

Supreme Dairy Animals Picked At Frederick Event

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FREDERICK, Md. — The supreme champions of the 4-H and open class dairy shows were selected in an evening extravaganza dubbed the LegenDAIRY'98 Celebration here at the fairgrounds in Frederick.

The event, set to music and complete with a cake cutting ceremony, parade of champion dairy goats, and a milk mustache award, highlighted Frederick County's number one industry-agriculture during the final days of the 136th annual Great Frederick Fair.

Judges for the evening were Jeff Myers, Westminster, who works with the Maryland State 4-H program, and Jason Myers, of Windsor-Manor Farm, New Windsor. All six dairy breeds were represented by junior and senior champions in both the 4-H and open shows.

Shady Creek Lem Mae Madora, a 9-year-old Brown Swiss cow exhibited by Jennifer Keilholtz of Glad-Ray Farm, Emmitsburg, won the judges' admiration and was named supreme champion of the open show.

Madora showed a combination of dairyness and strength, accented by a beautifully attached udder that impressed the judges as something really special, especially in an aged cow.

"For a 9-year old she just has such a tremendous, capacious udder. You've got to admire an animal who has this kind of longevity with this kind of production," said Jeff Myers.

"She has so much quality about her; so much dairyness and openness of rib. Her udder is so highly attached. It's just very, very difficult to fault this animal.

Currently milking 90 pounds a day, Madora was fresh this past December and will calve again in December, said Jennifer Keilholtz. The Keilholtz family milks 65 Holsteins and Brown Swiss cows at their Glad-Ray

Farm in Emmitsburg. Madora was purchased as a calf from Richard Wenger, Manheim, Pa. explained Keilholtz. She was nominated All-American as a 2-Year-old and was reserve grand champion this year at the Maryland State fair.

An outstanding Ayrshire winter calf exhibited by Mark Valentine of Vales-Pride Farm, Emmitsburg, was selected as the 4-H and open junior supreme animal. Vales-Pride Demand Rodeo was a heifer that had all the correctness, the strength, and the balance to satisfy the judges.

"The Ayrshire is a tremendous individual; a beautiful, blended, stylish calf," said Jason Myers. Jeff Myers agreed that the heifer was a beautiful, stylish individual from head to toe.

The Valentine family milks 150 cows on their 425 acre farm. They also showed the senior champion 4-H Ayrshire, and the senior champion open class Ayrshire this year at the Frederick fair.

A senior 3-year Jersey, TE-Faw Golden Aron Callie, exhibited by Emily Fawley, was named the 4-H senior supreme champion. TE-Faw Farm, home of the Fawley family, is in Jefferson. The Fawleys farm 300 acres.

Jeff Myers said, "I think the Jersey makes an outstanding winner. There is just so much quality about her; she's just an outstanding individual." He said he especially liked the jersey's high, wide rear udder.

Thurmont Cooperative and Farmers Cooperative Association of Frederick donated monetary awards to the open class supreme champions. Rodman Myers was on hand to represent Thurmont Cooperative, and Dave Remsburg represented FCA of Frederick.

A milk mustache contest, held earlier during the fair, was organized by Fern Hines. The winner of the contest was 6-month-old Emily Ann Sewall, daughter of John and Lori Sewall.



Shady Creek Lem Mae Madora, a 9-year-old Brown Swiss cow exhibited by the Keilholtz family of Glad-Ray Farm, Emmitsburg, was supreme champion. Shown with Madora are, from left to right, Jason Myers, judge; Jeff Myers, judge; Jennifer Keilholtz at the halter; Jim and Sharon Keilholtz; Rodman Myers representing Thurmont Cooperative, award donor; and John Bell, dairy superintendent on the fair board.



4-H and open class junior and senior supreme champions pose for a picture. From left, Jason Myers, judge; Jeff Myers, judge; Jennifer Keilholtz with her open class senior supreme Brown Swiss; Emily Fawley with her 4-H senior supreme Jerseys; Mark Valentine with his 4-H and open class junior supreme champion Ayrshire; and Bob Valentine.

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The offer comes from Indiana-based Fielder's Choice Direct, the nation's first seed corn company to market high performance hybrids directly to the grower. Growers are advised to call a toll-free 800 number for a free copy of the 1999 Fielder's Choice Direct catalog. The company offers a full line of non-Bt hybrids for just \$64 per 80,000 kernel bag, nearly 35 percent below the cost of national brands. This year's selection also includes three new hybrids containing the Bt gene for resistance to the European corn borer.

Founded by Indiana farmer Mike Williams in 1985, Fielder's Choice Direct was recently identified as one of the fastest grow-

ing seed corn companies in the nation, posting an annual growth rate of nearly 30 percent. After recently completing an expansion of its corporate headquarters in Monticello, Ind., the company has now extended its marketing efforts into 41 corn producing states.

Williams, president of Fielder's Choice Direct, attributes the company's growth to an information management system that tracks more than 60 data points and agronomic practices for each customer, and a direct-to-the-farmer marketing and distribution program that eliminates dealer/distributor costs, marketing test plots, field signs, even the cost of free caps and jackets, and passes the savings directly to the grower.

At the heart of the Fielder's Choice Direct concept is a comprehensive information management program, a sophisticated telecommunications network, and a staff of certified crop advisers and seed consultants assigned to help each customer select the ideal combination of hybrids and genetic traits for his farm and farming conditions.



Vales-Pride Demand Rodeo, an Ayrshire winter calf exhibited by Mark Valentine, was 4-H and open class junior supreme champion. Shown with Rodeo are, from left, Jason Myers, judge; Jeff Myers, judge; Mark Valentine at the halter; and Dave Remsburg representing Farmers Cooperative Association of Frederick, award donor.