

Plumbottom Sale Averages \$1,096

BRATTLEBORO, Vt. — Not since the days of Meredith Farm's sales has there been so much stir in the Ayrshire breed, according to many who attended the Plumbottom sale on August 13 in Belleville.

The event ended up being much more than just a sale, said Nicki Bozinski, Pennsylvania Ayrshire coordinator. "It was promoting, merchandising, socializing and improving relations among Ayrshire breeders from across the world."

Plumbottom Farm decided to share their genetics and successes with other Ayrshire enthusiasts by dispersing four-fifths of their herd, which totalled about 75 lots. Another eight lots were "paired" lots, which means that the bidder takes the animal they wanted, while the other animal stayed at Plumbottom. Since John Rodgers is continuing dairying with his Ayrshires, he also kept one-fifth of his herd.

John Rodgers, an avid Ayrshire breeder, said he believes in promotion.

"We believe in milk and purebred sales," said Rodgers. "We

have had Ayrshires for 10 years — and this is our second time around. And they are producing a profit for us." The Plumbottom Farm's 1993 DHIA average reached 17,960 pounds of milk, which earned them the Ayrshire Breeder's Association's coveted French Trophy award in 1993.

Following his own advice, Rodgers designed what attendees deemed a "first class" promotional event, not just a sale.

Long before the sale, he advertised in the Ayrshire Digest and other publications regularly, and enrolled his herd in Ayrshire Breeder's Association's award programs.

On the evening before the sale, Plumbottom hosted a Friday "Fun Night," which included a free buffet dinner, bagpipe bands and door prizes.

Guests came from many different states and countries, including Florida, Iowa and Maine; four guests hailed from Kazakhstan. The socializing lasted well into the early morning hours.

Saturday's sale began with a pre-sale brunch, served to all 175 people who attended. When it was

over, the animals travelled to nine states — and partial interest in one of the bulls was sold to the breeders from Kazakhstan.

Having been raised to an excellent 91 score after being classified two days before the sale, Baytree Fantom Pepsi, topped the sale at \$3,600. "Pepsi is headed for her second record of more than 17,000 pounds of milk and is due in December to Trident," said sales manager Tom Whittaker of Vermont. She went home with Don and Michele Bevis, of West Pawlet, Vt.

The Bevis's found and bought many of the top animals at the event, and eventually took home four of the most sought-after animals in the sale, for a total of \$9,150.

One of the most recognized animals of the Plumbottom herd was Ardrossan M. Boy NoNo. Having held her classification score, and now holding as a 3 E 91, Rodgers sold a half interest in her.

Gary Zumbach of Monticello, Iowa, was the purchaser (not included in the sale average), "Her last service date was June 25; by sale day, she had gone 42 days

without a repeat heat," said Whittaker. "Because of her being past nine years old, it was decided not to do a pregnancy test at this time. If, by the end of December, she is safe with calf, the half interest transaction will be completed. If she is not in calf at that time, the purchaser's down payment will be returned, and the transaction will be closed."

The sale average for all 63 head sold was \$1,096. Sixteen cows averaged \$1,206. Nineteen cows aged two and three years averaged \$1,346.

Bred heifers brought an average of \$905, and the open heifers averaged \$850. The five heifer calves

brought a \$730 average, and three bulls averaged \$1,008.

The highest selling embryo package, with three embryos by Heligo, sold for \$400 to Hickory Grove farm in Wellington, Ohio. The dam, by Johnnie, had records of 22,270 pounds of milk with a test of 4.3 percent and protein tests of 3.7 percent.

Dick Witter of Taurus Service, Mehoopany, purchased a Trident-bred heifer, hurriedly took her to Huntington County Fair and took the junior champion award.

Whittaker said he was very pleased with the quality of cattle offered. "This sale was for dairymen who wanted to milk cows for a living, not as a hobby," he said.

Junior Livestock Sale At Wayne County

HONESDALE (Wayne Co.) — The largest Junior Livestock sale in the history of the Wayne County Fair was held recently at the Wayne County Fairgrounds.

One hundred eighty-six hogs, 46 lambs, and 34 steers were sold by 4-H members for a total of 266 head. The sale grossed more than \$114,864 for the 4-H members. Auctioneers were Wayne Weaver, John Regan, and Pete Robinson.

The grand champion market hog was shown by Scott Lewis, Pleasant Mount, and sold for \$4 per pound to Dr. Henry Nebzydoski, Pleasant Mount. Reserve champion hog was shown by Eric Smith, Honesdale, and sold for \$3.95 per pound to the Honesdale

National Bank. Overall, 186 hogs averaged \$1.44 per pound.

The grand champion lamb was shown by Miriam Ryback, Damascus, and sold for \$8.25 per pound to Wyalusing Livestock.





The reserve champion lamb was shown by Mike Korb, Honesdale, and sold to Wayne Bank for \$4.50 per pound. Overall, 46 lambs averaged \$1.94 per pound.

The grand champion market steer was shown by Melissa Nebzydoski and sold for \$2.65 per pound to Marshall Machinery, Beach Lake. Reserve champion steer was shown by Scott Lewis and sold to Narrowsburg Feed & Grain for \$1.65 per pound. Steers average \$1.06 per pound on 34 head.

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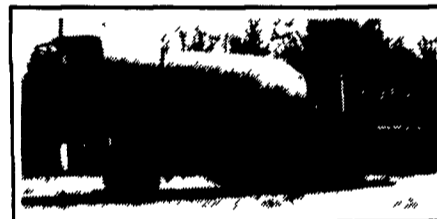
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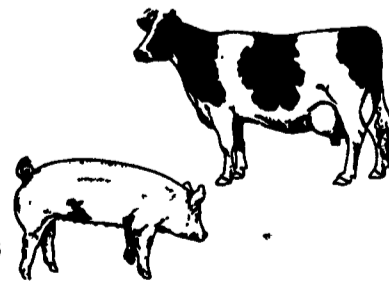


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