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Pa. Ayrshire Association
Coordinator

MILLERSBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The Pennsylvania Ayrshire Association had a super good year and members are looking toward a bright future in 1994.

In reviewing the past year, there were many things of interest and many successes, but there were also some outstanding highlights.

On April 2 and April 3, the organization held its Pa. Ayrshire Spring Calf and Heifer Sale in

Bradford County at the Williamston Inn, in Towanda.

The event is the kick-off for the Ayrshire breeders, after a long, cold winter. Although there were high waters, and a chance of a flood, the event was a great success.

At this time each year (spring), a new Ayrshire princess is traditionally crowned. Nicki Bozliniski, the 1992 princess, crowned Samantha Hillyard as the 1993 princess. The alternate honors went to Kelly Young. Also, this year marked the

first time the group selected an Ayrshire maid. Elizabeth Seman was named.

Additionally during the spring event, the Pa. Ayrshire Breeders Association Hall of Fame nomination went to Dr. Ezra Deubler, in honor of his many contributions to the Ayrshire breed.

There was also a spring show, and the Stewart family and the Maulfair family left with the top honors.

Another highlight of 1993 was the national Ayrshire convention,

held in Moline, Ill. There were many Pennsylvania Ayrshire breeders in attendance. A very nice comment was made about the Pennsylvania people: "When we are in need of help, we can always count on Pennsylvania to be right there!"

Two Pennsylvania Junior Ayrshire members were honored in the national scrapbook competition. They were Seth Wolfgang and Elizabeth Seman.

Moving on to the next event of the year was the association's field day, held at Plum Bottom Farm, in Belleville. John Rodgers and family served as host for the fun-filled event.

I'm sure one young man will always remember that day. It was the day that he became the proud owner of his first Ayrshire calf, thanks to the generosity of the Rodgers family, and to his own knowledge in judging cattle. Ronnie Croft was the first place winner and the prize was a new born calf.

In September, the Ayrshire Elite Sale and Daughter Display was held at the All American Dairy Show, in Harrisburg. This was a tremendous success.

We had exceptional daughters

on display from four top Pennsylvania Ayrshire bulls. This gave many the opportunity to view the strong points of each bull. There was excellent uniformity in the groups that were there.

This display was all made possible by the support of Taurus, the All American Dairy Show and the Ayrshire Association, through me, the promotion coordinator.

Along with the daughter display was the Elite Sale. A super group of cattle were offered at this sale. All with very strong backgrounds and deep pedigrees. Many with winning records already.

The top selling cow, consigned by Samuel Diehl, went on to stand second in the All American Show the next day.

Let's not forget the tremendous amount of work that goes into getting ready for this type of sale.

Another thing that has gone on all throughout the year, and new to the Ayrshire breed, were visits from me, the Pa. Ayrshire coordinator.

These visits have allowed you, the Ayrshire breeder to ask about things you may not have understood, and to get a better understanding about the many programs offered to the Ayrshire breeder.



Westlake said the afternoon-long event is notable because the farm provides more than just the attraction of a visit to a farm and a Christmas tree. They also feature craft shows, quartets, and other events, including an electric train display on the bottom floor of the retail outlet.

Fir Trees Foster

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1949. They converted a dairy operation over to tree production. An old hay barn, built in the late 1700s and reconstructed at the turn of the century, was remodeled into a retail outlet in 1991. The building has about 4,000 square feet of space for ornaments and other items for the holiday season.

The tree farm is a member of the Pennsylvania Christmas Tree Growers Association and the

National Christmas Tree Association.

Westlake said that, unlike other cash crops, the Christmas tree business is demanding because they are only open for a short time. "We have to do a year's worth of business in a very small window," he said. "Our crop isn't a 120-day crop like corn and soybeans. We're talking an eight-, nine-, 10-, 12-year crop. We have to plan far and ahead. We're planting trees (to be cut) in the next century."

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