Center Posts Bull Sale Results

STATE COLLEGE (Centre Co.) - The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Meat Animal Evaluation Center has announced the results from Pennsylvania's 22nd Annual Performance Tested Bull Sale.

There was a tremendous crowd on hand to appraise this outstanding set of performance tested bulls - 107 bidders registered from nine different states.

The first bull in the ring was the Lot #1, Polled Hereford bull. This bull, owned by Ralph Strouse, State College, was the topindexing Polled Hereford this year and received the award recognizing this achievement from the Pennsylvania Polled Hereford Association. This bull very appropriately received the top price paid for a Polled Hereford. Smith Farms of Bradford, bid \$2,400 to purchase this top-gaining Polled Hereford.

The second highest indexing Polled Hereford bull consigned by Bernie and Debbie Chubbuck of Laceyville, returned the second highest Polled Hereford price. Tom Mullinix from USDA, Beltsville, Md. selected the bull for \$2.300.

The eight most popular Polled Hereford bulls averaged \$2,050 indicating a very strong demand for the best Polled Hereford bulls. There was a total of 24 Polled Hereford bulls. The entire group of Polled Herfords, which may have exceeded the demand, averaged \$1,308.

The Angus bull division started with the top-indexing Angus bull owned by Darron Smith. This bull received the Top-Indexing Angus

Bull Award presented by the Pennsylvania Angus Association as well as the top-indexing bull over all breeds award presented by the Pennsylvania Cattlemen's Association. Sidney Witmer of Liverpool, purchased this fastestgaining, most efficient Angus bull for \$1,500. The second highest indexing Angus bull revived the enthusiasm in the sale and recorded the top Angus sale price of the day. Deborah Hoover of Tyrone, offered the successful bid of \$2,500 for this Angus bull with the top EPD index and the top adjusted 365-day weight. This complete Angus bull was offered by Paul and Bette Slayton of Bedford. The third highest indexing Angus bull returned the second highest price recorded for an Angus. David Hendricks of Zionsville, paid \$1,800 to own this lightest birth weight EPD bull from Clarence Robinson of Smithfield. The 18 Angus bulls offered averaged \$1,503, which was the top breed average of the day.

The Simmental division started with the Lot #44 Simmental consigned by Dr. Bruce Laidig of Newburg. This bull was the fastest gaining bull over all breeds and he also was the most efficient bull of all breeds, recording a feed efficiency of 3.74 pounds of feed per pound of gain. This well-bred bull sold, on order, to Johns Lanting Enterprises of Hollister, ID for \$3,000, which was the top price paid for the sale. The second highest price offered for a Simmental bull was \$1,550, which was bid for both the 2nd and 3rd Indexing Simmentals. Both of the bulls were

owned by Messick farms of Middletown and sold to Ray W. Brown of Three Springs and Tina Marie Clark of Hustontown, respectively. The 11 Simmental bulls averaged \$1,382.

The two Charolais bulls in the sale were both consigned by Raymond Bratton of McVeytown. They sold for \$1,200 and \$1,100 to Bernard Farabaugh of Carrolltown and David Seamens of State College, respectively.

The lone Limousin bull in the sale, consigned by Seth Everhart of State College, sold to Scott Stone of Williamsburg for \$1,500.

The single Beefmaster bull consigned by John Lehr sold to Luther Upton of Portsmouth, Va. for \$1,800.

The entire group of 57 bulls grossed \$79,150 to average \$1,389. This sale average would qualify this sale as successful, especially when taking into consideration the economic outlook

for the beef industry. When considering the economic advantage, research has shown, that by using performance tested bulls, there were many bargains to be purchased.

For more information on Pennsylvania's performance testing programs, contact Glenn Eberly, Director, PA Department of Agriculture's Meat Animal Evaluation Center, 651 Fox Hollow Rd., State College, PA 16803, (814) 238-2527 or (814) 865-5857.

US Senate Ag Committee Chair Proposes Bill For Pesticide Use

WASHINTON D.C.-U.S. Sen. Richard G. Lugar (R-IN), chairman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, has introduced legislation to help ease the regulatory burden on farmers and agribusiness by allowing them more flexibility in pesticide choice and reregistration while maintaining food safety.

Lugar's bill, "The Minor Use Crop Protection Act of 1995,' would help expand manufacturers' flexibility during the reregistration process and thereby maintain farmer access to minor use pesticide choices.

In addition, Lugar hopes to "provide incentives for manufacturers to maintain or develop new safe and effective pesticides for minor uses without compromising food safety or adversely affecting the environment," Lugar said in a statement today. The bill was

introduced today with 41 cospon-SOTS

Farmers utilize minor use pesticides for regional pest or disease problems, usually on a small amount of acreage. A 1988 Environmental Protection Agency law requires that all pesticides registered before November 1984 must be reregistered with the agency, which could limit some pesticide options for farmers.

Given the significant economic and scientific resources involved in reregistering minor use pesticides, many manufacturers may abandon reregistering several pesticides if they believe that their market is limited because of farmers' regional or narrow use of the product.

"Loss of minor use pesticides could cause substantial production problems for many fruit, vegetable and ornamental crops," Lugar said. "Farmers also fear that loss

of minor use pesticides will put them at a competitive disadvantage with foreign producers who would still have access to the pesticides.

"Burdensome regulations impose unnecessary costs on agriculture production," Lugar said. "Quality U.S. products must be given every opportunity to compete in international markets."

In another effort to ease regulatory burdens, last month Lugar introduced the "Edible Oil Regulatory Reform Act of 1995," which would separate shipping regulations on vegetable and soy oils from those of "hazardous" petroleum oils.

Lugar's bill, a longtime initiative, would block the Clinton administration's continued attempts to impose hazardous cargo restrictions on vegetable oils shipped on U.S. waterways, which add costs to the products. Previous protests prompted the





