looking for

And finally, it helps to submit multiple entries in every class under the names of various family members to further increase the odds

Perhaps, some or all of these factors played a part on Tuesday when the Lancaster Tobacco Show was held in the Farm and Home Center

After the judges, Ken Mann, of A K Mann Tobacco, and Jay Frey, of Lancaster Leaf, made their final selections, the results showed that three Rohrer families, who farm within a couple of miles of each other in the Strasburg area, almost completely dominated the show

The families of Roger, Eugene and Donald Rohrer captured 26 of the 30 top

placings in the open competition

The highest placing by any other entrant in the competition were a couple of seconds

Out of the total of 177

hands entered in the six classes of the open competition, the three families had some 38 entries, or better than 21 percent of the total. In some individual classes, they had up to 30

percent of the entries

The championships in all three categories of competition — binder, wrapper and filler — were swept by Roger M Rohrer and his

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Judges Jay Frey, left, and Ken Mann look over entries at Lancaster County Tobacco Show.

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