

# Billy Leib's Champ Breed Rambouillet Wins Wool Breed Supreme Champion

**ANDY ANDREWS**  
 Lancaster Farming Staff  
 HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.)  
 — Rambouillet class sheep were the primary breed winners in the wool judging competition on Thursday night at the farm show. The Leib family — Bob, Suzie, and Billy — swept the major awards, winning Rambouillet premier exhibitor, breeder, and all grand and reserve Rambouillet

sheep championships, along with the supreme wool championship. "We have an excellent breed, and we were careful in how the sheep were selected and bred," said Suzie Leib. "The fleece have few flaws, and it is difficult to get fine fleece." The Leibs have been raising sheep for 24 years, and raising Rambouillets for about 10 years. "The Rambouillet is the backbone

of the American sheep industry, and we were careful in breed selection, primarily for the sheep's meat and muscle," said Bob Leib. Judge James Elphick of Arlington, Wisconsin admitted to having a "hard decision" to make, "especially between the ewes and rams in the wool breeds for the supreme champ." In the end, Billy Leib, 9, won for his yearling ewe, which had won the junior sheep breeding championship Wednesday night. "It was a lot of work to bring her up," said Billy. "We put a lot of feeding and care into her."



Billy Leib, 9, shows off his Rambouillet reserve champion ram.



The Bow family — Ben, Mary, Melanie, and Benjamin — display their premier champion awards and their Corriedale grand champion ram.

**Corriedale**  
 Melanie Bow, 21, had never shown her Corriedale at any previous show. The fuzzy, deeply tan ram became the Corriedale grand champ, as a result of careful breeding and a lot of care. "He is the result of about six years of selection, and we are only now getting the results," said Melanie. "We picked him out of 50 lambs, which was a good bit of luck." The Bow family — Melanie, her father Ben, and her mother Mary — have been farming for about 21 years. Not only did they capture the grand champion Corriedale, but also won the champion Corrie-

dale ewe, exhibitor, and breeder awards. "She's a good showgirl," said Mary Bow, Melanie's mother. "We've been hard at work from eight this morning to almost five this evening, trimming away. We gave the sheep a great deal of care." Judge Elphick was impressed with the rams exhibited in this class. "The front feet and the way they stand are exceptional," he

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