

Broiler and Turkey Talk

by
Forest Muir

Associate Professor of Poultry Science
Penn State University

Two recent research articles published in the "Poultry Science Journal" indicates that housing type can influence light intensity for broilers. It has been demonstrated that continuous light during the broiler growing period produces a heavier broiler than is produced using a lighting program that incorporates a lengthy dark period.

One article describes a study conducted to determine the intensity of light required at night in curtain-sided houses for maximum broiler growth. Broilers that are produced in curtain-sided houses are exposed to varied light regimes. The natural light intensity during a 24-hour period can range from bright sunshine to darkness. For the study, the male broilers were exposed to a light intensity of 431 lux for 14 hours per day to simulate natural sunlight intensity and light intensities of either 9, 30, or 69 lux during the other 10 hours, simulating night hours (NOTE: 10.7 lux = 1 foot candle).

The results of the study showed that light intensity did not significantly influence the six-week body weight or feed conversion of male broilers. The authors concluded that for curtain-sided broiler houses a light intensity of 9 lux during the night hours is sufficient for maximum growth rate and reduces electricity for lighting purposes.

A second article reported on a study to determine the influence of

light intensity and variation in intensity on performance of broilers produced in fan ventilated, light-controlled houses. Sixteen commercial broiler houses were used for this study. The light intensity ranged between 8 and 31 lux with a slightly lower average intensity during the night. When light intensity was correlated with performance traits, it was reported that higher light intensity and reduced variability in intensity increased body weight and percentage grade A and reduced feed conversion and condemnations.

A comparison of these two studies would indicate that a lighting program with the maximum variation between day and night intensity was the better program for curtain-sided broiler houses, whereas the lighting program with minimum variation in intensity was the preferred system in light-controlled broiler houses. The results of these studies would indicate that integrated broiler companies may need two lighting programs for broilers. One program for curtain sided houses and a second for light-controlled houses.

References: Deaton, J. W., J. D. Simmons, and J. D. May, 1989. Light intensity at night for broilers reared under summer temperatures. *Poultry Sci.* 68: 218-220. Weaver, W. D. Jr., 1986. Influence of light intensity in commercial facilities on broiler performance. *Poultry Sci.* 65 (Supplement 1): 142.

Pennsylvania Heifer Wins Western National Angus Futurity

ST. JOSEPH, MO. — The championship spotlight shown on a Pennsylvania heifer at the Western National Angus Futurity held earlier this month. Judge Howard Hillman of South Dakota slapped Annalea Marchesa, a ROR Royalty 108T daughter marking her as the grand champion female. A December 1987 calf, Annalea is owned by Fox Hill Farm, Union-

ville; Annalea Farms, Ltd., Kennett Square; and Belle Point Ranch, Lavaca, Ark.

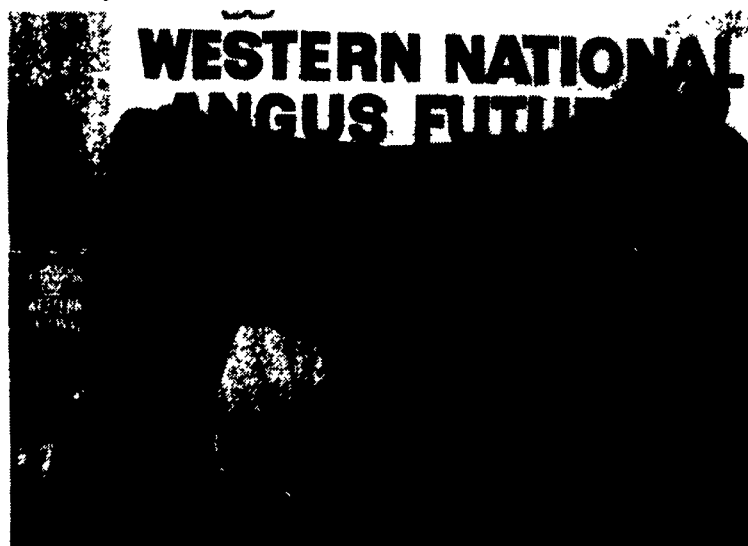
A January 1986 son of Crackerjack Brutus 512 was awarded the grand champion bull banner. Foote Acres Impact I, owned by Guy Kitchen, Sandy, Oregon; Tadd Foote, Melba, Idaho; and Wade Kaseberg, Wasco, Oregon. He earlier stood as the senior

winner.

A group of Missouri Angus breeders exhibited the reserve grand champion bull. J A Monticello is owned by Homeplace Farms, Cameron; Kenneth Johnson, Edgerton; and Terry Little & Son, Monticello. This March 1988, Cobble Pond New Yorker son also won the early junior calf champion ribbon.

Vintage Miss Essos Jenny 9463, owned by Ted Coleman, Modesto, Calif., won the reserve grand champion female banner. Also named the senior winner, she is an October 1986 daughter of Harrison.

S C R Lone Star 411 progeny won first place honors in the get and junior get-of-sire classes. The get champions were shown by Shelley Weaver, Brimfield, Ill.; Ankony Shadow Isle Ranch, Minatare, Neb.; and Knop Angus Farm, Ida Grove, Iowa. The junior get winners were put together by Ty Krebs, Gordon, Neb.; Four Sum Cattle Co., Wilder, Idaho; Sydenstricker Angus Farms, Mexico, Mo.; and Knop Angus Farm. Ankony Shadow Isle lined up the best six head of Angus breeding cattle.



Annalea Marchesa, a senior calf, was named grand champion female at the Western National Angus Futurity earlier this month. Marchesa is owned by Fox Hill Farm of Unionville, Annalea Farms Ltd. of Kennett Square, and Belle Point Ranch of Lavaca, Ark.

Youth Lamb, Pig Sale Brings \$8,055

BY LISA RISSER

LEBANON — The gavel came down 108 times last Friday night as feeder pigs and lambs found new homes during the Lebanon County Youth to Youth Club Lamb and Pig Sale.

Auctioneer Harry H. Bachman took bids on 95 pigs, which brought an average of \$74, and 13 lambs, which brought an average of \$80. Of particular interest to the 40 bidders were the offspring sired by a \$4,500 boar named Perry, who was a high finisher at the National Hampshire Show and sire the grand champion at the 1987 national barrow show. In addition, Perry sired last year's reserve champion at the Centre County Fair.

The Hamp-Duroc pigs, sold by Daryl and Darren Grumbine, brought top dollar, and one brought the highest bid of the night. The \$265 hog went to a Centre County 4-H'er.

The top-selling lamb went for \$100 to a Lebanon County 4-H'er. Total sale volume was \$8,055.

This is the third year for the sale, which was developed by Ken Winebark, Lebanon County Extension agent and interim county Extension director. The program is designed to generate interest



This group of Lebanon County 4-H'ers raised lambs and piglets that they sold to fellow 4-H'ers and others interested in market animal projects. The young entrepreneurs are from left, front row: Daryl Grumbine, John Risser, Jamie Risser, John Harnish, and Mike Kleinfelter. Back row: Darren Grumbine, Jay Kleinfelter, Don Kleinfelter, and Eric Harnish.

in breeding projects among the 4-H'ers and is a teaching tool for marketing, breeding, and sales skills.

This year's animals were supplied by Eric and John Harnish, John and Jamie Risser, Jay, Don, and Mike Kleinfelter, and Daryl

and Darren Grumbine.

The sale ended with a drawing for a pig donated by Lebanon Valley National Bank. The drawing, which was open to any 4-H or FFA member, was won by Stacey Miller of Lebanon. Miller is a first-year swine club member.

Producers Seek Further Action On Canadian Hogs

DES MOINES, IA — Producer leaders of the National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) met with government regulatory officials on April 27 in Washington, D.C., concerning a surge in subsidized Canadian hogs and pork products. Canadian shipments of hogs and pork have increased despite imposition of a countervailing duty on Canadian hogs in 1985 and a current renewed effort by NPPC to obtain a duty on pork products.

"Evidently, the countervailing duty on hogs is not completely leveling the playing field between the U.S. and Canada," said NPPC President Don Gingerich. "Beginning about mid 1988, the number of Canadian hogs crossing the border started increasing despite

the duty. Strikes at Canadian packing plants did force some hogs into this country, but those labor disputes are now ended. The strikes alone can't account for the number of Canadian hogs entering the U.S. to jump from 445,863 in 1987 to 835,125 last year."

Canadian hog imports are still climbing. During the first two months of 1989, shipments of Canadian hogs totalled more than 266,000 head. If imports continue at that rate, a record 1.6 million subsidized Canadian hogs will be crossing the U.S. border by the end of the year.

Meanwhile, total pork imports from Canada amounted to more than 124 million pounds (carcass weight equivalent, excluding processed pork) during the first two months of 1989. At that rate, 748 million pounds of Canadian pork will enter this country during the year--24% more than in 1988. Starting in the third quarter of 1988, the Canadian government paid its pork producers a subsidy that amounted to \$19.50 (U.S.) per hog. That subsidy increased to \$31 per hog in the fourth quarter. First quarter 1989 subsidy payments are to be announced shortly and are expected to remain high.

"Canadian producers receive approximately the same price in their hog markets as do our producers in the U.S. markets," Ging-

erich said. "Currently, both Canadian and U.S. producers receive about \$37 (U.S.) per hundred-weight of hog. Yet, the Canadian pork producers get subsidy payments on top of the market price. It's no wonder they can find it profitable to pay duty costs of about \$4 a head and transportation expenses to bring their hogs across the border."

Canadian producers are offering hogs to U.S. packers on a duty-paid basis. Therefore, the producers are absorbing the cost of the countervailing duty, transportation and checkoff, so U.S. packers can buy the hogs without being liable for any additional expenses. Packers are sheltered against the duty that might be assessed retroactively a year or so later when the U.S. government paperwork catches up with the high subsidies now being paid to Canadian producers by their government.

"Clearly, the production incentives provided by the Canadian government subsidization programs are encouraging Canadians to overproduce and target the U.S. market for surplus hogs," said Gingerich. "It is seriously injuring U.S. pork producers ability to make a profit in their own country. And that is why we are in Washington, D.C. to see what we can do about it."

Polled Hereford Association Seeks President

KANSAS CITY, MO. — The American Polled Hereford Association Board of Directors has formed a search committee to fill the post of the breed association's president and chief executive officer, following the resignation of Dr. T.D. "Dusty" Rich.

Headed by Board Vice Chairman Bill Yowell of Killen, Tex-

as, the committee has outlined the qualifications and is accepting applications. Serving with Yowell on the committee are Jackie Davis of Napa, Calif., and Gary Hedrick of Columbus, Miss.

Applicants are invited to contact Yowell at P.O. Box 10039, Killen, Texas 76547.

