

Exhibitors Make Grade At Perry County Fair

NEWPORT (Perry Co.) — "Today, I'm going to do something I have never done before," explained swine showmanship judge Henry Holloway of Bel Air, Md.

He then went on to name two junior exhibitors, 9-year-old John Ebersole and 10-year-old Cole McGuire, as champion swine showman and reserve champion swine showman of the 28th annual Perry County Fair.

In the swine showmanship event, these two enthusiastic young men placed highest in a group of 48 showmen, which included intermediate and senior exhibitors up to 21 years in age.

John and Cole are active, second-year members of the Perry County 4-H Livestock Club, which has grown considerably during recent years and presently has 84 members. Members of the livestock club and local FFA chapters showed 23 steers, the most entered in any Perry County Fair, and 53 market lambs, which represented a considerable increase from last

year. Twenty-four market goats, 81 market pigs, and five meat pens of rabbits also were shown.

The fair held in August, also featured dairy cattle, dairy goat, and dog shows. Showmanship competitions were held for each type of animal present at the fair. This year's fair also included a stockman's competition.

Pennsylvania Lt. Gov. Mark Schweiker and Secretary of Agriculture Samuel E. Hayes, Jr. attended the market steer and swine shows. Patrick Finkenbinder's 1,275-pound Limousin steer won grand champion honors, and Amber Hetrick's 1,120-pound Maine Anjou was reserve grand champion. Sheena Hines was master market steer showman, Patrick Finkenbinder was reserve champion showman.

"This was a very competitive lamb show, with large numbers of lambs in each class," said market lamb judge Dick Kuzemchek of State College. Junior Exhibitor Katelynn Curtis won grand champion with her 122-pound Suffolk lamb. Bart Gill won reserve grand champi-

on with his 127-pound Dorset lamb. Bart was also master sheep showman, John Hines was reserve champion sheep showman.

Honors for grand champion market goat went to Bart Gill's Boer crossbred goat, and Abigail Finkenbinder's Alpine crossbred market goat was reserve grand champion. Abigail Finkenbinder was master market showman. Reserve champion market goat showman was Bart Gill.

From a total of 81 market swine, the honors for grand champion went to John Ebersole's 268-pound Yorkshire/Hampshire crossbred hog. Keri Rowe's 265-pound Hampshire/Duroc crossbred hog was reserve grand champion.

In the rabbit competition, Tracy Lindgren received honors for the grand champion rabbit meat pen, and Cole McGuire won honors for the reserve. Cortney Pontius was rabbit master showman and Tracy Lindgren was reserve master rabbit showman.

Kassy Snyder showed the best 4-H dairy goat at the fair and was also dairy goat master showman. Amanda Myers showed the 4-H grand champion dairy cow, and Brian Salzburg was dairy cow master showman. Regan Walker was master dog showman.

On the fourth night of the fair, master showmen from each of the above animal categories participated in the competition for supreme showman, one of the highest honors associated with the fair's livestock shows. Animals from all of the above categories were shown by each contestant. Sheena Hines was supreme showman of the fair, and Bart Gill won the reserve title.

Area business leaders and other buyers provided strong support at the annual livestock auction held on the last night of the fair. Mutzabaugh's Market, Duncannon, and Hatfield, Inc. of Hatfield, Pa. led the buying with the purchases of nine animals each. H.F. Campbell and Son, Millerstown, purchased eight animals. One hundred eighty-two animals crossed the auction block for a record sale of \$68,800. Buyers came from six counties to purchase animals. Record prices were set for the

grand champion hog, which sold for \$1,525; the reserve champion hog, \$1,300; the grand champion

market goat, \$700, and the reserve champion market goat, \$400.



Champion swine showman John Ebersole and his grand champion market hog.



Bart Gill and Abigail Finkenbinder with their grand champion and reserve champion market goats.



Supreme showman Sheena Hines and reserve supreme showman Bart Gill.



Katelynn Curtis and her grand champion market lamb.

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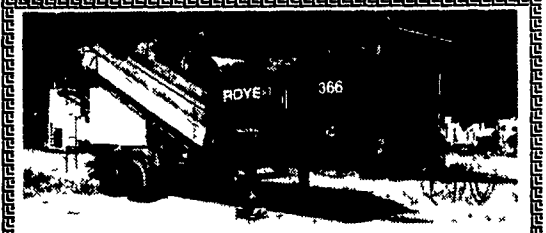
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