

# 'Zimmermans' Dominate Ephrata Sheep Show's 167 Entries

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EPHRATA (Lancaster Co.)** —

Despite 167 competitive entries at the Ephrata Fair Sheep Show last week, the Zimmerman family swept most of the championships.

First, Jennifer Zimmerman won showmanship. Then her brother Jimmy, 14, showed Luke and Duke, twin homebred Hampshires, to capture the grand and reserve championship market lamb titles. In breeding sheep, Jimmy took championships in Cheviot and Hampshire divisions. Jennifer showed both the Southdown and Horned Dorset champions then went on to show the supreme breeding sheep over all sheep with her Southdown ewe, named Alley.

The judge called the ewe, "equisite" and possessing everything desired in the Southdown breed.

The ewe had been purchased at the Ohio Southdown Sale after one of Jennifer's former champion ewes died from birthing complications.

The Zimmermans also had many reserve and first placings in classes with those they selected from the 65 head of Hampshires,

Southdowns, Cheviots, and Horned Dorsets raised on their Reinholds farm. They are the children of Jay and JoAnn Zimmerman.

Despite the Zimmerman's overwhelmingly good night, a few choice spots were claimed by non-family Zimmerman members.

Radell Peters, Elizabethtown, showed the champion Polled Dorset ram, which went on to be selected as the reserve champion breeding sheep over all breeds. The Dorset ram, named Aristotle, which means "ultimate," was purchased from Van Beer Farm in Dauphin County last year.

In the non-sale market lambs, Sarah Boyd, Ephrata, showed her undefeated champion heavy-weight for the grand champion trophy. The lamb was a previous champion at 4-H Roundup and at the Denver Fair.

"You don't come across one this good often," Sarah's dad said of the champion heavyweight with tremendous length of loin and eye appeal.

Sarah plans to show and sell Jordan at New Holland Fair next week. She'll shed lots of tears, she said, because she has become more



Supreme champion breeding sheep over all breeds is a Southdown ewe shown by Jennifer Zimmerman. Radell Peters shows his Dorset ram named the reserve grand champion over all breeds by Kathryn Gabriel, judge.



Sarah Boyd shows the non-sale champion market lamb at Ephrata Fair.

attached to this lamb than any others in her many years of showing.

"He's spoiled rotten," Sarah said of the lamb she feeds whoopie pies and candy bars as rewards for winning.

Showing the reserve non-sale market lamb was Ryan Donough, 13. The homebred Suffolk named Murry has tremendous leg developed from running hurdles and long walks at the Donough's Manheim farm. His older brother Travis was won the reserve showmanship title. His younger sister Joelyn Donough showed the champion Oxford breeding sheep.

In Romney breeding sheep, Alexandra Lauffer showed the champion and reserve. Derick Bolinger showed the champion and reserve Shropshires. Andrew Gerhart showed the champion and reserve in the Suffolk classes. Gabriel Bowman showed the champion and reserve in Lincoln and in Other-Natural Colored classes and the Polypay champion and reserve were shown by his sisters Dallassa and Kelsey Bowman respectively. Amy Hains showed a Jacobs' ewe for the championship in the "others" division.

The 10-hour sheep show



Grand champion in showmanship is Jennifer Zimmerman. Travis Donough is reserve.



Judge Kathryn Gabriel selects Jimmy Zimmerman's twin Hampshires for the grand and reserve champion market lambs.



The reserve non-sale champion market lamb is shown by Ryan Donough.

required Kathryn Gabriel, sheep breeder from Glen Arm, Md. and president of the National Montadale Association, to select champions in showmanship, market, non-sale, breeding, and supreme over all breeds.

"It's never easy to select champions when so many are showing," Gabriel said, but she gave detailed

attention to each of the 167 entries and thorough assessments of each breeding sheep.

"I am impressed with how professional the kids are. They have been taught well and their showmanship is really impressive," Gabriel said of the exhibitors.

A partial listing of Ephrata Fair  
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