

'Horse Of A Ewe' Wins Maryland Sheep Show

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Maryland Correspondent
WEST FRIENDSHIP, Md. — A Black Lincoln yearling ram belonging to William Gardhouse of Gardsmere Farms, Schomberg, Ontario was chosen supreme champion ram here at the 23rd annual Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival.

Judge Budd Martin, from Willard, Ohio, said he liked the 270-pound ram because it combined excellent quality with exceptional size, and called the entry a "changer ram" for the industry. "A lot of people have a ram that has either the quality or the large size, but if they have one, they don't have the other. This ram has both," Martin said.

Gardhouse also won the premier exhibitor for the Lincoln and Black Lincoln classes. In 1993 he won supreme champion ram with a white ram entry. He is the fourth generation of his family to farm the 100-acre Gardsmere Farms in Ontario, which was established in 1902.

According to Wes Limesand, shepard at North Dakota State

University, who also judged the sheep shows, the females were a sounder group of sheep overall as compared to the rams, with stronger tops, tighter shoulders, and more correct feet.

"Explosion," a 225-pound natural colored medium ewe entered by Challis Farms, Metamora, Michigan, won supreme champion ewe honors. "A horse of a ewe, very correct, she's a tremendous fitted ewe but she's as good as she looks," was how Judge Limesand described the winning yearling entry.

Challis Farms, represented by Sari, Chris, Alyssa, and Andrew Scott, has been coming to the sheep and wool festival for eight years. They had the champion ewe with another yearling four or five years ago.

Trophies for the champions were tributes to Ernest E. and Florence B. Hall, of Keymar, Md. The Halls were on the committee that started the festival 23 years ago. They also had the first natural colored sheep flock in Maryland, according to their daughter Kendra Hall. The ram trophy was pre-

sented in memory of Mr. Hall, who passed away seven years ago, and the ewe trophy was presented in honor of Mrs. Hall.

Other sheep show results are as follows:

SHEPARD'S AWARD: Richard and Mary Ann Johnson.
BORDER LEICESTER: RAM: Brian Atkinson; EWE: Bill and Linda Koepfel; FLEECE: Bill and Linda Koepfel; EXHIBITOR: Brian Atkinson.
COLUMBIA: RAM: Tom and Beth Hines; EWE: Richard and Mary Ann Johnson; FLEECE: Tom and Beth Hines; EXHIBITOR: Richard and Mary Ann Johnson.
CORRIEDALE: RAM: Geoffrey Ruppert; EWE: Ben and Mary Bow; FLEECE: Ben and Mary Bow; EXHIBITOR: Ben and Mary Bow.
LINCOLN: RAM: Bill and Cindy Bankhead; EWE: Bill and Cindy Bankhead; FLEECE: Bill and Cindy Bankhead; EXHIBITOR: William Gardhouse.
RAMBOUILLET: RAM: Richard Powell; EWE: Richard Powell; FLEECE: Terry and Viki Clark; EXHIBITOR: Richard Powell.
ROMNEY: RAM: Bill and Cindy Bankhead; EWE: Bill and Cindy Bankhead; FLEECE: Steven and El Morse; EXHIBITOR: Anchorage Farm.
TARGHEE: RAM: Dick Pearsons; EWE: Dick Pearsons; FLEECE: Dick Pearsons; EXHIBITOR: Linda and Tracy Clements.
BLACK ROMNEY: RAM: Michalenko and Madden; EWE: Nancy Thompson; FLEECE: Steve and El Morse; EXHIBITOR: Michalenko and Madden.
BLACK LINCOLN: RAM: William Gardhouse; EWE: Martha Berger; FLEECE: Carol and Joe Haddock; EXHIBITOR: William Gardhouse.
WHITE WOOL FINE: RAM: Morehouse Farm; EWE: Charles King, Jr.
WHITE WOOL MEDIUM: RAM: Alexandra Drenning; EWE: Alexandra Drenning.
WHITE WOOL LONG: RAM: Kim Caulfield; EWE: George and Nieta Fewkes.



In the ring with the supreme champion ram, left to right: Jenny Biser, Maryland lamb and wool princess; Bobbi Griffin; and William Gardhouse.

WHITE WOOL (ALL CLASSES): EXHIBITOR: Charles King Family.
NAT. COLORED FINE: RAM: Charles Brauer; EWE: Terry and Viki Clark.
NAT. COLORED MEDIUM: RAM: Niki and

Justn Welch; EWE: Chris Scott.
NAT. COLORED LONG: RAM: Free Loader Flock, EWE: Free Loader Flock.
NAT. COLORED (ALL CLASSES): EXHIBITOR: Glen Emerck.



Elyssa Hevner, left, Maryland lamb and wool queen and Sari Scott with the supreme champion ewe.

Penn State To Host Mushroom Conference

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — As many as 250 people will converge on Penn State's University Park Campus in June for an event sure to spawn interest among those who produce, study, or are otherwise involved with mushrooms.

The Second International Conference on Mushroom Biology and Mushroom Products will be held June 9-12 at the Nittany Lion Inn. The conference will feature presentations by more than 60 of the world's top mushroom scientists from 21 countries, including several from Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

"Penn State is the leading mushroom research institution in the United States," said conference chair Daniel Royse, professor of plant pathology. "We've just marked 70 years of mushroom research at Penn State, so it's fitting that we host this prestigious

event."

Pennsylvania leads the nation in mushroom production, a ranking largely due to Penn State research and cooperative extension programs. During the 1994-1995 growing season, 355 million pounds of *Agaricus bisporus* mushrooms (the common button variety) worth \$274 million were produced in the state, representing 45 percent of the U.S. harvest.

Royse said a wide range of mushroom topics and varieties will be discussed. "The conference will cover genetics and breeding, medicinal aspects of mushrooms, cultivation technology, mushroom nutrition and physiology, pest management, postharvest technology, and non-food products," he said. "There also will be a limited number of commercial exhibitors."

Among those scheduled to speak is Pennsylvania Secretary of

Agriculture Charles Brosius, who is also a mushroom producer. Brosius will address challenges and opportunities facing the mushroom industry.

In addition to Royse, those from Penn State expected to make presentations are Ramaswamy Ananthaswaran, associate professor of food science; Robert Beelman, professor of food science; David Beyer, instructor in plant pathology; Shelby Fleischer, assistant professor of entomology; Paul Heinemann, associate professor of agricultural engineering; C. Peter Romaine, associate professor of plant pathology; and Paul Wuest, professor of plant pathology.

To learn more about the conferences and Short Courses at (814) 865-8301.

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