### Perry County Fair Features Livestock

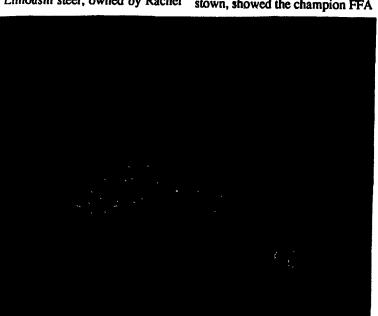
NEWPORT (Perrry Co.) — The Perry County Fair held recently in Newport featured a market steer show and a market hogs contest.

Laurie Voight judged the 21 animals entered in the market steer contest and named a 1,140-pound Limousin steer, owned by Rachel

Finkenbinder, of Duncannon, as the overall grand champion and 4-H champion.

The reserve grand champion and reserve 4-H champion was shown by Grant Finkenbinder, also of Duncannon.

Heather Benner, of Millerstown, showed the champion FFA



Erin Benner shows her grand champion market hog of the Perry County Fair.

steers, while Scott Byers, of Liverpool, showed the reserve FFA champ.

In the market hog contest, judge Henry Gruber, of Lehigh, judged 65 head and named a 245-pound crossbred heavy middleweight hog, owned by Erin Benner, of Millerstown, as the grand champion.

A 236-pound medium middleweight market hog shown by Brad Gill, of Newport, was named reserve champion.

Christ Seiber and Josh Holman, both of Millerstown, showed the champion FFA and reserve champion FFA market hogs, respectively.

In the swine showmanship contest, the 4-H senior champion was Brian Ebersole, of Duncannon; the reserve senior champion was Roberta Cauffman, of Millerstown; the junior champion was Melissa Fuller, of Duncannon; the reserve junior champion was Drew McGuire, of Duncannon; the FFA champion was Roberta Cauffman; and the FFA reserve champion was Amy Byers.



From the left, award sponsor George Schreiber presents the banner for showing the champion market steer of the Perry County Fair to Rachel Finkenbinder.

#### Farmers/Business Persons

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acreage, we are still the largest non-irrigated farm county in the nation," Howes said. "So agriculture is important, and the issues that affect it affect all of us. As ag regulations continue to increase,

farmers are more and more operating in the public eye."

Robinson said farmers are questioned about their practices in the press, but farmers continue to be "very high in the area of stewardship of the resources the Lord has provided to them.

"Farmers as a group of people are very close to the natural resources and their Creator. They have a relationship that embodies why they are in agriculture," Robinson said.

From the discussion, several significant statements from the farmers are as follows:

•Fry: There is definitely a concern for the amount of water used in the greenhouse industry, and he predicts that many operations will soon incorporate the ebb and flow system to recycle water and retain runoff.

Concerning manure, we need to be conscious of what gets back into our streams and that we can exceed the nutrient carrying capacity of our fields.

•Weaver: We found our manure was worth a lot more than we thought.

The soil is a digestive system so the microbes in the soil digest nutrients to stablize them to get ready for the next crop. If you keep fiber, like corn stalks and straw, on the field and rotate it back into the soil, you have better soil, not just a pile of dirt.

•Swarr: No one likes regulations. I have never heard a businessman say, "We have new government regulations; isn't this great?" But something is needed. The environmental movement is here to stay. No one wants regulations, but if something happens to their circle, the first thing they say is "Why isn't there a law?"

If we approach regulations with a positive attitude and keep our cynicism at a lower level, we will be all right.

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