

Livestock Ledger



By

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Extension Livestock Specialist

Recent new outbreaks of pseudorabies in Pennsylvania have prompted many producers to seek information on prevention and control of this virus infection.

To decrease the chance of your swine herd contracting pseudorabies, it is essential to review and practice a few simple guidelines.

First, buy all herd additions from Qualified Pseudorabies Free herds or have the animals tested prior to purchase. For feeder pigs of unknown status, you should test five to fifteen percent of the pigs to see if they are free of pseudorabies. New breeding stock should be isolated for thirty days and retested after isolation.

Unauthorized people should not be allowed into swine units. Posting signs and locking doors may be required to keep unauthorized people out. Authorized persons should use disinfectants and foot baths, disposable clothing or shower before going into a unit.

When marketing hogs it is best to consider that all stockyards, buying stations, packing plants and trucks have the pseudorabies virus present. Pigs should not be allowed to run on and off trucks while being sorted. Feeder pigs and breeding stock should be hauled in clean disinfected trucks, only.

Stray animals may carry the virus so it is important that they be controlled. Cats, dogs, rodents and wildlife should be prevented from entering hog facilities. Furthermore rodent and wildlife populations should be controlled to limit their effect in spreading diseases. Dead animals should be disposed of promptly.

If a questionable health problem exists, call your veterinarian to get help. Simply burying your head in the sand will not help to control pseudorabies. Control will require a cooperative effort of all people involved in the swine industry including the producer and the agri-businessmen who work with swine producers.

Spring snow dampens

W. Va. bull sale

Deborah Stiles-Renzi
WARDENSVILLE, WV — An unusually severe spring snowstorm created a buyer's market at the 17th annual Performance Tested All Breed Bull Sale in Wardensville, West Virginia, on March 29th.

At the conclusion of the daylong sale 131 head had been sold for \$117,995.00, averaging \$900.73 per bull. Individual breed price averages were as follows (with the number of head of each breed following in parentheses): Charolais, \$1440.67 (15 head); Limousin, \$1050.00 (1); Polled Hereford, \$870.45 (11); Simmental, \$859.84 (30); Angus, \$789.40 (75); and Gelbvieh, \$760.00 (1).

The top bull on the test garnered top dollar as well: Lot no. 313, a Jr. Charolais, was purchased by Lawrence Kroner for Sire Power of Tunkhannock, Pennsylvania, for \$4200.00, the day's best price. Consigned by John W. Stump of Street, Maryland, JS Enterprise 311, the top indexing Charolais, had a final weight of 1487 pounds and a 4.51 average daily gain, the highest ADG of all bulls tested this year. This, combined with a frame score of 7.9+ earned the Lot no. 313 Charolais an index of 126, the

highest overall index of the test. A Jr. Angus bull with a 122 index rated second overall for the test with a 4.48 ADG and 5.8 frame score; Lot no. 4 sold for \$2100.00. But the top Angus price, \$2500.00, was paid for Lot no. 50, Mr. Dev-Angus DV 8316, with a 108 index and a 3.68 ADG. Likewise, the top indexing Simmental brought \$1350.00 while high price for the breed was \$1400.00.

Charolais and Hereford breed animals fared similarly in that the top indexing bull of each breed commanded the best price. K Victor 731-444, consigned by Knights Polled Hereford Farm of Parsons, West Virginia, sold for the breed price high of \$1150.00. The Sr. Polled Hereford bull finished the test weighing 1,432 pounds with an ADG of 3.83.

Dr. Wayne R. Wagner, West Virginia University Extension

Livestock Specialist, noted buyer attendance was down considerably from last year.

"We had approximately 150 buyers here today and 131 head to sell," Wagner stated, "so there was about one buyer for every bull available. Last year, instead of a one-to-one ratio, the buyer-to-bull ratio was about two-to-two, which resulted in much better prices."

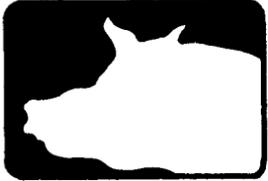
"When prices are high," Wagner continued, "I feel for the buyer. But today I feel for the consigners; it cost them roughly \$550.00 just from the time their animals entered the test until they're sold, on top of what it took to originally produce that bull."

Dr. Wagner did not wish to make any predictions, but said he hoped the weather would cooperate so that buyer attendance would be greater at the Southern Bull Test Sale in Lewisburg April 7th.

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At \$4,200, with an index of 126, JS Enterprise 311, a Charolais purchased by Sire Power of Tunkhannock, Pa., was high-indexing and high-selling bull at the Wardensville sale.



The top-indexing Simmental at the 17th Annual Performance Tested All Breed Bull Sale in Wardensville, Va., sold for \$1,350.00.

American Simmental Assoc. announces trustees



The American Simmental Association Board of Trustees was formally seated during ASA's 1984 Annual Convention held recently in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Left to right, front row: Dr. Hugh Karsteter, President-Elect, Cushing, Oklahoma; John Hewes, Woodville, Mississippi; Richard Tetherow, President, Valentine, Nebraska; Ellie Thomas Larson, Mt. Horeb, Wisconsin; and Edmund Tom, Treasurer, Campbellton, Texas. Second row: Jake Larson, Almont, North Dakota; Lloyd Powell, Bend, Oregon; Henry Fields, Claude, Texas; Steve McDonnell, Three Forks, Montana; Charley Emmons, Olive, Montana; and Jon Callender, Charlotte, Michigan. Third row: A. William Spiry, Legal Counsel, Britton, South Dakota; John Teagarden, LaCygne, Kansas; Tom Stevenson, Sherwood, Maryland; Jim Walthall, Windsor, Missouri; Norm Hayes, Cody, Wyoming; Jim Mitchell, Paris, Kentucky; and Earl B. Peterson, Executive Vice President, Bozeman, Montana.

Louisville to host Junior Shorthorn event

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The Kentucky Fair & Exposition Center in Louisville will be the site of the 1984 National Junior Shorthorn Heifer Show, and the National Shorthorn Youth Conference scheduled for July 14 to 18. Activities are planned for cattle producer of all ages.

The show and youth conference are being sponsored by the American Junior Shorthorn Association (AJSA), the American Shorthorn Association (A.S.A.), the Kentucky Shorthorn Association, and various cattlemen, affiliated associations and businesses. Serving as a highlight of activities for the AJSA, this

show never fails to draw the finest Shorthorn/Polled Shorthorn females from across the continent. Several heifers shown in this annual summer classic are selected as champions in state and national exhibitions in the remaining summer, fall, and winter shows.

The National Shorthorn Youth Conference has always been a motivational meeting for those youth and parents in attendance. Serving as the annual meeting of the AJSA, two delegates representing each state and Canadian province junior association will participate in the business conducted by the AJSA