

Lancaster, York Top Southeast Livestock Judging Contest

BY JACK HUBLEY
MANHEIM — A traditionally strong Lancaster County team topped both junior and senior divisions at the Southeast Regional 4-H Livestock Judging Contest held at the Manheim Farm Show grounds on Tuesday. This year's contest saw 70 4-H'ers from six southeastern counties competing for top honors.

The day's top scoring individual in overall competition was Lancaster County's Emily Weaver, with York County's Sonja Shearer earning the same title in the junior contest.

This marks the final year of 4-H livestock judging for 18-year-old Emily Weaver, who took top honors at this contest in the junior division two years ago. The daughter of Roy and Carol Weaver of Ephrata, Emily also placed first in beef judging, and second in sheep judging.

Weaver said that her team has been practicing since late May for the judging season. Team members travel to farms in Lancaster and Chester Counties to practice

judging beef, sheep and swine once a week. Weaver, herself, prefers judging either beef or sheep. "The swine are the hardest because they're (judging criteria) constantly changing," she says.

Thirteen-year-old Sonja Shearer was high scorer overall in junior competition. The daughter of Terry and Gabriele Shearer, of Abbottstown, Sonja owns one heifer, two breeding sheep, five market lambs and four pigs, which she keeps on a nearby farm. In addition to taking high overall honors, she also topped the junior swine judging contest and was a member of the second-place junior team.

Judging teams from across the state will have the chance to test their skills in state competition at 4-H Achievement Days to be held at Penn State University on Aug. 4 to 6. The top state team will then go on to the national contest held in conjunction with the North American International Livestock Expo in Louisville, Kentucky.

Following are the complete results of Tuesday's competition.

4-H LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST SENIOR DIVISION

Beef
 1 Emily Weaver Lancaster, 2 Fred Weaver, Lancaster 3 Melissa Trostle York

Sheep
 1 Joe Garber, Lancaster 2 Emily Weaver Lancaster 3 Melissa Trostle York

Swine
 1 Tim Ferrence, York, 2 John Eaton York 3 Jeff Craig, Lancaster

Oral Reasons
 1 Tim Ferrence, York, 2 Melissa Trostle, York 3 John Eaton York

Overall Individual
 1 Emily Weaver, Lancaster, 2 Tim Ferrence York 3 Krista Rankin, York

Senior Teams
1st Lancaster
 1 Emily Weaver 2 John Hess 3 Jeff Craig

2nd York
 1 Tim Ferrence, 2 Melissa Trostle 3 Krista Rankin

3rd Lebanon
 1 Matt Bushong, 2 Daryl Grumbine, 3 Allen Auman

JUNIOR DIVISION
Beef
 1 Leah Byers Cumberland 2 Bryan Kreider Lebanon 3 Daryl Bomgardner Lebanon

Sheep
 1 Chris Miller Lancaster, 2 Michael Cornman Cumberland, 3 Daryl Bomgardner Lebanon

Swine
 1 Sonja Shearer York, 2 Anita Meck Lancaster 3 Robin Shive York

Overall Individual
 1 Sonja Shearer York 2 Anita Meck Lancaster 3 Leah Byers, Cumberland

Junior Teams
1st Lancaster
 1 Anita Meck 2 Chris Miller 3 Elizabeth Hess

2nd York
 1 Sonja Shearer, 2 Bradley Trowbridge 3 Amy Dutrey

3rd Lebanon
 1 Jason Krall 2 Daryl Bomgardner 3 Bryan Kreider

4th Cumberland
 1 Leah Byers, 2 Michael Cornman 3 Troy Waggoner

5th Berks
 1 Valerie Hunter, 2 Paula Hunter, 3 Amy Eshelman



Winners in individual species judging were (back row, left, juniors) Sonja Shearer, swine; Chris Miller, sheep; Leah Byers, beef; (front row, seniors) Joe Garber, sheep; Tim Ferrence, swine; Emily Weaver, beef.



Lancaster County fielded winning teams in both junior and senior divisions. Junior team members are (back row, left) Chris Miller, Mount Joy; Elizabeth Hess, Manheim; Anita Meck, Refton. Senior team members are (left) Jeff Craig, Quarryville; Emily Weaver, Ephrata; John Hess, Manheim.

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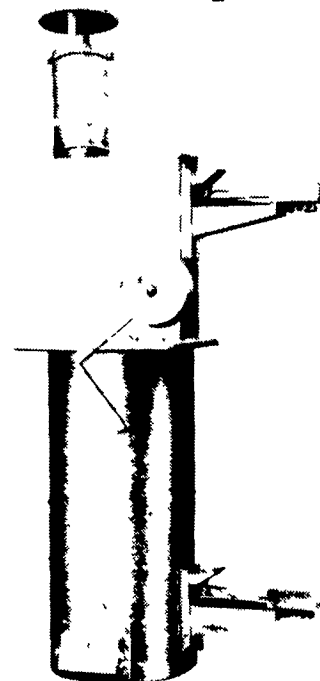
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