

Sheep owners should get ready for shearing

NEWARK, Del. — Now's the time for sheep owners to prepare to shear their flocks. "All too often, people wait until the last minute to contact a shearer," says University of Delaware extension agricultural agent Richard Braczewski. "As a result, their sheep aren't shorn until after the annual wool pool, which means they could have difficulty finding buyers for their wool."

Braczewski suggests producers arrange now for a late April or early May shearing date.

"Producer and shearer have certain responsibilities to each other," the agent says. To make it easier for shearers, he suggests

shepherds take the following steps:

- Be prepared. Have the shearing area ready before the shearer gets there.

- Pen the sheep ahead of time. Don't expect the shearer to chase them.

- Make sure the animals are dry. "There's nothing more frustrating to a shearer than driving out to a farm expecting to do a job that can't even be started," Braczewski says.

- Be prepared to roll and tie the fleeces. Generally there's enough time to do this before catching another sheep for the shearer. Be sure to use paper twine only.

- Keep the work area clean. The best surface for shearing is wood. Have a broom handy to sweep away tags and dirt so clean fleeces won't be contaminated.

- Don't expect to trim feet and deworm animals while they're being shorn. Shearers usually don't mind if these procedures are completed before or after shearing, provided there are enough lambs to keep things

moving smoothly while they work.

In return for this cooperation, the shearer should do a clean, smooth job; removing all the wool (including wool on heads and legs) without excessively nicking or cutting the sheep and without second cuts to fleeces. The shearer should also keep each fleece in one piece, and treat animals gently.

Shearers generally carry 100 feet of extension cord for use with electric shears, Braczewski says.

Some also carry a supply of paper twine, but check ahead of time. The producer may need to provide this.

Shearing prices vary depending on the number of sheep to be shorn and travel distance to the farm. With only one or two animals, the price could be as high as \$20 a head. Usually, the bigger the flock, the lower the price.

B&B to hold 'Top of Class' lamb sale

MANHEIM — Young livestock exhibitors will have a new opportunity to purchase project lambs when B&B Livestock of Danville, Ohio, stages its first annual market lamb sale at the Manheim Fairgrounds on April 26.

A major show contender throughout the East and Midwest, B&B bred the 1984 Farm Show champion market lamb, as well as the 1985 reserve champion.

Approximately 65 market lambs will be offered, including Suffolks, Hampshires, black-faced crosses and Dorsets. All lambs will be castrated and vaccinated, and will weigh between 50 and 70 pounds.

Lambs will be penned, numbered, and weighed by 4 p.m. on Friday and will be available for inspection by prospective buyers. The Manheim Fairgrounds is located near the high school in Manheim, off Route 72 and within easy reach of the turnpike. The sale will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

In addition to market lambs, 10 registered ewe lambs will be offered, including consignments from Turtle Mead Farm, Sinking Springs; Nix Besser Farm, Narvon; and B&B Livestock.

For further information, contact Christian Herr, 717-783-3193 (days) or 657-8147 (evenings).

HARRISBURG — Prices held up well throughout this year's Angus On Parade Sale, according to Pennsylvania Angus Association secretary, Chet Hughes. Held at the Farm Show Complex last Saturday, the event's average price was \$1,215 for the 48 lots sold.

The sale's top female was Eberlys Black Lucie H29, a March, 1985 Pine Drive daughter owned by Glenn Eberly, director of the Meat Animal Evaluation Center in State College. She was purchased by Kennley Conner of Buffalo, Kentucky, for \$3,800.

The sale's number-two heifer was a New Yorker daughter consigned by Frank Walton of Fox Hill Farm, Kennett Square. Fox Hill Jestress Gal T18 went to Harry Bachman of The Colonel's Angus, Annville, for \$2,300.

A Glenn Eberly consignment also topped the bred heifers, a new

category in this year's sale. GDE Queen Lassie GD5, a Pine Drive daughter, sold to Herr Angus of Nottingham for \$1,550. She was sold with her calf at side, sired by Gunston Tall Texan.

Herr Angus sold the top cow, a Power Play daughter named Grist Mill Mistress. She went to Fox Fire Farm of Avella, for the top bid of \$1,650.

The sale's only embryo was consigned by Jim Eisenhour of

Cedar Hill Angus, Wellsville. Sired by Waldeck Shocker and out of Garney Annabelle 4108, the calf is due in September. The embryo sold to T&J Farms, Dover, for \$1,850.

The sale's top bull was Extension, owned by Hughes Angus of Lancaster. The February, 1985 son of Premier Celebration went to Kent Willauer of Quakertown for \$1,150.

Total dollar volume was \$58,310 for the fifth annual sale.

Nat'l Junior Angus Show set for July

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. — The date is July 14 to 18, the place is Springfield, Illinois and the event is the 18th National Junior Angus Show and Showmanship Contest.

This largest junior beef breed show in the country is where over 600 head of Angus cattle will converge at the Illinois state fairgrounds to compete for the top honor of grand champion.

Every exhibitor at the national show must be a junior, regular or life member of the American Angus Association, and be nine-years-old by Jan. 1, 1986 and not yet 21 years of age by that date.

For more information and entry blanks, contact the Junior Activities Department of the American Angus Association, 3201 Frederick Blvd., St. Joseph, Missouri 64501.

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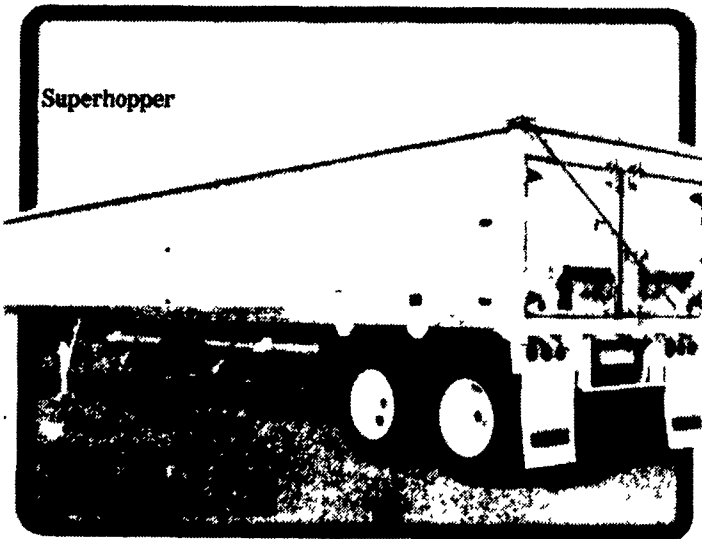
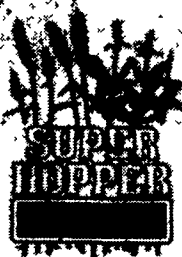
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