

Junior Association Holds Preview Show

BUTLER (Butler Co.) — Pennsylvania Polled Hereford Junior Association members held its Preview Show here at the Butler County Fairgrounds on Saturday, May 23.

A total of 29 head competed for top honors in preparation for the junior member's trip to the National Show to be held in July at Springfield, Ill.

Jessica Dye of Amity, Washington County, exhibited her April 1997 yearling heifer, Boyd Fascination 7087, to champion honors in the owned show, while Matt Cross of Kennerdell, Venango County, showed his May 1997 heifer, HJF Bottomline 8G, to reserve honors. Emilie Miller of Womelsdorf, Berks County, exhibited her March 1997 yearling

heifer, ECM Ric-Key 701, to top honors in the bred-and-owned division. Jessica Dye's November 1997 heifer calf, BVF Victoria 26G, was the reserve champion in the bred-and-owned show.

In the showmanship competition, Randall Dye of Amity was champion showman in the Pee-wee division (age 7-9), Jessica Dye was champion Junior Showman (Age 10-14), and Connie Shaw, Newcomerstown, Ohio, was champion Senior Showman (Age 15-21). Go-getter awards were given to Emilie Miller, Samuel Reimer of Butler, Butler County, and Cody Biddle, of Seneca, Venango County.

In other business, the Junior Association elected officers for the upcoming year. They include president, Matt Cross; vice president, Luke Vogel, of Evans City, Butler County; secretary, Emilie Miller; and treasurer, Cody Filges, of Butler, Butler County.

BULLS

Class 1 Bred & Owned Bulls: 1. Zachrah Dye, BVF Clarene's Z Boy, grand champion.

STEERS

Class 2 (Calved Before 3/31/97): 1. Connie Shaw, grand champion, 2. Amanda Frazier, of Goergstown, Beaver County, reserve champion, 3. Matt Cross

Class 3 (Calved After 4/1/97): 1. Emilie Miller, 2. Cody Biddle.



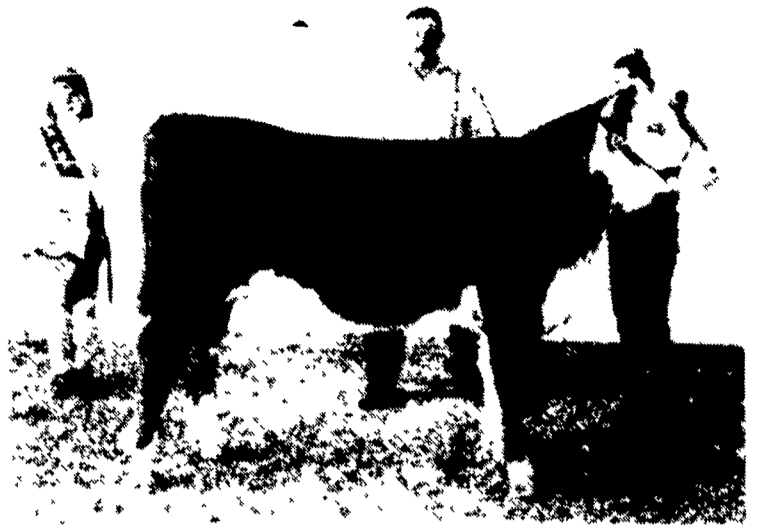
Zach Dye, Amity, with BVF Clarene's Z Boy, grand champion bull at the 1998 Pennsylvania Polled Hereford Preview Show.



Connie Shaw, Ohio, with her grand champion steer at the Pennsylvania Polled Hereford Preview Show.



Cody and Dana Filges, Butler, with the grand champion cow-calf pair at the 1998 Pennsylvania Junior Polled Hereford Preview Show at the Butler Fairgrounds.



Emilie Miller, Womelsdorf, with ECM Ric-key 701, grand champion bred and owned heifer at the Pennsylvania Polled Hereford Preview Show.

COW-CALF PAIRS

Class 4: 1. Cody Filges, CL Grandeta, 3-5-94, with 3-24-98 bull calf, grand champion; 2. Luke Vogel, DCF 25C Vaquerita 626, 3-7-96 with 3-1-98 heifer calf, reserve champion.

HEIFERS

Class 5 (9/1/97-12/31/97): 1. Jessica Dye, reserve champion bred & owned, 2. Randall Dye.

Class 6 (5/1/97-8/31/97): 1. Matt Cross, reserve champion, 2. Luke Vogel.

Class 7 (4/1/98-4/31/97): 1. Benn Cross,

2. Scott Reimer

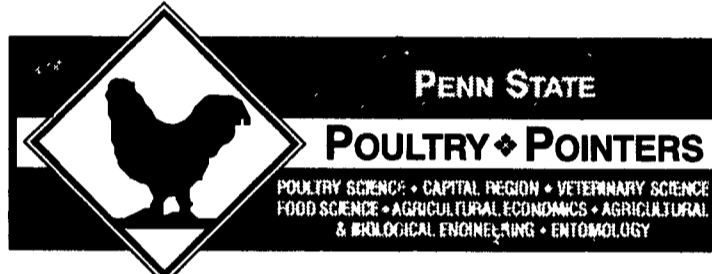
Class 8 (4/1/97-4/10/97): 1. Jessica Dye, grand champion, 2. Luke Vogel, 3. Samuel Reimer

Class 9 (3/9/97-3/31/97): 1. Emilie Miller, champion bred & owned, 2. Connie Shaw, 3. Randall Dye

Class 10 (3/1/97-3/8/97): 1. Zach Dye, 2. Emilie Miller, 3. Charles Vogel

Class 11 (1/1/97-2/28/97): 1. Elizabeth Dye, 2. Scott Reimer, 3. Samuel Reimer

Class 12 (9/1/96-12/31/96): 1. Cody Biddle



COMING ARE YOU PREPARED?

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Recently, weather reports showed unseasonably warm temperatures in Arkansas and Texas, triple digit weather? I haven't heard of disastrous effects on poultry production in that area, but certainly without adequate house and bird management preparation, mortality, morbidity, reduced gain and inefficiency of performance would have occurred. In areas in the South, the producers expect the weather to turn warm to hot and make plans to ameliorate the effects.

If they don't prepare, they suffer the consequences. As the old saying goes "if you fail to plan, you plan to fail." The time to prepare for avoiding the effects of high ambient temperature is now. The two strategies that are used to diminish the effects of high temperature on poultry are maintenance of ventilation equipment and reviewing what to do in when high temperatures endanger your poultry flock.

Many times we get distracted and forget to prepare for the advent of summer weather. It is usually the early heat spell that causes the greatest damage and loss of birds due to heat stress than when birds have been gradually acclimated to higher temperatures in the middle of the summer.

Therefore, take the covers off your tunnel fans, get your migration fences out, reset the phases on your computer controls or think about what has to be done as far as ventilation and fogging and at what temperatures. If you can't remember, find someone who does know before you are in

the middle of a crisis. Also, remind your employees what needs to be done in high heat and humidity situations.

The first equipment that comes to mind in making sure you are prepared for summer weather is your fans. Fans are rated for a particular efficiency to work within your house, but if they have dirty blades, if the wire mesh is coated with dust, if the shutters are stuck and dirty, and if the fan belt is loose, then you are losing precious air velocity, and volume that should be used to ventilate your birds.

The next machinery that needs attention is the fogging system. Have you taken the nozzles out and soaked them in vinegar or some solution to get them clean and clear from particles that might inhibit their ability to deliver the right volume of water and in the right droplet size to maximize evaporative cooling? If not, now is the time. The pump also needs to be checked and water line rinsed and sanitized.

Other strategies to remember during high heat situations are to remove the feed from the bird in the heat of the day. The reason is that the consumption of feed produces heat during digestion and adds to the heat stress of the birds. One effective way to get this done is to raise the feed line while there is still feed in it early in the morning.

Raising the feed line gives the

birds added floor space and allows all birds to eat all the way down the feeder line when the feed is returned to the birds. Otherwise, the birds cause stress and carcass damage as they crowd the feeders when the auger fills the feed pans. On the other hand, water helps to cool birds. We have found that the water in the water lines rapidly reach ambient temperatures. That means, when the temperature reaches 95 degrees in the house, the temperature of the water in the line is 95 degrees and inhibits some consumption by the birds. Where are the water lines usually placed in poultry houses? Near the ceiling, one of the hotter places in the house. Flushing of hot water lines is thought of as a good strategy.

However, when the temperature reaches 95 degrees or higher, birds don't drink much no matter what the temperature of the water. Therefore, refreshing water lines is of more value toward the end of the day when the birds go back on feed. Because of the feed and water refusal by birds during very high temperatures, the other strategies of increasing airflow over the birds, evaporative cooling and feed removal during the heat of the day become very important management techniques.

The story is told of the employee who listed in his job application that his greatest asset was his ability to sleep when the wind blows. When the strong winds came, the employer went to check out his farm and found all in order because his employee had been prepared and was fast asleep in the barn. May, you be able to sleep when the temperature gets hot because your house is properly prepared and your equipment is properly maintained.

