

Farm Show Market Livestock Auction Totals \$157,000

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HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — The sale of market animals at the 1998 Pennsylvania Farm Show raised a total of \$157,149.22 for the youth who sold the three species of livestock — lambs, swine and steer — at auction.

Included in the auction sale total was a record \$27,000 price paid for the grand champion market steer, reported in *Lancaster Farming* last week.

Bill Campbell, CEO of Hoss's Steak and Sea House a long time supporter of the 4-H and FFA programs, and youth with projects, paid \$27,000 for the grand champion steer owned by Tim Kosiorek of Wattsburg, breaking his 1996 \$26,000 record-setting price paid for the grand champion steer.

For those youth whose Farm Show market animal didn't make the cut to be sold at auction, they received the lower, straight packer price, not included in the sale averages.

While largely unnoticed by the regular media crews annually

attracted to the sale of champions event, the Farm Show exhibitor who showed the reserve grand champion swine made an offer of a free pig to one of her fellow Farm Show swine exhibitors whose animal was passed over for sale at auction.

Janine Winebark, daughter of Kenneth and Janet Winebark of Myerstown, has offered a free, top quality genetics market swine piglette to the winner of a contest.

Winebark's swine, of course, was included in the overall auction total, according to details released this week from the Farm Show administration.

While prices paid on the other champions didn't break records, they all are inflated and go to help youth raise money in the hope they will use it to further their own advancement in learning and knowledge.

The total paid on the six champion animals — the grand and reserve grand of each of the three species — was \$38,750.

Without including the champions, the average price paid on the other 57 steers auctioned was

\$955, or 78 cents per pound, for a total of \$54,435.

The average price paid on the 120 non-grand champion market lambs sold at auction was \$241.33, or \$2.05 per pound, for a total of \$28,959.60.

The average price paid on the 161 non-grand champion market swines was \$217.42, or 89 cents per pound, for a total of \$35,004.62.

As background to understanding Winebark's offer of a show pig to raise for the 1999 Farm Show, the way such a livestock sale is generally conducted is that one to several meat packing businesses will offer to pay a set price for all livestock not sold through auction.

The packers will often, as in the case of the Farm Show sale and most others sales, offer to buy any of the animals at market price — saving supporters the concern and bother of taking possession of the animal, when support is all that is desired; and offering a reasonable price to youth whose animals may not quite measure up.

Because of the tremendous volume of youth with swine projects,

it has been considered too time consuming and meaningless to bring the majority of the swine into the ring to be sold.

The top 160 or so are sold in the auction ring, while the rest are sold to the packer.

There were 408 market swine entered this year. If all those entered actually were shown in the ring and then sold, that means that about 248 youth received the packer rate for their animals.

There were 69 market steers entered, and 204 market lambs. Allowing for no-shows, that means there were still a few youth who didn't receive the added financial benefit of having their Farm Show animal at auction.

While this seems fair to most adults, Winebark said she noticed that some of the youth whose swine didn't make the cut to be sold at auction seemed somewhat disheartened.

Further, she knows that perfect care of a market animal can not overcome poor genetics, and that good genetics can be expensive to purchase or otherwise take years to develop.

Having shown the reserve grand

champion market hog this year, she expressed her concern that those whose animal didn't make the cut to be sold at auction might not return to compete at the Farm Show next year.

During her turn at the annual last-day-of Farm Show sale of champions event, it was announced that she is offering a chance for those other youth to benefit from the Hampshire genetics she has in her swine.

She said she wants to offer one piglette out of an anticipated litter from the sow that bore her 1998 reserve grand champion.

Eligibility is restricted to those 248 or so youth whose 1998 Farm Show junior market swine entry didn't make the cut for auction.

What they have to do to win is write a two-page, typewritten, double-spaced entry on:

"Why I would like to be considered as the caretaker of this market pig, and how I would plan to care for it."

Included with the entry should

(Turn to Page A24)



From the left, Glen and Sue Sansom of Kessler's Inc. in Lemoyne, hold the junior market lamb grand champion banner, and stand with co-buyers of the champion, from the Agri-Lending Group of Lebanon Valley National Bank, while Heidi Svonavec shows her grand champion lamb, and state Secretary of Agriculture Samuel Hayes Jr. stands with them on the right. Representing LVNB, from the left, are Bob Donaldson, Mike Firestine, Sean McKinney, Travis Werley, John Eaton and Jerry Bollinger.

From the left, Hoss Man stands with Janine Winebark, exhibitor of the reserve grand champion market swine, while buyer Bill Campbell, CEO of Hoss' Steak and Sea House holds the banner, and is joined by state Secretary of Agriculture Samuel Hayes Jr.



From the left, buyer Robb Harris, district manager for Hoss's Steak and Sea House Inc., stands with state Secretary of Agriculture Samuel Hayes Jr., the mascot of the restaurant chain, Hoss Man, Hoss representative Betsy Lehman, while Katie Hummel holds the halter of her reserve grand champion.



Buyer of the reserve grand champion market lamb, Greg Kirkham with Old Guard Insurance holds the banner, while Luke Svonavec holds the champion, and is joined by state Secretary of Agriculture Samuel Hayes Jr.