

Smocking Competition

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Mainly Sara gives away the projects that she makes, but sometimes she makes them for others. "I prefer to buy the material myself because too many people who don't sew don't buy suitable fabric. You must have a soft material."

Although she likes to use plaids and flowered prints for smocking instead of always using pastel colors, this can cause a problem. Through trial and error, Sara Jane said that she learned that colors are important. The smocking may "drown" in the print or plaid. Using a darker or lighter color usually makes it stand out more, but even that can be tricky, she said.

"I learned the hard way. I have a whole stack of mistakes," she said. Fewer women sew now than when Sara Jane first began entering projects.

"I know that many women work away from home and are too busy to sew. And some things are cheaper to buy than sew, but I still think it's a good idea for every woman to learn to sew the basics. That way they can alter their own

clothing and it helps to know what to look for when you are buying clothing, too," she said.

A week before the Farm Show, Sara Jane was sewing a lined suit with a below-the-hip jacket and shawl collar. It features padded shoulders, princess seams, and welt pockets.

According to Sara Jane, the most important step in making a professional appearing suit is a good pressing job.

"You must measure and mark accurately, too. You should not be in a hurry," she said of developing good tailoring skills.

Sara Jane and her husband Arthur live on the 120-acre farm that has been in the family for six generations. Recently their son switched positions with his father and Arthur now works for his son who manages the farm. They have 70 milking cows.

Sara Jane no longer helps with milking. Instead she spends two or three days weekly sewing.

"Smocking is my relaxation. If I have tension, I smock. Then I feel better," she said.



Sara Jane uses this machine to pleat the material in preparation for smocking.

Ready For Tax Time?

TOWANDA (Bradford Co.) — "Getting Ready for Tax Time: Tips of Home-based Providers" is the title of a workshop to be offered for child care providers in Bradford County. It will be led by staff with Penn State Cooperative Extension's Better Kid Care Program at Penn State University.

The workshop will be shown via satellite on Thursday, January 23 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the meeting room of the Bradford County Extension Office, 701 South Fourth Street, Towanda. Persons who provide child care in their home are invited to attend. Registered child care providers who attend will receive credit for two training hours.

Special guests for the workshop will include an attorney and accountant. Topics to be discussed include tracking income, what expenses are deductible, developing a system for recording expenses, and determining how to deduct home-space use. There will be a call-in time for participants to ask questions of the professionals.

There is no fee to attend the workshop, however, registration is required by January 21. To register contact the Bradford County Extension Office at phone (717) 265-2896, or 701 South Fourth Street, Towanda, PA 18848.

This workshop will be held in the second floor meeting room. If you would like to attend, but are unable to use the stairs, please contact the Extension Office by January 15.

Training costs for child care providers are fully or partially underwritten by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare, KURC Childcare Directed Training Program.

REGISTERED Charolais Bulls

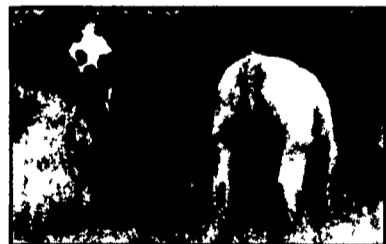
SIRE CALVES THAT TOP THE MARKET.

PROOF. Charolais-sired cattle fit within the guidelines of the National Beef Quality Audit. Feedlots expect and receive higher average daily gains and more efficient feed conversions from Charolais-sired calves. These calves will produce optimum-sized carcasses with a higher percentage of quality retail product and consistently grade Choice with Yield Grades 1s or 2s.

QUALITY. Cattlemen can count on registered Charolais bulls to sire consistent, high-quality calves that are unmistakably Charolais. The identifiable offwhite, yellow, chocolate or smoky influence was seen in market-topping loads of weaned calves across the country in the fall of 1996.

DEMAND. Published market reports and direct order buyers provide evidence Charolais-sired calves consistently top the market. More pounds and a higher price paid per hundred weight target more profit to the cow-calf producer.

PROFIT. Research by the Roman L. Hruska U.S. Meat Animal Research Center and leading universities has documented that Charolais bulls increase performance and profit. Cattlemen who retain ownership on Charolais-sired calves put them in the feedlot sooner, realize heavier and more efficient gains—resulting in earlier marketings and added profits.



Research from Colorado State University Published in the October 1996 Journal of Animal Science

The research evaluates the genetic influences on beef palatability from random matings of Charolais and Limousin sires.

Results and Discussion

- Progeny of Charolais sires were the product of shorter gestation lengths and had heavier 365-day weights, heavier slaughter weights, higher USDA Yield Grades, higher USDA Marbling Scores and higher odds of having carcasses grading USDA Choice - Charolais 51.4%, Limousin 38.2%.
- Progeny of Charolais sires had lower shear force values at 1, 7, 14, 21 and 35-days post-mortem.

American-International Charolais Association Sire Evaluation Program

Group Averaged Results Summer 1996

Marbling Score	FT	REA	YG
Ch-Sm70	.47 in	14 30 sq in	2 55

- Over 96.6% of carcasses were graded low Choice or higher.
- AICA Carcass EPDs will be available in 1997



American-International Charolais Association

P.O. Box 20247 • Kansas City, MO 64119
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 The AICA is the official registry for Charolais and Charbray.

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The Research Study Has Been Approved by The Institutional Review Board under FDA Regulations At Penn State's Hershey Medical Center.