

State Farm Show Features 5,500 Animals

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — More than 5,500 animals have been entered for competition at the 79th Pennsylvania State Farm Show, January 7-12 in Harrisburg. Their owners will try to capture their share of the record \$228,981 available in premiums.

The Farm Show is a showcase of Pennsylvania's leading industry, agriculture, and a tribute to the 51,000 farm families who provide essential food and fiber products to our neighbors in Pennsylvania and others around the world.

Poultry judging leads off the agenda on Friday morning, prior to the public opening of the Farm Show, as 1,928 caged chickens, ducks, geese and bantams vie for the attention of the judges. About 400 champions will then be placed on display throughout the show along the lower concourse of the Large Arena.

Open swine competition gets started at 9 a.m. in the Small Arena on Friday, with 195 gilts entered in eight breeds. The supreme champion will be named at 9:30 a.m. the following day. Many of these gilts will then be sold, starting on Saturday morning at 10 a.m. in the Small Arena, through the Pennsylvania Cooperative Swine Breeders Association.

Saturday is the day for judging of rabbits, which have become very popular with hobbyists and those looking for alternate food choices. Clearly 700 rabbits have been entered in this year's show, sanctioned by the American Rabbit Breeders Association. The best of breed, show, and variety rabbits will then be placed on exhibit for the remainder of the show, and some rabbits will be sold at auction at 5 p.m. in the Small Arena.

Horses take the eye of the

judges on Sunday at 8 a.m. in the Large Arena with Clydesdales, Percherons and Belgians, followed by the naming of the Supreme Champion at 11:30. Draft horse hitched competition dominates the afternoon program in the Large Arena with cart and team classes. Horse pulling fans should plan to attend the Farm Show on Tuesday evening, with the popular team competition getting under way at 4:30 p.m. Pony pulling is scheduled for Wednesday evening at 6:30, bringing the week's total number of horse entries to 171.

Because of the enormous interest, the sheep show is now split by meat breeds and wool breeds. The judging of meat breeds will start on Sunday at 9 a.m. in the Small Arena and resume on Monday at 8 a.m. A supreme champion will then be selected from the seven breeds before they depart and allow the wool breeds to take over the west

barn. Wool breeds will be judged on Wednesday in the Small Arena, beginning at 5 p.m., and concluding after 8 p.m. with their supreme champion. Nearly 500 head entered for the open sheep shows.

More than 300 head of beef cattle take to the show ring on Monday, starting at 8 a.m. in the Large Arena. The selection of the beef supreme champion from among the five breeds is slated for 2:30 p.m.

Dairy Day is Tuesday and 330 cows are entered for open competition among six breeds which gets under way at 8 a.m. in the Large Arena. The selection of the supreme champion dairy cow is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. Junior dairy exhibitors follow with their 178 entries at 3 p.m.

The Farm Show turns its attention on 4-H and FFA exhibitors on Tuesday and Wednesday, Youth Day, as hundreds of club members take to the showings with their breeding stock and market ani-

mals. More than 400 entries will compete in junior market swine classes, starting at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday in the Small Arena and wrapping up with the champion about 2:45 p.m. that afternoon.

Junior market lamb classes, with 209 entries, start at 8 a.m. on Wednesday in the Small Arena and conclude with the naming of a junior champion market lamb at 11 a.m. Junior beef breeding takes place in the Large Arena, as 83 cows start before the judges at 8:30 a.m. Junior steer classes, with 65 entries starts at noon in the Large Arena, with the naming of the grand champion steer scheduled for 3:15 p.m.


The annual Junior Livestock Sale on Thursday salutes all the young exhibitors and recognizes their achievements in livestock competition. Proceeds from the auction go to the youngsters, with a small percentage going to run the Farm Show Scholarship Fund.

LIVESTOCK ENTRIES

| | 1995 SHOW | 1994 SHOW |
|---------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Horses—open shows | 171 | 250 |
| Swine—open shows | 195 | 201 |
| Swine—junior market swine | 413 | 379 |
| Sheep—open shows | 474 | 609 |
| Sheep—junior shows | 227 | 234 |
| Sheep—junior market lambs | 209 | 174 |
| Sheep—carcass lambs | 35 | 26 |
| Beef—open shows | 324 | 430 |
| Beef—junior shows | 83 | 105 |
| Beef—junior market steers | 65 | 63 |
| Dairy—cattle—open | 330 | 333 |
| Dairy—cattle—junior | 178 | 190 |
| Dairy—goats—open | 210 | 209 |
| Poultry | 1928 | 1702 |
| Rabbits | 692 | 593 |
| Grand Total | 5,534 | 5,498 |

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