

Dr. Diamond Reviews Carbon County Fair Sheep Entries

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 The 4-H market lamb and 4-H and open breeding sheep shows were recently conducted at the Carbon County Fair, east of Palmerton.

Dr. James Diamond, Dean of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at Delaware Valley College, judged the event. A breeder of Suffolk sheep, Dr. Diamond served over 10 years on the faculty of Penn State College of ag education, has done international work through Cooperative Extension in developing nations, and was a former vo-ag teacher at Upper Bucks Vo-Tech School.

In judging the fitting and showmanship competition of the 4-H market lamb show Diamond, keeping with his educational background, occasionally stopped to give instruction and explanations to the exhibitors and spectators. Two points he stressed in showmanship were to always have the sheep between you and the judge and that the exhibitor must always know where the judge is. As his champion fitter, Diamond selected Ashley Barry from the senior division. Reserve fitter honors went to Christiana Graver, who first topped the intermediate division. Graver, 12, is the daughter of Paul and Diane Graver and is a seventh-grade student at Lehigh-ton Middle School. She has started her own flock of breeding sheep and also completed the dairy beef and market swine projects this year. Although she does well with her other project animals she will readily admit that the swine she raises each year for competition at the local fair and the Pennsylvania Farm Show are her favorite. Graver is serving as the news reporter for the Carbon County 4-H Livestock Club.

Barry was then selected as the champion showman of the market lamb show followed by Laura Mazur, 13, daughter of Diane Fisher, as reserve champion showman.

Barry, 16, a junior at Lehigh-ton High School, is the daughter of Guy and Priscilla Barry and secretary-treasurer of the Carbon County 4-H Livestock Club where she also completed the market goat and dairy beef projects.

Moving into the weight classes Diamond said, "In market lambs you want to find high quality carcasses." Diamond selected his grand champion market lamb from the heavy medium weight class. The champion exhibited by Barry weighed 117 pounds and was described as being more desirable and firmer than the competition. The reserve champion

market lamb ribbon was then presented to Luke Graver, 10, a second-year member for his 125-pound first-place winner of the heavyweight class. Luke, brother of Christiana Graver, is in the fifth grade at Lehigh-ton Middle School. Luke also completed the dairy beef and market swine projects this year and will be again competing in the market swine competition at the Pennsylvania Farm Show this January.

As his champion fitter in the 4-H breeding sheep competition Diamond selected Mazur following with Christiana Graver as his choice for reserve champion fitter. Champion showman honors went to Barry who was earlier selected as the champion showman and fitter of the market lamb contest. Diamond then awarded the reserve champion showman honors to Mazur.

In the 4-H and open breeding sheep show Diamond reviewed the approximately 50 entries selecting the Dorset ewe lamb, BLS 205 "Buttercup" of Luke Graver as the grand champion Dorset ewe. This animal of Graver then went on to be named the supreme champion ewe of the show being described as the animal that was most true to the breed characteristics established by the breed association.

Christiana Graver then followed as her Feb. 2002 bred and owned Hampshire ewe was selected as the grand champion Hampshire ewe by Diamond. Reserve grand champion Hampshire ewe honors went to the March 2001 ewe of Barry. Grand champion Hampshire ram honors were then awarded to Christiana Graver.

The audience for the evening show was treated to a large sheep show having several breeds represented, at times with as many as six pairs in the ring at one time. As the evening progressed, avid sheep breeder and 4-H member Laura Mazur collected the following championships in the 4-H and open breeding sheep show: grand and reserve Shropshire ewes and rams; grand champion Suffolk ewe and ram; grand and reserve champion Montadale ewes and rams; and grand champion Karakul ewe and ram.

Mazur is currently the youth ambassador for the Karakul breed, a rare and ancient bred of sheep. She will have several of her sheep representing rare breeds at the Small Farm and Rural Living Expo in September. More information on the Small Farm Expo schedule and location can be found on their Website: www.smallfarmexpo.org or in recent issues of *Lancaster Farming*.

The fair posted the following results:

- 4-H MARKET LAMB FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP**
 Senior fitting: 1. Ashley Barry.
 Intermediate fitting: 1. Christiana Graver.
 2. Jacinta Maleski. 3. Laura Mazur
 Junior fitting: 1. Luke Graver
 Senior showmanship: 1. Ashley Barry.
 Intermediate showmanship: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Jacinta Maleski. 3. Christiana Graver.
 Junior showmanship: 1. Luke Graver.
 Champion fitter: Ashley Barry.
 Reserve champion fitter: Christiana Graver.
 Champion showman: Ashley Barry.
 Reserve champion showman: Laura Mazur.

- 4-H MARKET LAMB WEIGHT CLASSES**
 Lightweight: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Ashley Barry.
 Light medium weight: 1. Christiana Graver. 2. Ashley Barry.
 Heavy medium weight: 1. Ashley Barry. 2. Laura Mazur.
 Heavyweight: 1. Luke Graver. 2. Ashley Barry.

- GRAND CHAMPION MARKET LAMB**
 Ashley Barry
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MARKET LAMB
 Luke Graver

- 4-H BREEDING SHEEP FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP**
 Senior fitting: 2. Ashley Barry.
 Intermediate fitting: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Christiana Graver.
 Junior fitting: 1. Luke Graver.
 Senior showmanship: 1. Ashley Barry.
 Intermediate Showmanship: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Christiana Graver.
 Junior showmanship: 1. Luke Graver.
 Champion fitter: Laura Mazur.
 Reserve champion fitter: Christiana Graver.
 Champion showman: Ashley Barry.
 Reserve champion showman: Laura Mazur.

- 4-H AND OPEN BREEDING SHEEP DORSET**
 Ewe lamb under 1 year: 1. Luke Graver.
GRAND CHAMPION DORSET EWE
 Luke Graver
HAMPSHIRE
 Ewe 1 year and under 2: 1. Ashley Barry.
 Ewe lamb under 1 year: 1. Christiana Graver.
 Bred and owned by exhibitor: 1. Christiana Graver.

- GRAND CHAMPION HAMPSHIRE EWE**
 Christiana Graver
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION HAMPSHIRE EWE
 Ashley Barry
 Ram lamb under 1 year: 1. Christiana Graver.
GRAND CHAMPION HAMPSHIRE RAM
 Christiana Graver
 Pair of Hampshire lambs: 1. Christiana Graver.

- MONTADALE**
 Ewe, 2 years and over: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur. 3. Laura Mazur.
 Ewe, 1 year and under 2: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur.
 Ewe lamb under 1 year: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur. 3. Laura Mazur.
GRAND CHAMPION MONTADALE EWE
 Laura Mazur



Shown are the Carbon County Fair champion market lambs. From left is Luke Graver with the reserve grand champion market lamb and Ashley Barry with her grand champion. Dr. James Diamond, Delaware Valley College Dean of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, judged the event.

- RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MONTADALE EWE**
 Laura Mazur
 Ram under 1 year: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur.
 Ram lamb 1 year and under 2: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur.
GRAND CHAMPION MONTADALE RAM
 Laura Mazur
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION MONTADALE RAM
 Laura Mazur
 Pair of Montadale lambs: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur. 3. Laura Mazur.
SHROPSHIRE
 Aged ewe, 2 years and over: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur.
 Yearling ewe, 1 year and under 2: 1. Laura Mazur.
 Ewe lamb under 1 year: 1. Laura Mazur.
GRAND CHAMPION SHROPSHIRE EWE
 Laura Mazur
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION SHROPSHIRE EWE
 Laura Mazur
 Bred and owned by exhibitor: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur.
 Ram lamb under 1 year: 1. Laura Mazur.
 Ram yearling, 1 year and under 2: 1. Laura Mazur.

- GRAND CHAMPION SHROPSHIRE RAM**
 Laura Mazur
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION SHROPSHIRE RAM
 Laura Mazur
 Pair of Shropshire lambs: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur.
SUFFOLK
 Ewe, 2 years and over: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur. 3. Ashley Barry.
 Ewe, 1 year and under 2: 1. Ashley Barry.
 Ewe lamb under 1 year: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur. 3. Laura Mazur.
GRAND CHAMPION SUFFOLK EWE
 Laura Mazur
RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION SUFFOLK EWE
 Ashley Barry
 Ram lamb 1 year and under 2: 1. Ashley Barry.
GRAND CHAMPION SUFFOLK RAM
 Ashley Barry
 Pair of Suffolk lambs: 1. Laura Mazur. 2. Laura Mazur.
OPEN BREEDING SHEEP KARAKUL
 Fall yearling ewe: 1. Laura Mazur.
GRAND CHAMPION KARAKUL EWE
 Laura Mazur
 Spring ram: 1. Laura Mazur.
GRAND CHAMPION KARAKUL RAM
 Laura Mazur

Drought Emergency Lifted In 16 Counties

Cumberland, Chester, Delaware Counties Remain In Drought Emergency

PHILADELPHIA — Gov. Mark Schweiker recently lifted the drought emergency for 16 counties, while continuing the drought emergency in Cumberland, Chester and Delaware counties.

"We are thankful that October's rainfall was above normal in some areas of southeastern and southcentral Pennsylvania," Gov. Schweiker said. "What we have to remember now is that this drought was years in the making, and we still need to practice water conservation, especially in the three counties where the drought emergency has been extended."

Northampton, Lehigh, Berks, Bucks, Montgomery, Philadelphia, Lancaster and York counties have been upgraded to drought-warning status, which calls on residents to voluntarily conserve 10 percent to 15 percent of their daily water usage.

Dauphin, Lebanon, Bedford, Fulton, Franklin and Adams counties been upgraded to drought-watch status, which calls on residents to voluntarily conserve 5 percent of their daily water use.

Perry and Schuylkill counties have been upgraded to normal status.

Because Cumberland, Chester and Delaware counties remain in drought-emergency status, residents there continue to be under mandatory water-use restrictions. Groundwater level remains a problem in these three counties and is the deciding factor in keeping them in drought-emergency status.

Gov. Schweiker first declared a drought emergency on February 12, for 24 counties in southcentral and eastern Pennsylvania. He extended the emergency for 20 counties on May 8, extended the emergency for 14 counties on August 9, and then added five counties to drought emergency status on September 5 after a long dry spell.

"While our rainfall for the past few weeks has been excellent, we'll need several more months of above average rainfall to return all of our counties to normal status," Gov. Schweiker said.

For more information, including a color-coded map to show the drought status of each Pennsylvania county, visit the PA PowerPort at www.state.pa.us, PA Keyword: "drought."



Luke Graver, 10, stands with his supreme champion ewe of the Carbon County Fair. The Jan. 2002 Dorset was first named the champion ewe of her breed. Graver is the son of Paul and Diane Graver, Lehigh-ton, and this is his second year in 4-H.



Shown is Laura Mazur, 13, Weatherly with her Montadale ram that was selected as the grand champion ram of the Carbon County Fair.