

# Sherwood Farms Takes Supreme Draft Horse At Farm Show

**VERNON ACHENBACH JR.**  
Lancaster Farming Staff  
**HARRISBURG** (Dauphin Co.) — It was a day for the young horses to shine as Sherwood Farms, a two-farm, 150-acre operation run by Donald Sherwood and Gary and Brandon Groves, of Tunkhannock, showed the supreme draft horse at the state Farm Show last Saturday, taking home their first grand and supreme championship title.

While Windermere Farms out of Spring Mills, and Orndorff's Belgians, out of Waynesburg, two seemingly perennial winners at the Farm Show, and a number of other regular exhibitors fared well, the Sherwoods, relative newcomers to the Farm Show draft horse competitions, showed their young mare, a foal at last year's Farm Show, to place first among the top mare's and stallions of each of the three breed divisions.

Born April 1992, SGF Dodie Marie, a Belgian was ranked by judge Crae Eller, from Arcadia, Indiana, over her half-brother, the top Belgian stallion, shown by Orndorff's Belgians.

The Orndorff champion stallion was the junior champion, out performing the senior champion Belgian shown by Jerry and Shirley Ray, of Shelocta.

In fact, it was Orndorff's multi-grand champion of the Farm Show Belgian stallion, Orndorff's Congolaise Supreme, who sired both the grand champion Belgians and the reserve champion Belgian.

Marie was junior champion and

defeated Orndorff's senior champion mare for the grand champion title. Sherwood Farms also showed the reserve senior champion mare.

According to Donald Sherwood, his interest in horses stems back to his late uncle Donald L. Williams, "Who was quite a horseman," he said. "I didn't grow up on a farm, still we have two generations of horsemen."

His uncle, on his mother's side, raised some horses and Donald, who was named after his uncle, used to help out at the farm. He now is a Chevrolet dealer in Tunkhannock and in 1976 started with horses.

He said he's been working with Gary and Brandon Groves since

1985 and they've been raising the draft horses part time since, also raising Timothy and grass hays, and buying grains. "Brandon shows and Gary has the agricultural degree," Donald said.

The partnership is noted for their annual matching outfits, including blue dress shirts, red ties and caps.

In all, they have 16 Belgians and three Percheron on the farm. They have shown Marie at Syracuse, Hughsville, Troy and Ohio, and said that the Keystone International Livestock Exposition (KILE) is a big show for them.

The reserve grand champion Belgian stallion was shown by Paul Yoder, of Peach Bottom, also

a regular exhibitor at the Farm Show. He also showed the reserve junior champion stallion.

In the other breeds, Windermere Farms showed the grand champion Percheron stallion, the reserve champion stallion, the senior champion mare, the reserve senior champion mare, and the junior champion stallion.

However, a mare shown by Cheryl Zimmerman, of Northampton, was grand champion mare and named best of the breed.

In the Clydesdale/shire division, Abraham and Mary Allebach, also regular winners at the state Farm Show, showed the best of the breed, the grand champion mare. Steven Bentzel, from Hanover,

showed the reserve senior champion mare, the senior and grand champion stallion, and the reserve grand champion mare.

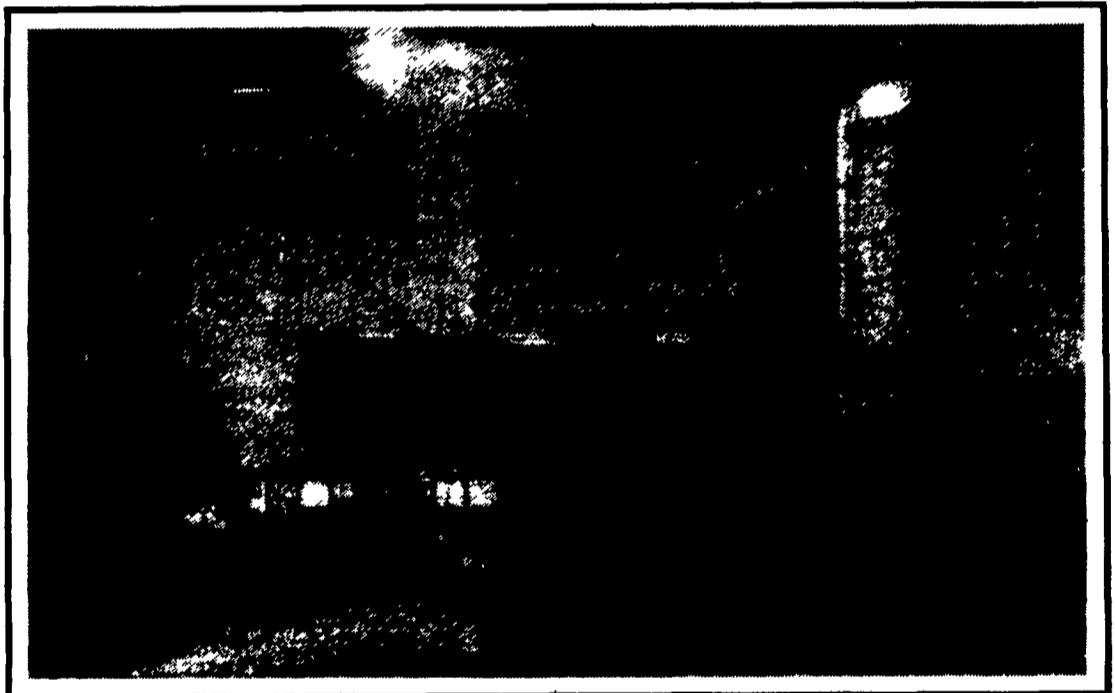
### BELGIAN DIVISION

- Belgian Stallion, 3 Yrs.: 1. Jerry & Shirley Ray, Shelocta.
- Belgian Stallion 2 Yrs.: 1. Orndorff's Belgians, Waynesburg.
- Belgian Stallion, 1 Yr.: 1. Paul Yoder, Peach Bottom.
- Belgian Stallion, Foal: 1. Donald Patterson, Waynesburg; 2. Elmer Lapp, Kinzers; 3. Jerry & Shirley Ray, Shelocta.
- Belgian Stallion, Senior Champion: 1. Jerry & Shirley Ray, Shelocta.
- Belgian Stallion, Junior Champion: 1. Orndorff's Belgians, Waynesburg.
- Belgian Stallion, Reserve Jr. Champion: 1. Paul Yoder, Peach Bottom.
- Belgian Stallion, Grand Champion: 1. Orndorff's Belgians, Waynesburg.
- Belgian Stallion, Reserve Grand Champion: 1. Paul Yoder, Peach Bottom.

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Mr. and Mrs. Albert Martin**



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