

Sheep sale hits high mark

BY ROBIN PHILLIPS
Staff Correspondent

READING — Members of the Berks County 4-H Sheep and Lamb Club and their parents and leaders were ecstatic. This marked the first year that they changed the site of their annual market lamb sale to coincide with the Reading Fair, held this past week.

Everyone had been worried that the buyers would not follow them to the fair, but after the sale with the average price on 38 lambs ending at an all time high of \$1.15 per pound, they were all congratulating themselves on the move.

The first lamb into the ring was 109 pound grand champion market lamb show by Fred Bube, R1 Robesonia. When the bidding stopped and the dust settled on the many buyers nodding for this champion, spectators and sheep breeders applauded the final bid of \$7.50 per pound.

Winner of the first round of bidding was Muthards Meat Market, Temple, with the contender representing Weavers Farm Market. Receiving over \$900 for his prize lamb, Fred Bube was proud of this record-breaking bid.

The comment, "if only the price holds up," was forgotten as the reserve grand champion shown by Marianne Yanos, R2 Douglassville, was sold for \$3.30 per pound on the final bid of the Farm Bureau of Souderton. Next into the ring came the grand champion pair exhibited by Gwen Perry. Totalling a combined weight of 207 pounds, the pair sold for \$1.55 per pound to the Lebanon Valley National Bank, Schaefferstown.

"There are all fabulous prices compared to last year," Mrs. Eshelman, the sale clerk, said as six more lambs went over \$1.00 a pound and a total of 26 lambs

brought more than 80 cents a pound for their young owners.

Last year's sale, held at a local auction, averaged 72 cents on 41 animals with the high lamb going for \$2.60 a pound. This was the first year the sale was scheduled in conjunction with the Reading Fair Sheep show and Market Lamb show, with the sale being held the last day of the fair.

Taking the lead from Lehigh County where 4-H members had good success with this type of arrangement, the Berks County Sheep and Lamb Club was looking for something that would be easier for the youths. More simple because they could combine their annual roundup with the fair show and would not need another show. The parents and leaders also wanted to help promote their product at the fair and give businessmen and the public a chance to buy lambs for butchering.

The Berks County Sheep club members arranged to have trucking, free of charge, to their buyers' markets. A buyback for businesses who did not want to

keep their lambs was also arranged with the business responsible for paying the balance to the 4-H club.

"The kids worked hard," said Susan Eshelman, clerk and mother of one of the members. Stating that everyone was worried for weeks about this change of sites, she was relieved with the huge success of the sale. "We surpassed last year That's all I care," she said.

"I think it was really great," said Marianne Yanos, president of the sheep club when she thanked the buyers, the leaders, and all the parents who helped to make the sale such a success.

John H. Fry, Ephrata, auctioneer with H.H. Leid Auction Service, donated his services as auctioneer for the youths as 36 area businesses and private individuals competed for the lambs. A free lamb barbeque, courtesy of the Sheep Club was available to anyone attending the sale.

After concluding the sale with the 4-H pledge by the Sheep Club members, Marianne said, "next year, it can be the second annual "



Top selling lamb owned by Fred Bube, R1 Robesonia, broke all records as the 109 pounder sold for \$7.50 a pound on the final bid of Muthards Meat Market, Temple, at the Market Lamb Sale at the Reading Fairgrounds, Saturday.

Dairy showmen, fitters awarded

BY ROBIN PHILLIPS
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READING — The Showing and Fitting Contest of the 1983 Reading Fair Dairy Show featured two first time winners.

Taking the top honor of grand champion showman was Kevin Sattazahn, R1 Womelsdorf. Noting this was the first time he was chosen grand champion, Kevin said that his Holstein, "Ann," always leads better at this fair. The 20-year-old showman was also awarded a show halter donated by

Atlantic Breeders Cooperative.

Grand champion fitter went to Scott Troutman, R1 Myerstown, who said he was surprised that he was selected as the best fitter since he had always been successful in garnering the top awards in showmanship.

"He, (the judge) commented that she was clipped up real nice, especially the udder," Scott said.

Judging the event was N. Allen Bair, Columbia, who is the Member Relations man for

Atlantic Breeders Cooperative. Particularly critical on those that overshadowed their animals, he stressed proper show clothes, control of the animal and a good clip job.

Reserve honors in Showmanship went to Steve Rohrbach, Shoemakersville. Becky Snyder, R1, Oley, was selected as the Reserve Champion Fitter.

Other class winners were as follows:
Ages 15 and over Showmanship

- Kevin Sattazahn, Clark Sattazahn and Susan Troutman; Fitting - Scott Troutman, William Leshy and Jay Bicksler

Ages 12 to 14: Showmanship - Steve Rohrbach, Susan Hollenbach and Doris Stump; Fitting - Tracey Schlappich, Tamara Miller and Gary Bicksler

Ages 9 to 11: Showmanship - Kirk Sattazahn, Betsy Wagner and Michael Davis; Fitting - Becky Snyder, Brian Richard and Keith Schlegel

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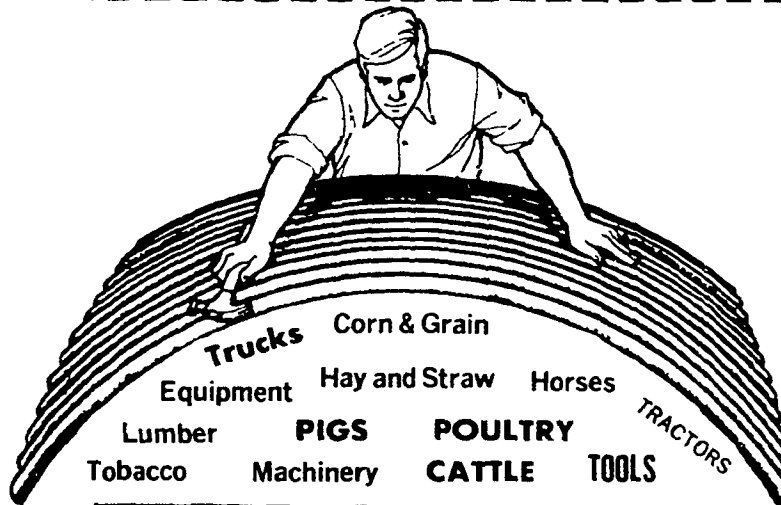
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