

Championships go to brother-sister duo at American Royal Hereford Steer Show

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A brother-sister duo from Mullen, Neb., took top honors at the 1981 American Royal special Hereford steer show. The grand champion steer was shown by John Tucker and the reserve grand champion entry was shown by his sister, Julie Tucker.

The American Royal Hereford Steer Show was another successful activity during the American Royal in Kansas City. This is the fourth year for the \$8,000 special steer show sponsored by the American Polled Hereford Association, the American Hereford Association and the American Royal Livestock Show. In the competition, 34 entries represented nine states.

To be eligible for competition, the steers must be sired by bulls recorded in the APHA or AHA and their birth dates must be recorded. Forty percent of the final placing is derived from the live placing and 60 percent from the carcass qualities of the steers. The live placings were made by Dr. Bob Kropp, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater. Carcasses were evaluated under the proposed new grading standards, with 76 percent grading Choice.

John's overall champion steer was sired by Botkins Vic 647 589 and out of a registered cow in the Reich's Polled Hereford herd at Paradise, Kan. He was one of the youngest steers in the show at 416 days of age, yielding a carcass weight of 668 lb., a carcass WDA of 1.60 lb., and an impressive \$1.88 in carcass value per day of age. He stood second in class with a live

WDA of 2.78 lb. and combined all the highly important economic traits to post the highest ratio in the show.

John was awarded \$3,000 by United Missouri Bank, Kansas City, Mo., and shared in \$1,500 "on hoof" premiums and \$2,000 in carcass premiums given by the sponsoring organizations.

The reserve grand champion steer from Julie Tucker was also sired by Botkins Vic 647 589, bred by Reich's and out of a registered dam. He earlier had stood third in his class with a WDA of 2.65 lb. He was 415 days of age, had a carcass weight of 635 lb., a carcass WDA of 1.53 lb., and a \$1.87 retail value per day of age. The special carcass premium of \$2,000 was given by Andy Klein Pontiac, Overland Park, Kan., and Southgate Bank, Prairie Village, Kan. Julie also collected an extra five dollars per hundred weight, given by Lewis Double EE Ranch, Athol, S.D., which extended this offer to all carcasses qualifying for the final rank with a yield grade of 2 or better.

In addition to the special premiums, the two breed associations awarded \$200 and \$125 to the exhibitors of the grand and reserve grand champions, respectively, with the breeders of the steers receiving \$100 and \$75, respectively. All steers had to grade Choice under the grading system to place in the final index.

Placing third on the final index was David Getz, Lee, Ill. His entry, bred by Bickelhaupt Herefords, Mt. Carrol, Ill., was sired by BB Mark Domino 726. This steer

posted a carcass WDA of 1.45 lb. with his 681-pound carcass, giving him a \$1.76 carcass value per day of age.

Ronald Pflum, Connersville, Ind., exhibited the fourth-place entry. This entry was sired by SR Big Arthur M192, bred by Upstream Ranch, Taylor, Neb., and was out of a commercial cow. His carcass weighed 730 lb., yielding a

carcass WDA of 1.37 with a retail value of \$1.70 per day of age.

Officials of the sponsoring Kansas City-based breed associations pointed out that steers qualifying for the final index were young, efficient, and high yielding, reflecting the needs of today's market. These steers yielded an average carcass WDA of 1.30 lb., and based on the current market

prices, the average carcass value per day of age was \$1.57.

Praised by industry leaders, youth agents and registered and commercial breeders as a vehicle to reflect current, realistic industry demand for fed cattle, the Hereford steer show educates and rewards youth for producing steers that are profitable by today's standards.

Pheasants benefit from new Gameland farm management

LEESPORT — Increases in the ringneck pheasant population is the goal of Pennsylvania Game Commission recent decision to improve upland habitat on State Game Lands 280 at Blue Marsh, reports Duane E. Pysher, district conservationist of the U.S. Soil Conservation Service in Berks County.

The Soil Conservation Service is currently cooperating with the Pennsylvania Game Commission to revise the conservation plans at Blue Marsh to reflect these changes in the management scheme. There will be a reduction in the intensity of farming operations as well as increasing the amount of nesting cover. Winter areas also are of prime concern and plans are being made to increase food and cover areas.

A delayed hay cutting season will increase the nesting habitat along with the fact that birds will not be disturbed. Many areas will

not be moved, as they had been previously, to provide more nesting cover.

Field borders of barberry, honeysuckle and other shrubs will be planted adjacent to cropland strips to provide more cover and winter food. Cropland rotations which will benefit wildlife as well as being practical for good agricultural production will be

used.

This cooperative effort of the Pennsylvania Game Commission, the Soil Conservation Service and farmers should increase pheasant population on the Blue Marsh project area. "If it works here it will be followed on other lands owned by the Game Commission" concludes Pysher.

Pa. egg production up

HARRISBURG — October 1981 egg production in Pennsylvania totaled 367 million, according to the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting Service. The October production was two percent above the 361 million eggs produced in October 1980. The October average of 16.7 million layers was one percent above a year ago. Egg production per 100 layers was 2,202 compared

with 2,196 in October 1980.

The nation's laying flocks produced 5.84 billion eggs during October, two percent less than the 5.95 billion produced a year ago. The number of layers on November 1, 1981, totaled 287 million, compared with 293 million a year earlier. Egg production per 100 layers during the month was 2,047, compared with 2,036 a year ago.

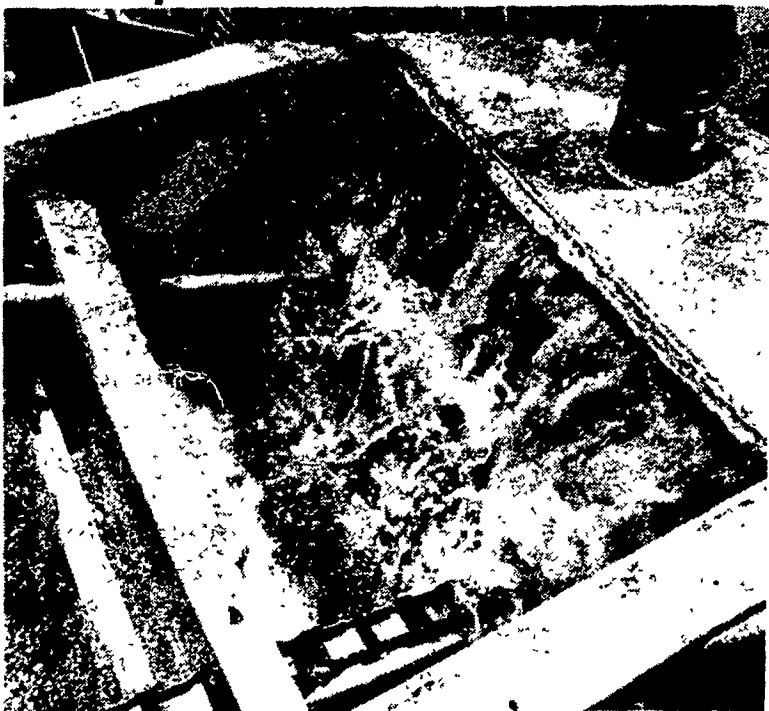
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