

Livestock Ledger

By

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Meat has been the major dietary component for the human race throughout recorded history. The Biblical reference to use a "fatted calf" as the main entree of the feast celebrating the return of the Prodigal Son is an early documentation of the contribution of this muscle food to civilization. Efficient production of ruminants such as cattle has permitted countries such as the United States to provide their citizens the best diet in the world.

Why then are there some people who assume that it is more economical to feed cereal grains to humans than to cattle which produce beef? These misinformed folks fail to recognize that approximately 86 percent of a market steer's diet consists of roughages and milk from the beef cow. In fact, the ruminant animal is one of the most efficient sources for the conversion of otherwise wasted land into human food.

The beef animal is a highly efficient mini-solar condensing factory that converts solar energy and low fertility soil to a nutrient dense food. The approximately 14% of the diet of a typical market

steer which is cereal grain and other concentrates yields essentially the same amount of usable nutrients after being fed to the animal as if it was fed to humans. The beef animal upgrades the utilization value of these grains and condenses their nutritive value.

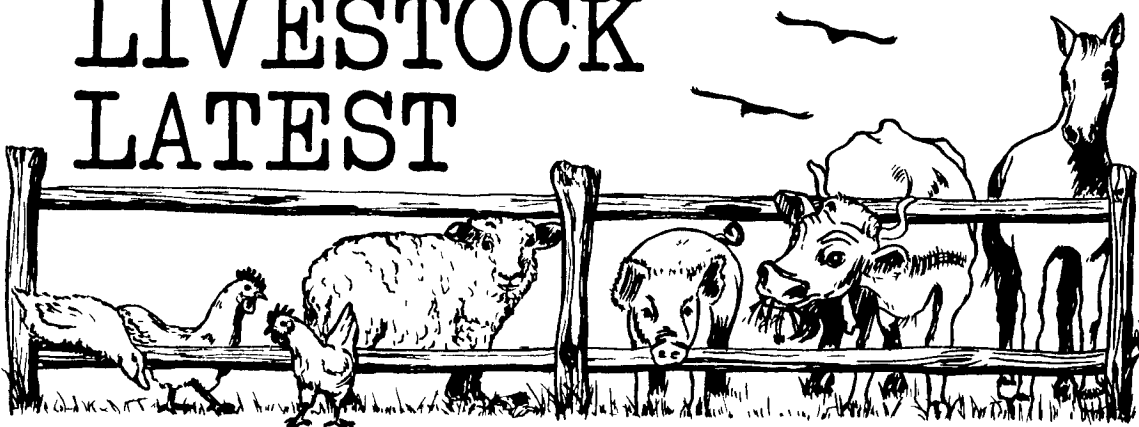
Another consumer concern in regards to beef is price at the meat counter. When putting this issue into perspective it is obvious that beef is a good buy. Consider these grocery store products when compared on a price per pound basis:

Item	Price/lb.
Cheese Puffs	\$11.87
Corn Chips	10.90
Cashews	5.46
Peanuts	3.47
Round Steak	2.99
Wheat Squares	2.11
Asparagus	1.90
Peanut Butter	1.62
Blade Steak	1.59
Ground Beef	1.29

Guess what? Consumers really can afford to buy good, nutritious beef!

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LIVESTOCK LATEST



Prices up at Pa. Shorthorn and Polled Shorthorn sale

BY BARBARA RADER
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MERCER - High selling animal at the Pa. Shorthorn and Polled Shorthorn Spring Sale was Tuscarora Chief X, consigned by B&O Tuscarora Shorthorns, of Neelytown, and purchased by Walter K. Johnson, New Kensington, for \$750. The red polled bull's sire was Scotsdale Manix X, one of the top Canadian sires.

Sale prices averaged higher than last year at this spring event held at the Mercer 4-H Park on Saturday, May 5. The sale's 26

head averaged \$484, with five bulls averaging \$650, and 21 heifers bringing a \$445 average.

Second high seller and top selling female was Mapleview Fancy Bryn 80X, going to W.T. McCarty, Sandy Lake, for \$575. This cow-calf pair was consigned by Richard Peoples, of Volant. The November, 1980 cow's sire was Albo X, with her bull calf sired by Green Ridge Willie M515.

Mrs. Harry Foulk, Mercer, was the volume buyer of three head, with two of her purchases originally in the Pa. Junior's raffle

held during the sale. At \$570 each, this pair of heifers were the sale's second highest selling females. Consigned by Richard Peoples, Maplewood Fancy Penny 83, and Mapleview Waneta 21, were sired by Green Ridge Willie M515, and Mapleview Major AX, respectively.

Junior Pa. Shorthorn members sold well over 600 tickets for the raffle of a heifer donated by the Richard Peoples family to benefit the Keystone State delegates going to the National Shorthorn Youth Conference in Louisville, Kentucky on July 14 to 18.

Four heifers were on display, with the winner having his choice of the animals. Holding the winning ticket was Rosemary McDivitt, of Saltsburg, who chose Mapleview CW 83.

The heifer will be added to the family's herd of eight animals purchased beginning with last year's sale.

Richard Peoples and George Hunter, Stoneboro, were the sale's managers, with Grove City residents Lloyd Braham serving as auctioneer, and Don Braham acting as ringman.

Clerking the sale was Pa. association secretary-treasurer, Kathy Allen, along with Sheila Peoples, Volant, Carol Saulen, Holliston, Mass., and Liz McFeely, of Mercer.



Top selling animal at the Pa. Shorthorn and Polled Shorthorn Spring Sale was Tuscarora Chief X. The December, 1982 bull was bred and owned by Tuscarora Shorthorns, Neelytown. At halter is owner/consignor James Fogal, with Don Braham (left).

'Standing room only' crowd attends NY Bull Test Sale

ITHACA, NY — A Charolais bull consigned by Steven Guernsey of Cobleskill topped the New York Bull Test Sale on May 4, with Walter Babbitt of Wellsville offering the high bid of \$2,075. A son of Flying M Jason 136, this Charolais consignment was one of four bulls in the sale to be certified "superior" and had an average daily gain of 3.91 pounds.

The second highest selling bull in the sale was a Shorthorn consigned by Stony Brook Farms of Locke. This bull, a son of Stony Brook Improver 8106, also attained "superior" status and was the highest gaining British bull on test with an average daily gain of 4.13 pounds. The buyer at \$1,825 was Chester Poplaski of Newark.

A standing room crowd only was on hand for the fast paced sale at the Livestock Pavilion on the Cornell campus. The 46 bulls grossed \$50,100 for a sale average of \$1,089.

The three Charolais bulls grossed \$4,900 for a sale average of \$1,633 and the three Shorthorn bulls grossed \$4,050 for a sale average of \$1,350.

The seven Simmentals grossed \$7,955 for a sale average of \$1,135. The top selling Simmental bull was a RCF Sir Duke Signal 3A son with an average daily gain of 4.04 pounds consigned by Jo Ann Srebnik of New City, NY. The buyer of this "superior" designated bull at \$1,550, was

Hickory Spring Farm of Amsterdam.

The 17 Polled Herefords grossed \$17,625 for a sale average of \$1,030. The top selling Polled Hereford was a BT Cl. Domino 15G son consigned by Overlook Farm of Little Falls and Misty Mountain Farm of Wallingford Vt. The buyer at \$1,650 was South Wind Farm (Bruce DeForest) of Otego.

The 14 Angus grossed \$13,575 for a sale average of \$969. The top selling Angus bull was a Rosebank Connection 69 son consigned by Thorndale Farm of Millbrook. The buyer of this highest indexing Angus bull on test was Wilcox Angus Farm of Falconer, at a price of \$1,600.

A steady market was reported for the two Red Angus bulls that grossed \$2,000 for a sale average of \$1,000. The consignors were Sunrise Farms of Auburn, and

Kenneth Marquis of Ithaca, and the buyers were Lester Fanton of Wellsville, and Maurice Cairns of Angelica.

The sale concluded the 1983-84 Bull Test program which had 102 bulls enrolled by breeders from nine states. The 140 performance testing program was conducted at Cornell University's Livestock Teaching and Research Center at Harford. Only those bulls that met strict certification standards were eligible for the Bull Test Sale. William Greene, Bull Test Director, in the pre-sale remarks noted that five of the bulls in the sale were sons of previous New York Performance Test bulls.

The New York Bull Test and Sale are jointly sponsored by Cornell University, Cooperative Extension, the New York Beef Cattlemen's Association, and the State Department of Ag & Markets.

Maryland maintains poultry exhibit ban for summer

The prohibition on bird exhibitions will not be lifted for the 1984 show season according to Dr. Ralph Knowles of the Maryland Department of Agriculture, Office of Animal Health and Consumer Services.

"We know this will disappoint a lot of folks, exhibitors and fans alike," says Knowles, "but the risks are just too great".

Maryland has not escaped the effects of the disease that has created economic havoc in Pennsylvania and Virginia. Sixty thousand birds were depopulated on one farm in Cecil County and portions of the county were quarantined for 59 days. That quarantine was lifted on April 6th and the farm was repopulated. To

date, no further problems have developed.

The severity of the epidemic is on the decline in Pennsylvania as well. State and Federal agricultural officials are optimistic that the disease has been brought under control and, that in the near future, will have been cleaned up entirely.

"But until such time and until we can be sure that all dangers of reinfection are past, we must continue to be on guard and exercise every precaution to avoid contributing to other outbreaks," Knowles concluded.

Likewise, spokesmen for the Pa. Department of Agriculture foresee no change in the poultry exhibition ban here in Pennsylvania for the summer.



Rosemary McDivitt of Saltsburg shows her shorthorn heifer won in a raffle to benefit Pa. Junior Shorthorn Association members. More than 600 raffle tickets were sold for the heifer donated by the Richard Peoples family of Volant.

Pa. Charolais Assoc. to hold field day

MCVEYTOWN — The Pennsylvania Charolais Association is sponsoring a field day at Bratton Charolais Farm in McVeytown, on

Saturday, July 7. Activities are planned for the entire day, with the Junior Heifer and Steer Show beginning at 9 a.m.