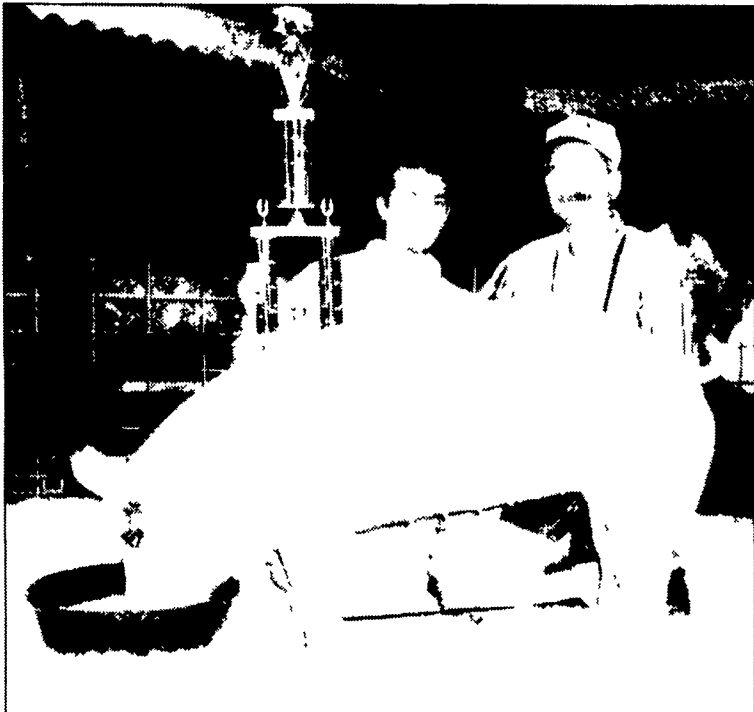


Nine Years In Making, Martin Finally Captures New Holland Swine Champion



Supreme champion swine at New Holland went to Gary Martin, left. At right is Dave Holloway, judge. Photo by Andy Andrews

ANDY ANDREWS
Lancaster Farming Staff
NEW HOLLAND (Lancaster Co.) — It took some time. Took a lot of time, actually (nine years), but Gary Martin of New Holland could finally claim a supreme market swine trophy, as he did Tuesday evening here at the New Holland Farmers' Fair.

Gary, 19, a 2000 Garden Spot High School graduate and graduate of the architectural drafting program at Brownstown Vo-Tech, watched as his brother Gerald took home a champion trophy in 1995, said Gary.

But on Tuesday evening, a Yorkshire/Hampshire gilt, the 256-pound light heavyweight champion, captured the eye of Dave Holloway, Glen Rock, swine judge.

Gary, son of Clarence and Marilyn Martin, purchased the hog from the Strauss Brothers in Lincoln. Gary works as assistant draftsman for Conestoga Pole Building, New Holland.

The former Grassland FFA sentinel plans to continue showing at upcoming fairs.

Reserve champion went to Sarah Boyd, 19, daughter of Kerry and Deb Boyd, Ephrata. This is the last year of 4-H showing for Sarah, Ephrata High School graduate, but she plans to continue showing as an FFA member.

Sarah exhibited the 262-pound heavyweight division winner. Sarah's family nicknamed the hog "Xena" in honor of the TV warrior princess.

There were 63 hogs and 26 exhibitors. Following is a list of show placings.



Sarah Boyd won reserve champion hog at the New Holland Farmers' Fair. Dave Holloway judged the show.

Cambria County Livestock Sale Announces Results

GAY BROWNLEE
Somerset Co. Correspondent
EBENSBURG (Cambria Co.) — At the Cambria County 4-H Livestock Sale in early September, 196 animals brought a total of \$82,237.63 from area buyers.

From Windber, Michael Weyant's grand champion market swine sold for \$2.95 a pound to Dr. Kerry Kirsch. The reserve champion swine of Megan Skebeck, Patton, sold for \$2.40 per pound to Agway Energy Products. The sale average for 112 market hogs was \$1.36 per pound.

Scott Strittmatter's grand champion lamb was bought by Direct Value Outlet for \$3.30 per pound. He is from Ebensburg. The company also purchased the reserve champion of Jamie Johns, Johnstown, for \$2 per pound. The per-pound average for some 23 market lambs was \$1.26.

Hoss's Steak and Sea House bid \$2.95 for the grand champion steer of Andy Myers, South Fork, but donated it back for resale to

benefit the 4-H scholarship fund. Alex Froehlich Packing Co. then purchased the animal.

Kostas Restaurant purchased the reserve champion steer for Kelly Myers of South Fork for \$1.20 per pound. An average of \$1.01 per pound was paid for the 24 steers that crossed the auction block.

Long Hardwoods paid a premium price of \$2.85 per pound for the grand champion market goat of Katie McMullen of Ashville. The reserve champion goat of Clairissa Myers of Ashville brought \$1.35 per pound from Long Barn, Inc. The five market goats sold averaged \$1.50 per pound.

Blarney Stone Personal Care purchased the grand champion veal of Kelly Myers of South Fork for \$1.10 per pound. Krystal Heinlein of Summerhill had the reserve champion veal, which brought \$2 per pound from Alex Froehlich Packing Co. Fifteen veal animals averaged \$1.07 per pound.

Farm Bureau: Labels Needed For Homegrown Meat

WASHINGTON, D.C.— In the interest of fairness to American consumers and the producers who put meat and poultry on their tables, Farm Bureau recently told Congress that country-of-origin labels should be standard on all retail meat.

"We feel that consumers have the right to know where the food they are buying is produced, in order to distinguish American products from those produced in other countries," New Jersey Farm Bureau President John Rigolizzo told a House Agriculture subcommittee. "Consumers have confidence in America's farmers and ranchers. This allows them to buy products produced by their fellow Americans and be assured that the products were produced in America."

Rigolizzo, a Garden State farmer and American Farm Bureau Federation board member, said surveys show consumers care about the origin of the food they eat. He said current government policy, which allows imported livestock to carry USDA inspection labels when the animals are processed in U.S. packing facilities, is misleading, and

patently unfair to American producers.

"Today, a great deal of foreign beef is graded by USDA and sold at retail to the consumer simply as USDA-graded beef," Rigolizzo said. "Foreign beef is frequently advertised as USDA-inspected meat without mention of whether it is a domestic or imported product."

He said despite failed legislative attempts to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to require imported product labels, Farm Bureau continues to push the issue.

Rigolizzo told lawmakers that Farm Bureau and other farm and livestock groups recently asked Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman to write new regulations to create a program to allow home-grown beef to be labeled "Beef: Made in the USA."

"Farm Bureau believes that a process-verified program certified by USDA would be beneficial to our livestock producers," Rigolizzo said, noting that the certified beef must originate from cattle that are processed, raised, and fed a minimum of 100 days in the U.S.

NEW HOLLAND FARMERS' FAIR SWINE SHOW RESULTS

SHOWMANSHIP

Seniors 1 Derick Bollinger 2 Amy Becker 3 Jenny Hoover Champion Derick Bollinger

Juniors 1 Gerald Martin 2 Todd Stoltzfus 3 Jason Martin Champion Gerald Martin

Amateurs 1 Holly Hoover 2 Cody Drace 3 Josh Hoover Champion Holly Hoover

MARKET SWINE

Lightweight Class 1 (220-228 lbs) 1 Matthew Gerhart 2 Amy Becker 3 Cory Simo

Class 2 (228-232 lbs) 1 Andrew Gerhart 2 Gary Martin 3 Nathan Hoover

Class 3 (236-238 lbs) 1 Zack Stoltzfus 2 Jen Hughes 3 Jenny Hoover
Lightweight Champion Zack Stoltzfus
Reserve Andrew Gerhart

Middleweight Class 4 (238-240 lbs) 1 Mitchell Hershey 2 Angela Hoover. 3 Jenny Hoover

Class 5 (242-244 lbs.) 1 Sarah Boyd 2 Nathan Hoover 3 Justin Martin

Class 6 (246-250 lbs) 1 Andrew Gerhart 2 Jason Martin 3 Derick Bollinger.

Middleweight Champion Sarah Boyd
Reserve Nathan Hoover

Light Heavyweight Class 7 (250 lbs) 1 Mitchell Hershey. 2 Justin Martin. 3 Todd Stoltzfus

Class 8 (250-252 lbs) 1 Derick Bollinger 2 Gary Martin 3 Todd Stoltzfus

Class 9 (254-258 lbs) 1 Gary Martin 2 Eric Ober 3 Zack Stoltzfus
Light Heavyweight Champion Gary Martin
Reserve Mitchell Hershey
Heavyweight Class 10 (260 lbs) 1 Gerald Martin 2 Derick Bollinger 3 Rachel Brubaker

Class 11 (262-266 lbs) 1 Sarah Boyd 2 Nathan Hoover 3 Jacob Brubaker
Class 12 (264-270 lbs) 1 Gerald Martin 2. Eric Ober 3 Zack Stoltzfus
Heavyweight Champion Sarah Boyd
Reserve Gerald Martin

SUPREME CHAMPION MARKET HOG
Gary Martin
RESERVE
Sarah Boyd

Showmanship champions at the New Holland Farmers' Fair Swine Show. From left, Gerald Martin, junior champion; Dave Holloway, judge; and Derick Bollinger, senior champion. Photo by Andy Andrews

USDA Reaches Proposed Settlement Of Animal Welfare Lawsuit

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The USDA has reached a proposed settlement of an animal welfare lawsuit brought by the Alternatives Research & Development Foundation.

Under the terms of the settlement, which has yet to be approved by the federal judge overseeing the case, USDA will initiate and complete a rulemaking process on the regulation of rats, mice, and birds under the Animal Welfare Act. These animals are not currently regulated under the Animal Welfare Act by USDA.

"I believe this proposed settlement is a reasonable resolution of this case," said Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman. "By initiating rulemaking, we ensure an open process with significant opportunity for public input. If the settlement is approved, I would strongly urge interested parties to actively participate in the rulemaking process to ensure that all points of view are fairly

represented." USDA will keep ARDF and

the public informed throughout the rulemaking process.

National Farmers Organization Commends GAO Report

AMES, Iowa — A major farm organization recently heralded congressional moves to corral America's agricultural giants.

Working hard for U.S. family farmers and ranchers, National Farmers Organization commended the recent General Accounting Office report and Sen. Charles Grassley's legislation to restore fairness to agriculture.

"We're extremely enthusiastic that it appears the bull is finally being taken by the horns," said Paul Olson, President of National Farmers Organization. "With all the mergers, consolidations, and anticompetitive practices that have taken place in the last 10 years, it's certainly time to exercise some regulatory authority, and restore equitability and profitability to family farming."

The General Accounting Office (GAO) reported in 1991 that USDA was not effectively monitoring competition in livestock markets, and its most recent report suggests that the nation's agriculture department has not exercised its regulatory power provided by the 1921 Packers

and Stockyards Act. Gerald Thain, a noted expert on competition and a professor at the University of Wisconsin law school, has said that the Secretary of Agriculture holds complete regulatory power over packers and all their actions.

A study commissioned by the American Meat Institute, which represents some large U.S. packers, even found a negative side to contracting. Its study concluded that when contracting becomes widespread, open markets wither away and fair price discovery does not take place. The report also noted that increased market concentration can raise the bar for independent producers to remain in business and prosper.

"While USDA has acknowledged the need to make changes in the past, the agency has never gotten the job done," said Senator Charles Grassley, R-Iowa. "The GAO report provides the blueprint for fixing the problems." National Farmers, along with several other farm groups, have been calling attention to the problem for several years.

