

# Lebanon Area Fair Posts Sale, Show Results



Tracey Gray's 1,286-pound Lebanon Fair champion market steer went for \$3,000 to Doug Horst, representing Country Fare Restaurant, Myerstown. All photos by Andy Adnrews, editor



Reserve champion steer of the Lebanon Area Fair, weighing 1,264 pounds and shown by Kyle Fleener, Robesonia, went for \$2,200 to Dutchway Farm Market, Myerstown, represented by Steven Habecker.

## LEBANON AREA FAIR MARKET LAMB RESULTS

### LIGHTWEIGHT

Class 1 1. Amber Frank 2. Carl Eisenhauer Jr. 3. Amber Frank

Class 2 1. Rebecca Eisenhauer 2. Heath Spatz 3. Amber Frank

### MEDIUM WEIGHT

Class 1 1. Rebecca Eisenhauer 2. Rebecca Eisenhauer 3. Emily Hornor

Class 2 1. Erin Willard 2. MaryEllen Whitmoyer 3. Emily Whitmoyer

### LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT

Class 1 1. Megan Fuls 2. Kurt Fleener 3. Billie Jo Atkins

Class 2 1. Melissa Jo Risser 2. Billie Jo Atkins 3. Rebecca Spatz

### HEAVYWEIGHT

Class 1 1. Susan Leed 2. Kurt Fleener 3. Megan Fuls

Class 2 1. Kyle Fleener 2. Susan Leed 3. Susan Leed

Champion: Kyle Fleener

Reserve champion: Susan Leed.

## BREEDS

### MONTADALE

Lightweight: 1. Danielle Ebling. 2. Danielle Ebling 3. Danielle Ebling.

Heavyweight: 1. Derek Ebling. 2. Derek Ebling. 3. DeeAnna Ebling.

### SOUTHDOWN

1. Ashley Bingaman. 2. Amber Gemberling.

### CORRIEDALE

1. Melissa Jo Risser.

### DORSET

Lightweight: 1. Michelle Spatz. 2. Heath Spatz. 3. Michelle Spatz.

Medium weight: 1. Adrian Whitmoyer 2. Angela Blauch. 3. Matthew Blauch.

Heavyweight: 1. Valerie Blauch. 2. MaryEllen Whitmoyer. 3. Valene Blauch.



Late last week, the reserve champion hog, exhibited by Kurt Fleener, Robesonia, weighing 270 pounds, was sold to Lebanon Valley/Fulton Bank for \$500, represented by Mike Firestine, fourth from right.



The 246-pound champion hog from the Lebanon Area fair, exhibited by Christopher Behney, went for \$1,100 to Country Fare Restaurant, Myerstown, represented by Doug Horst late last week.



Last week, buyers Harry Bachman, Anville, right, and Mike Firestine, Lebanon Valley/Fulton Bank, purchased this pen of rabbits from Melissa Graybal. Melissa, 15, is the daughter of John and Chris Graybal, Grantville, and is in the 10th grade at Northern Lebanon high school. This is her Rex breed.



Kyle Fleener, Robesonia, saw his 134-pound Lebanon Fair champion market lamb go for \$1,000 to First National Bank, Fredericksburg, represented by Martin Daubert, Wilmer Stoner, and Alletta Schadler.



The 121-pound reserve champion market lamb, exhibited by Susan Leed, Myerstown, went for \$550 to Lebanon Valley/Fulton Bank. Mike Firestine, fifth from left, purchased the champion hog late last week at the Lebanon Area Fair.

## Legislation May Help Protect Manure Prices For Pa. Applicators

STEPHEN SEEBER

### Special To Lancaster Farming

LITITZ (Lancaster Co.) — 1,500 tons of chicken manure and nowhere to put it.

That could be a serious problem for farmers, haulers, and legislators within the next year.

The Heller brothers, Dan and Daryl, along with Rick Haller, have been running the Flintrock poultry farm — with 200,000 chickens in eight barns — at 16 E. Brubaker Valley Road for many years. And every couple months or so, when they clean the waste from the barns, the droppings are conveniently hauled to mushroom country in southeastern Pennsylvania, where growers buy the nitrate-rich chicken waste for use as mushroom fertilizer.

For the most part, it's been an efficient form of waste management, and Flintrock can dispose of up to 1,500 tons of manure in a lucrative manner.

That all changed when, in an effort to keep nitrates out of the Chesapeake Bay, the Maryland legislature enacted the Maryland Manure Transport Project in March 2000. It's an environmental initiative that subsidizes Maryland poultry farmers who relocate their waste to low-nitrate areas. With the subsidies on their side, these farmers are now driving their manure north to

Pennsylvania mushroom land and, according to some, undercutting the going rates for chicken waste.

As a result, Pennsylvania farmers, including as many as 400 farms in Lancaster County, can't compete.

Glenn B. Martin, owner of Quality Mulch Products LLC, hauls chicken waste for Flintrock Farms. His business could be hit the hardest.

"To stay competitive, we're going to have to cut our price," he said, explaining that Maryland is currently beating Pennsylvania prices by \$4 a ton.

Poultry manure hauling comprises about 60 percent of Martin's business, but if the playing field doesn't level soon, he will have to downsize his fleet and possibly put drivers out of work. Recently he bought 15 truckloads of chicken manure from Flintrock. This time, he will be able to sell it to mushroom farms in Chester County. But if prices continue to drop and Maryland continues its aggressive approach, this could be one of the last pick-ups at the Elizabeth Township farm.

As haulers contemplate their futures, the long-term problem for large chicken farms like Flintrock will be in finding a new place to take the waste.

Dan Heller, Flintrock president, said land application options are limited and storage facilities can only hold about a year's-worth of manure.

"You can only build a building so big," he said. "This could definitely impact Lancaster's nutrient management plans."

It now appears the only recourse is legislation, recently proposed by State Representative Thomas Creighton (R-37), which would earmark \$3 million out of the DEP budget to put Pennsylvania and Maryland farmers on the same page.

"We need to duplicate the Maryland subsidies," Creighton said during a recent meeting at Flintrock. "We need to negate the Maryland advantage. This legislation could come in at \$3 million per year, but it could come out of the DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) budget, since DEP is concerned with local nitrate levels."

Tariffs on Maryland haulers, Creighton explained, would only impede interstate commerce and hurt the Pennsylvania economy.

With the backing of local farmers and manure haulers, Creighton will put out a call for cosponsors in the state House. If all goes as planned, a bill that could stop the dumping of out-of-state manure will be introduced at the September session of the House of Representatives.

And if the House shares Creighton's urgency, farms such as Flintrock and haulers such as Glenn Martin may be back in business.