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\$7.50 Per Year

Elevation ET daughter tops sale at \$150,000

BY DICK ANGLESTEIN

LANCASTER — A new chapter in embryo transfer merchandising literally was written on Thursday when an Elevation daughter topped the Great Expectations Sale at \$150,000.

A transfer herself, the three-year-old Mil-R-Mor Roxy Velvet, sired by the legendary Round Oak Rag Apple Elevation out of the high producing C Glenridge Citation Roxy, brought the new local high price at Chapter Four of the Expectations sales.

It was just about a year ago that Lime-Hollow Elevation Jessie topped the Chapter Three sale at the Guernsey Barn at \$116,000.

At this year's sale, an in-

ternational touch was added to the local flavor that dominated last year's sale-topping purchase.

Velvet was purchased on Thursday by the Balsillas Syndicate, of Bogota, Colombia.

Last year, Jessie was bought by a local group that included M. Robert Young, of Lancaster; and Galen Crouse, of Schoeneck. This year, Young was the contending bidder on Velvet.

As a two-year-old, Velvet is producing 18,227 lbs in 335 days with 726 lbs of fat at 4 percent test. She was consigned by Robert and Kay Miller and family, of Dundee, Ill.

Following dispersal of their herd in 1974, according to son, Craig Miller, his father prepared to begin embryo transferring. An AI technician, Robert Miller began the transfers in 1976.

Miller is now a partner in M.O.M. Transfers, of Dundee, Ill.

"We had been hoping for a price around \$100,000," Craig Miller commented, following the close of the rapid bidding.

Miller is familiar with the Colombia group and has worked with them in ET. In fact, Velvet is being returned to Dundee by the Colombia group. She was bred to Illini Ivy Image on November 17.

A representative of the Colombia

group said she will eventually be used in ET in continuing herd improvement. The group has imported implanted heifers, but the import of embryos has not yet been approved in his country. Also, the transfer technology is not yet available there.

Velvet's dam, the well-known Roxy, has milk records to more than 26,000 lbs. and is a consistent 1000-lb. plus fat producer.

In all, 22 head were sold in the Great Expectations Sale at an average of \$13,457.

Second highest seller was Gillbrook Claretta Dee Dee at \$29,000. Sired by Wapa Arlinda Conductor, she is out of The Steinhauers Elevation Dee.

Dee Dee was consigned by Ronald and Sylvia Mueller, of St. (Turn to Page A31)



Following gavel rap at the \$150,000 figure, Mil-R-Mor Roxy Velvet poses with representatives of seller, buyer and personnel of Great Expectations Sale.

Legislative roundup

Ag areas, checkoff changes move

BY CURTHARLER

HARRISBURG — In a short but busy week legislators in the State Capital reported out of the House Agriculture Committee HB 143, the ag areas bill.

In addition, proposals were drafted to change substantially the

voting procedures for dairy, fruit and other state commodity programs.

On Tuesday morning the Ag Committee unanimously passed HB 143, the Ag Areas bill. It allows for voluntary establishment of ag districts and provides some in-

centives for committing land to an ag area.

It now will pass through the rules committee and then be brought before the full House.

Several modifications were written into the bill and some definitions established, but prime sponsor Rep. Noah Wenger, Stevens, said the basic thrust of the bill is not changed and he remains optimistic about its future.

It will give farmers freedom from nuisance ordinances against normal farm practices and protect them somewhat against land condemnation.

HB 143 defines normal farm practices as "the customary and generally accepted activities, practices, and procedures that farmers adopt, use or engage in year after year" in agriculture, agronomy, horticulture, silviculture, and aquaculture.

The bill requires owners of at least 500 acres of adjoining or non-contiguous land to request an ag area. The earlier 10 percent minimum requirement was dropped.

An amendment increased from two to three the required number of farmers who sit on the local ag committee. Another established

(Turn to Page A33)

(Turn to Page A38)

News and features

Chickies watershed, A16; NFO grain meeting, A18; Tractor pulls, A29; Charolais wins in Denver, A30; Keystone swine champs, C26; Expo horse winners, C29; Poultry outlook, C34; Md. opposes power move, D16; No meat quotas, D18; White Clay Creek money, D21

Home and Youth

Homestead notes, C2; Home on the range, C6; FFA Europe tour, C10; Kids Korner, C16; 4-H news, C18; 4-H national conference, C23; Farm museum courses, C38

Regular columns

Editorials, A10; Farm calendar, A12; Ladies, have you heard? C9; Ida's notebook, C12; Joyce Bupp's column, C14; Farm talk, D10

Dairy reports

Parallel parking for cows, A20; Guernsey meeting changes, A39; Dairy cuts pass committee, C37; Dauphin County DHIA, D2; Berks County DHIA, D5; A look at loose housing, D11.

Exhibitors drop by one-third at Farm Equipment Exposition

HARRISBURG — A sharp reduction in the number of exhibitors at this year's Farm Equipment Exposition may be casting a growing cloud of doubt over the future of the struggling ag show that limped into its third year of existence last week.

The number of exhibitors at the 1981 Expo was down approximately a third from the total with displays during the previous two years.

Figures provided by Stanley G. Saellam, Administrative Officer for Operations of the Farm Show Building staff, show the continuing decline in exhibitor attendance at Expo.

The first Expo in 1979 had 188 exhibitors.

In the second year, the total of exhibitors slipped to 177.

But for the third show, just held March 5-7, the number of exhibitors dropped sharply to 128.

The final total of 128 was quite a bit below the "over 170" the state had been touting in its pre-show publicity and advertising.

"A total of 213 had expressed interest in the Expo," Saellam said.

"But 128 ended up coming to the show."

In response to whether a fourth Expo will be held next year, Saellam replied.

plified terms means excess current load seeking an earth ground through the path of least resistance, has been blamed for symptoms ranging from low milk production to mastitis by farmers and specialists in the dairy industry. Researchers at universities around the country have been studying stray voltage, trying to find solutions which will overcome the current problem.

According to a study conducted by William Fairbank and Lloyd

Craine of the University of California and the Washington State University, respectively, dairy cows which show behavioral and production changes that can't be traced back to feed, water, disease, weather, mishandling, or other usual causes, may be suffering from stray voltage.

Symptoms of stray voltage, they say, include:

- an abnormal decrease in or inability to obtain expected milk production;

- animals hesitate at or even refuse to approach certain drinkers, feeders, or metallic parlor or holding area equipment;

- animals may balk at entering the milking parlor or try to jump across transition joints;

- a number of animals are affected simultaneously;

- general behavior may show abnormal twitching, kicking, nervousness in the parlor; and

- the symptoms may come and go unpredictably.

The researchers were quick to point out, however, these symptoms are not exclusively caused by "metallic structure-to-earth stray voltages/currents". An uncomfortable milking process can cause similar responses, they said and urged dairy producers to look into the usual causes before searching for stray voltage.

Ray Sherk, of Sherk's Farm Service, Lititz, reports stray voltage has been recognized as

(Turn to Page A26)

Stray voltage, the facts may shock you

BY SHEILA MILLER

LITITZ — Stray voltage, sometimes called transient voltage, stray current, tingle voltage and electrical pollution, is a subject drawing much attention at dairying seminars.

Recently, this subject brought Lancaster County electricians and power company representatives together at the Farm and Home Center for some insight into the problem and its cure.

Stray voltage, which in sim-