

## Bedford Countian tops Lancaster feeder pig show

LANCASTER — Russell E. Kegg, Spotted Hog operator from Bedford County, continued his string of top placings in feeder pig shows with the grand champion pen at the first Lancaster Feeder Pig Show and Sale at the Stockyards Monday night.

The pen of six, which were seven-eighths Spots with a little Yorkshire mixed in, were singled out of the 25 pens in the show by judge Chet Hughes, Lancaster County livestock agent.

"This was one of the most uniform pens in the show," Hughes commented in selecting the grand champion.

"All in all, we have a lot of good project pigs here tonight."

The top Lancaster placing was the fourth grand or reserve championship captured by feeders off Kegg's Rusty Acres Farm, just northwest of Bedford, in the past three years. Other champions were crowned at Shippensburg.

The first-place pen in the medium weights, which went on to the grand championship, were first across the auction block before the bidding audience, which included a number of FFA'ers from Penn Manor, Ephrata, New Holland and Manheim.

Top bids for the grand champion pen, which averaged 53 lbs., ranged from a low of \$58 to a high of \$114 per head, for an average of \$79 for the six.

All of the 150 animals were sold by the head, with top bidders

having their choice from those in the ring.

The reserve champion pen of six was shown by the Strauss Brothers, of Ephrata, Rick, Steve and Bob. Their pen topped the heavyweight division, averaging 63 pounds. Winning bids for the reserve champions ranged from \$60 to \$79 per head, averaging \$68.50 for the six.

Overall, the 150 head comprising the 25 pens of six in the show and sale had an average weight of 50.2 lbs. and the average price per head was \$62.23.

The Rusty Acres farm of Russell Kegg and his wife, Frances, includes some 90 sows in the farrow to finish operation. About one-quarter of the stock is purebred. The Keggs sell off a few feeder pigs per year, primarily at an on-farm sale in April, and then at the shows.

Many of their feeder pigs go to FFA'ers or 4-H'ers for projects. Last year, both the FFA and 4-H Roundup champions in Blair and Huntingdon Counties came off the Kegg operation. In addition, the Keggs' eight-year-old daughter, Ginger, had the champion pair of barrows in open competition at the Bedford County Fair last year.

Two pens of lightweights, shown by Larry Mullen, Banbridge, which captured first and third in that division, were sired by a boar off the Kegg operation.

This initial Feeder Pig Show and Sale was cosponsored by the



Russell Kegg, right, of Bedford, receives trophy for the grand champion pen of feeder pigs at the Lancaster Show and Sale from Bill Fisher, president of the Lancaster County Swine Producers Association. At left are Ed

Prosser, of the McCoy Cattle Co., and Lloyd Hoover, of Walter M. Dunlap and Sons. Show and Sale were cosponsored by the Swine Producers and the Lancaster Livestock Exchange.

Lancaster County Swine Producers Association and the Lancaster Livestock Exchange. A trophy and \$50 went to the champion and a trophy and \$40 to the Reserve Champion entries. Cash awards were also made to the top three placings in each of the three divisions.

Other top winners included: Lightweight Division — Larry Mullen, first; Doug Hancock, second; Larry Mullen, third; Dutch Valley Farms, fourth; and Frank Feaser, fifth.

Middleweight Division — Middle Creek Swine, second; Russell Kegg, third; Indian Run Farm, fourth; and Green Valley Farm, fifth.

Heavyweight Division — Strauss Brothers, second; Middle Creek Swine, third; Dutch Valley Farms, fourth; and Ray Martun, fifth.—DA



Trophy and ribbon for grand champion pen of Feeder pigs at Lancaster Show and Sale is displayed by Russell and Frances Kegg, of Bedford.



Reserve champion trophy at the Lancaster Feeder Pig Show and Sale is presented by Bill Fisher, second from left, president of the Lancaster County Swine Producers Association, to Strauss Brothers, of Ephrata, Rick, Steve and Bob. At left is Lloyd Hoover, of Walter M. Dunlap and Sons.

## Annual Agronomy Field Day coming

### June 25

UNIVERSITY PARK — The 1982 Agronomy Field Day held annually at Penn State's Rock Springs Agricultural Research Centre, 12 miles west of State College on Route 45, is scheduled for Friday, June 25, according to James Starling, Head, Department of Agronomy.

"This year's field day, always a popular event for Pennsylvania farmers, will feature forages and small grains", Starling reports. "All aspects of forage crop production including research on species, varieties and mixtures, fertility, management, no-till establishment, and weed control will be emphasized. In addition to studies on our traditional forage crops, new findings on warm season grasses and brassica crops will also be seen."

Research at the USDA Pasture Research Laboratory will be on display as well as that of the Agronomy Research Farm.

Winter and spring grain research will also receive top billing. This research, spearheaded by the recently formed Interdepartmental Centre For Cereal Research, includes, studies on varieties, disease control, management and weed control.

Farm Superintendent Lynn Hoffman, local host for the day, indicates activities will get underway at 9:30 a.m. with wagon tours to both forage and small grain plots. Tours will be repeated in the afternoon so that visitors will see research on both forages and small grains. All tours should be concluded by 4 p.m.

Penn State and Pasture Lab researchers will be on hand to answer individual questions on forages and small grains, and lunch will be available on site for all those in attendants.

"The Field Day will go on rain or shine", Hoffman concludes. "We'll be prepared to move indoors in the event of bad weather where

scientists will discuss their research findings. Exhibits will also be on display and a handout summarizing the reports of the day will be available for all those attending."

A special feature of the Field Day will be a demonstration of the Penn State Mobil Van involving Near Infrared Reflectance Analysis as a rapid means of analyzing forages for quality components. Visitors are invited to bring along a sample of first cutting hay or hay crop silage for analysis.

"This is also an excellent time for farmers to bring in samples of first cutting hay and hay crop silage for the competitive shows to be held as a part of Ag Progress Days '82," reminds Extension Forage Crop Agronomist John Baylor. "Silage samples should be at least one gallon in size, packaged tightly in a heavy plastic bag, properly identified and frozen. "We'll store these in a deep freezer at Penn State until show time. All silage samples will be analyzed and judged on the basis of both visual and chemical analysis."

First-cutting hay samples should consist of a bale section at least one foot thick. Select early cut, leafy, and green samples relatively free of foreign material including weeds. Properly identified hay samples brought in on June 25 also will be stored until show time in August. Other samples from hay grown in 1981 can be submitted until 10 a.m. Tuesday, August 25, the first day of Ag Progress Days '82.

Entry forms for both hay and silage are available from local county Agricultural agents or from the office of Richard Han, secretary-treasurer, Pennsylvania Forage and Grassland Council, Milton Hershey School Farms, Founders Hall, Hershey, PA 17033.