Junior Livestock Sale

MILLPORT (Potter Co.) ——
Recently, the Potter County Junior
Livestock Sale drew a record
crowd, buyers, and average prices
here at the Potter County
Fairgrounds.

In the beef show, the 1,065-pound grand champion was exhibited by Cory Miles and sold for \$1,118.25 to First City National Bank of Genesee and Ulysses. Reserve, weighing 1,155 pounds and shown by Kellie Lane, was sold for \$1,224.30 to Northeastern Farm Credit.

At the swine show, Andy Crossley showed the grand champion hog, which weighed 218 pounds and sold for \$741.20 to Jeff Carts, surveyor. The reserve, shown by

MILLPORT (Potter Co.) — Cory Miles and weighing 203 pounds, was sold for \$548.10 to vestock Sale drew a record Hatfield Quality Meats.

At the lamb show, grand champion went to Josh Shelley. The lamb, weighing 125 pounds, was sold for \$562.50 to First National Bank, Port Allegany. The 107-pound reserve, shown by Barry Snyder, was sold for \$454.75 to Charles and Associates Realtors.

Total sale, including rabbits, was \$24,250.15. Also sold was a gallon of supreme champion nilk in a hand-painted milk pail by Debbie Kibbe. The milk went for \$500 to Don Gilman, president of Middlebury Milk Co-Op.

Auctioneers were Jerry Pirrung and Si Pepperman.

Survey Shows Farmers Fear Environmental Litigation

WASHINGTON, D.C. — According to survey results released by the Farm Progress Companies, 90 percent of farmers and ranchers surveyed fear environmental litigation. The level of concern overshadowed responses to questions asked about farming practices and programs, environmental policies, and social and

economic issues.

In the nationwide survey, farmers and ranchers were asked to agree or disagree with the state-

ment: "I am concerned about potential environmental litigation." Of the 2,530 respondents, 90 percent strongly agreed or agreed.

Farm Progress Companies mailed 16,327 questionnaires to farmers and ranchers on August 3 with a 15.5 percent response rate. The survey was targeted only to producers who rely on farming as their primary source of income.

The results of the Farm Progress Companies survey coincide with the results of a recent poll conducted by the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA), where 51 percent of farmers and ranchers polled said they fear environmental laws either a great deal or a good amount. Only 13 percent felt environmental laws had no impact on their ability to produce.

In the NASDA poll, farmers and ranchers in the states of Indiana, Iowa, Kansas and Mississippi clearly supported congressional efforts to include the concept of voluntary agricultural resource

management planning (VARMP) in the 1995 Farm Bill. The data, compiled from the results of four separate polls conducted August 28 through September 1, 1995 by the polling company of Washington, D.C., showed 74 percent of the farmers and ranchers believed it to be important to include VARMPs in the 1995 farm legislation. In each of the four states, 300 farmers and ranchers were interviewed by telephone. The margin of error for each state is plus or minus 4.7 percent with a 95 percent confidence level.

As proposed for the Farm Bill, VARMPs would set the stage for farmers and ranchers to protect themselves from environmental litigation and regulation, the two things they appear to fear the most. The NAS-DA poll showed that protection from environmental regulation was the most important factor farmers and ranchers would consider in determining whether to develop and implement a voluntary agricultral resource management plan.

The House of Representatives overwhelmingly voted in favor of the VARMP concept — 290 to 122 during consideration of H.R. 961, the reauthorization of the Clean Water Act (CWA). "The survey results clearly show that farmers and ranchers want the protection afforded in H.R. 961. They generally agree with House Transportation and Infrastructure Committer (R-PA), who said during the House floor debate on the CWA that the VARMP concept in the clean water bill should be defined in the Farm Bill," said Mark C. Nestlen, NASDA director of legislative and regulatory affairs. "Shuster said, 'we look to the Committee on Agriculture of this House to define (VARMP) in the farm bill.' According to the survey results, farmers and ranchers are also looking to the two agricultre committees to authorize the VARMP concept."



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