

Farm technology is displayed

Pasto museum collection reminds visitors to Ag Progress of the tremendous progress that has been made in agricultural technology



Above, Sandy Frey, 10, of Chambersburg looks like a milk maid of yesteryear seated on this peddle-powered 1895 model of a Mehring milking machine. Right, Associate Dean Emeritus, Jerome K. Pasto, worked with enthusiasm in the museum bearing his name. Here, Dean Pasto brings the memories back to life as he demonstrates how this horsepowered treadmill, still in perfect running condition, was used to generate belt.

Tested boars sell to educated buyers at Penn State

BY TRISH WILLIAMS
UNIVERSITY PARK — Dr. Paul Wangness, head of Penn State's Dairy and Animal Science Department, greeted buyers and spectators to Pennsylvania's 6th Performance Tested Boar Sale, Wednesday evening. The outdoor sale held at the Pa. Department of Agriculture's Meat Animal Evaluation Center, was graced with beautiful weather. The sale was sponsored by the Pa. Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with Penn State University and the Pennsylvania Pork Producers Council.

In his salutations, Wangness said, that every businessman in pork production is looking for some advantage to help their program. He said, "We hope that buying a performance tested boar will give you that advantage."

Before the sale began Elwood Houser, president of the Pa. Pork Producers Council, with assistance from the audience, drew the names of four winners to receive \$100 each against the purchase of any of the boars sold that evening. The four winning names drawn from the barrel were, Glen Tothrow, Dennis Cooper, Dwayne Aurand, and Leon St. Clair.

With blue skies jutting through the skeletal-like structure of the Ag Arena under construction in the background, auctioneer Harry Bachman, joked with the spectators to run for it's cover in case of rain. But it couldn't have been a more pleasant evening for the event, as 47 boars from 18 breeders sold while the sun, setting behind Beaver Stadium, slowly dimmed to darkness as the sale ended.

All the boars sold were performance tested on the same criteria. All the boars were fed for rapid growth under test conditions. The boars were five to seven months of age.

Requirements of the sale stipulated that all boars sold must have an index of 90 or more points, a soundness score of 2 or more, and an underline score of 2 or more.

The average boar of this group was indexed at 100 points. If a boar is indexed at 120 points, it is considered to be 20 percent better than the average boar tested.

Scoring was done by a committee of three, as boars came off test, according to the National Swine Improvement federation recommendations, using a range of 1 to 3, with 3 being ideal. Boars were rescored by the sale committee prior to the sale.

Since coming off test, boars were fed 4.5 pounds of feed on the floor daily and allowed to run on a runway beside other boars, to increase their aggressiveness, sexual maturity, hardiness, soundness, and desire to breed.

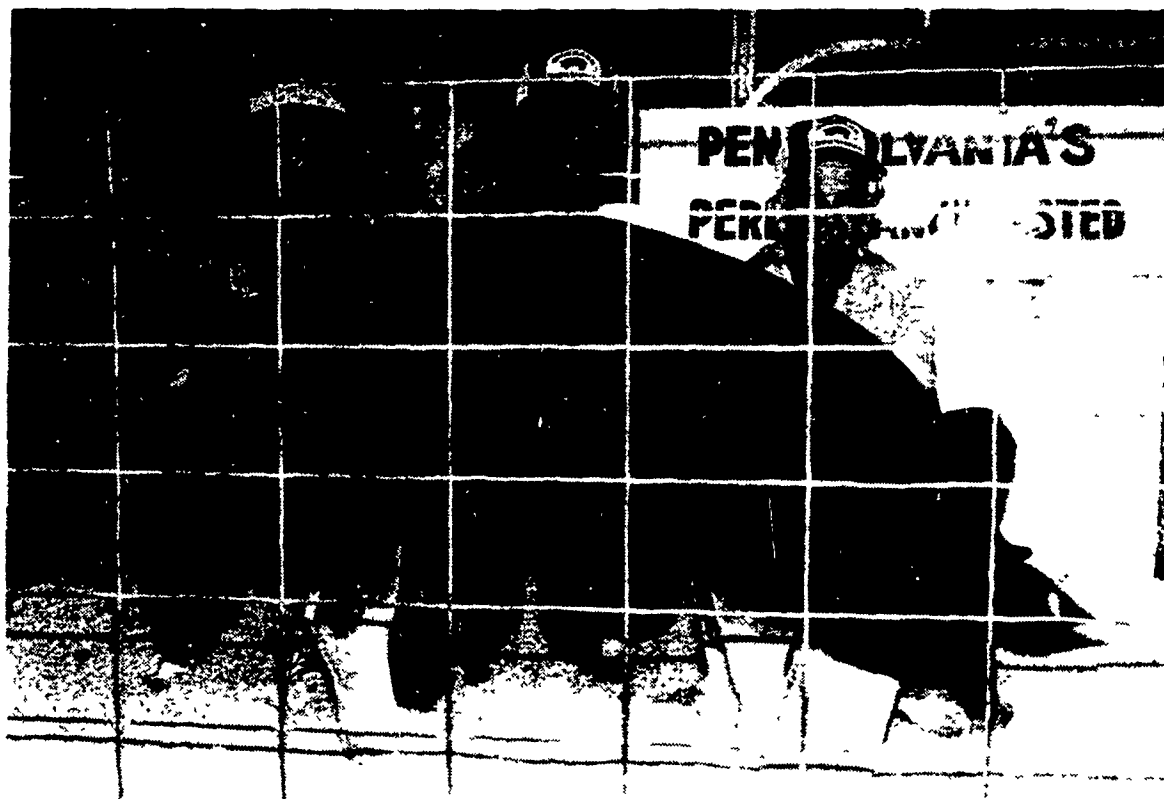
Listed in the accompanying table are the more critical values of the 10 selling boars in the sale. Buyers were given additional data for each of the boars, including, starting weight, number of litter mates, gain ratio, fat ratio, loin eye and lean cut percentage.

Top selling boar in the sale was a Yorkshire consigned by Miller's Yorkshire Farm of Spring Grove. The boar indexed at 129, with a daily of 2.36 pounds sold for \$1050 to Hillside Acres, Lenhartsville.

After all the figures were tallied, Bob Kimble, manager of the Meat Evaluation Center, had a good sale report to give, with a sale average of \$506.81 for the 44 head sold, and a sale total of \$22,300.

Two Berkshire boars sold for an average of \$450. Eight Hampshires

sold for an average of \$637.50. Five Landrace boars sold for an average of \$460. Sixteen Yorkshire boars sold for an average of \$535.93. Thirteen Durocs sold for an average of \$417.30.



The number one selling boar in the performance Tested Boar Sale, was this Berkshire, consigned by Clayton Winebark, on the right. The boar was purchased by J. Richard Townsend of Fayette County to upgrade his commercial pork breeding program. Debbie and Shelly Townsend also pictured, will use the boar to breed gilts this fall to farrow in February and March for showing pigs in next year's Fayette County Fair.

Top Ten Selling Boars											
* Designates % above or below average and 100 is average											
Breeder	Sale Price (\$)	Breed	Sire	Final Wt.	Daily Gain	Days to 230	Feed Eff. Ratio	*Fat Ratio	Soundness	Underline	Boar Index
1. Miller's Yorkshire Farm	1050	Yorkshire	TPFI BIG 25-13	244	2.36	141	106	105	2	2	129
2. Penn State Univ.	900	Duroc	ID KING 18-8	266	2.48	129	104	124	2	2	140
3. Hilltop View Farms	875	Hampshire	Grover 12-8	252	2.34	145	99	134	2	3	125
4. Lake's Land & Hamp Farm	825	Hampshire	Mighty Muffin	250	2.22	148	102	113	2	2	116
5. Lake's Land & Hamp Farm	775	Hampshire	Mighty Muffin	230	2.08	158	102	124	2	2	112
6. Par-Kay Farm	700	Yorkshire	RTB9 Westpit King David 170-4	250	2.60	142	101	99	2	2	130
7. Harper's Valley Farm	700	Landrace	Lam9 Erore 1-12	255	2.32	135	106	115	2	2	130
8. Hilltop View Farm	675	Hampshire	Grover 12-8	252	2.34	145	99	134	2	3	125
9. Brooks End Farm	650	Yorkshire	RTB1 Accent 18-14	273	2.41	153	103	111	2	3	125