

Durocs Top Penn State Performance Tested Boar Sale

BY MARY MAXWELL
Centre Co. Correspondent

UNIVERSITY PARK — Duroc boars earned the highest indexes and brought the highest prices at the Performance Tested Boar Sale at the Penn State Ag Arena last

week.

The top boar, consigned by Penn State, sold to Carl and Dennis Cooper, Lenhartsville, for \$1,250. The second highest selling boar, also a Duroc, was consigned by Kenneth Ketterer, Newville, and

sold to Bruce Lemmon, Newburg, for \$1,175.

The two top boars earned indexes of 139 and 138, respectively. The boar performance index ranks an animal with other test animals, regardless of breed. This ranking is based on average daily gain on test, the feed efficiency of the pen (four boars by one sire from one owner), and an ultrasonic scan of back fat. The index of 139 earned by this year's top boar means he is 39 percent better than the average boar tested.

The boars were scored for soundness and underline by a committee, which used a scale recommended by the National Swine Improvement Federation.

The Coopers also bought three other boars for their farrow-to-finish operation near Allentown.

"We're regular buyers here at the Performance Test Sale," reported Dennis Cooper who is in partnership with his brother, Carl, and father, Lloyd. "Last year we also bought the top-indexing boar and we like boars from the Penn State testing station for use in our 300-sow commercial operation."

The sale totaled \$21,550 for the 38 performance tested boars. The 16 Durocs sold for \$10,525 with an average price of \$658. The 15 Yorkshires totaled \$7,775 and



Carl, (left) Dennis Jr., and Dennis Cooper of Hillside Acres, Lenhartsville, took home the top-selling boar. Consigned by Penn State, the Duroc earned highest test index.

averaged \$518. Three Hampshires sold for a total of \$1,425 and an average of \$475. Two Lanracres total \$1,075, averaging \$538 and a Berkshire and Poland China sold for \$375 each.

"It was a good sale," concluded

Glenn Eberly, Meat Animal Evaluation Center director. "The 38 boars sold for an average price of \$567, a higher average than in recent years."

Harry Bachman, Annville, was sale auctioneer.



Ken Ketterer (left) had second highest selling boar and sold the Duroc to Bruce Lemmon and son, Bruce, Jr.

LIVESTOCK LATEST



Swine Progeny Test Nominations Due

BY MARY MAXWELL
Centre Co. Correspondent

UNIVERSITY PARK — Nominations are still being accepted for the remaining pen space in the Swine Progeny Test at the Meat Animal Evaluation Center on the Penn State campus.

A sire-progeny group consists of at least six pigs from six or more sows by one sire. According to Glenn Eberly, Evaluation Center director, not more than two sows may be full sisters or dam-daughter combinations and not more than three pigs from any one sow will be permitted in a sire-progeny group. The progeny group may be any combination of barrows or gilts.

All pigs must be 80 days of age or less when delivered to the Center and their weight per day of age must be between .60 and 1.20 pound. The delivery period is Sept. 22 to Nov. 17 and the test period Sept. 29 to March 1.

A nomination fee of \$5 is required for each pig, but this will be refunded when the pigs are delivered. Upon delivery, the

consignor will also receive 75 percent of the value of the feeder pigs based on market reports of the previous week.

The pigs will be slaughtered at about 220 pounds filled weight and carcass measurements taken. The animals will be evaluated on rate of gain and feed efficiency and the carcass on color, firmness and percent of ham and loin yielded.

Results of progeny tests are valuable to pure-bred as well as commercial breeders. If a boar is siring undesirable offspring, the breeder should eliminate him from his breeding herd. And on the other hand, if a boar's progeny excels in one or more traits, these factors are identified for the breeder. Data from the test will also aid the breeder in selling littermates, half-brothers and half-sisters of the tested stock.

For more information on the upcoming Swine Progeny Test contact Glenn Eberly, Meat Animal Evaluation Center, 651 Fox Hollow Road, State College, PA 16803. Phone: 814-238-2527.

Wool, Mohair Prices Announced

WASHINGTON — Support prices for wool and mohair for 1986 marketings are \$1.78 per pound for shorn wool and \$4.93 per pound for mohair, a U.S. Department of Agriculture official has announced. In 1985 the support prices were \$1.65 for wool and \$4.43 for mohair.

Milton E. Hertz acting administrator of USDA's Agriculture stabilization and Conservation Service said pulled wool will continue to be supported at a level comparable to the support price for shorn wool through payments

on unshorn lambs.

Shorn wool payments will be based on a percentage of each producer's return from sales. The percentage will be that required to raise the national average price received by all producers for shorn wool in 1986 up to the support price of \$1.78 per pound, Hertz said. In 1986 shorn wool prices are expected to average around 70 cents per pound compared to about 63 cents per pound in 1985.

Mohair payments will be calculated in a manner similar to wool. Hertz said projected prices indicate payments may be necessary for 1986 marketings. Mohair prices during 1986 are expected to average around \$3.50 per pound compared to \$3.45 in 1985. Mohair is being supported at 85 percent of the percent of parity at which shorn wool is supported, which is the statutory minimum price.



Huntingdon Juniors Sell Fair Champions

BY BETSY STITT
Blair Co. Correspondent

HUNTINGDON — Junior livestock exhibitors at the Huntingdon County Fair ended an eventful week with their annual sale on Aug. 15.

Market hogs, lambs, wethers and steers were put on the auction block by auctioneer Mark Glick. Show champions were named earlier in the week.

Kristie Espy, Spruce Creek, exhibited the grand champion steer. Her 1,430-pound Charolais sold to Miller's Diner, owned by Paul and Delores Knepp, for \$2.50 per pound for a total pricetag of \$3,575.

A 1,165-pound Angus, shown by Gary Morgan Jr., Orbisonia, captured the reserve grand championship and sold for \$1.30 per pound. Penn's Pride Meats bought Gary's steer for a total price of \$1,526.

Steve Fouse, James Creek, sold his crossbred, lightweight champion to Allensville Planing Mill, represented by Leonard Yoder, for 90 cents per pound.

The sale's 45 steers averaged 71 cents per pound.

In the market hog show, David Brown exhibited the grand champion. Penn's Pride Meats bought the 265-pound champion for \$5 per pound or a total bill of \$1,325.

Penn's Pride also bought John



Kristie Espy, left, sold her grand champion steer to Miller's Diner represented by Jeannette and Doug French for \$2.50 per pound.

Shultz's reserve champion hog, weighing in at 200 pounds, for \$3 per pound.

Without the champions, the market hog show averaged 77 cents per pound.

Brad Horning, Huntingdon, sold his grand champion lamb, a registered Hampshire named Snoopy, to Huntingdon's McDonald's Restaurant. Bidding for McDonald's Restaurant, John Eastman paid \$5.90 per pound for

Brad's 120 pound lamb. McDonald's Restaurant donated the lamb to be sold again with the proceeds going to the 4-H Lamb Club. It resold for \$1.50 per pound.

Unitas Bank bought Mark Miller's reserve grand champion lamb for \$4 per pound. The 120 pound lamb sold for a total of \$480. It was also donated to be sold again and brought \$1.40 per pound on the second selling.

The 4-H Lamb Club raised a lamb and donated the proceeds from its sale to the Tina Shultz Fund. Tina was the 1985 Huntingdon County Dairy Princess who lost her battle with cancer earlier this year. She was a member of the 4-H Lamb Club. The lamb sold for \$2 per pound.

The sale's 4-H lambs sold for an average of \$1.04, excluding the champions.

Denise Bollinger, Mill Creek, sold her grand champion wether goat, weighing in at 85 pounds, to Kevin Delaney for \$4.60 per pound. Three goats sold at the sale for an average of \$1.63 per pound.

Several politicians attended the livestock sale, including Secretary of Agriculture Richard Grubb, Sen. Samuel Hayes who had two sons, Lee and Erick, exhibiting lambs at the fair, and Penn State Dean of Agriculture Lamartine Hood. After viewing the sale, these politicians commented that it was encouraging to see young people so involved in agriculture.



John Eastman, right, of McDonald's Restaurant, paid \$5.90 per pound for Brad Horning's grand champion lamb.