

Prices inch upward at steer sale

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By MANDY MARTIN
mmartin@northumberlandtoday.com

Dinners of champions were represented in the 11th annual Northumberland Cattlemen's Steer Show and Sale ring at Roseneath Sunday morning. This year, prices were good for producers, up from the sale barn or usual shipping price per pound.

"A big thanks goes to all our suppliers who support us and the people who enter their animals," volunteer auctioneer Paul Lean said before launching into the sale of all nine steers at auction. The steers were first judged for 'finish' by judge Carl Hickson.

"We're judging for finish, not prettiness," Mr. Hickson explained to the crowd of spectators. "For a good steer, he's gotta have a heft to him, a covering over his ribs."

Price per pound ranged from 91 cents to the top price of \$2.21 per pound, a significant increase from last year's range of 80 cents to \$1.57 per pound.

At auction, the price to be paid per pound was capped at 1,400 pounds; purchasing an animal weighing more, the extra poundage is a 'freebie'.

This year's Grand Champion title went to a 1,533-pound Simmental Limousine/Charolais cross raised by Murray McLeary. At auction, it went for \$2.21 cents per pound to Gary Newman of Newman, Oliver & McCarten Insurance. In 2004, the top steer went for \$2.05 per pound live weight, \$1.57 in 2003.

The Reserve Grand Champion for 2005 is a 1,232-pound Limousin/Simmental cross entered by Wayne Newman. At auction, it went for \$1.64 per pound to Jeff Wilson of Northumberland Grain. Last year, the reserve champion steer brought \$1.12 per pound, \$1.07 per pound in 2003.

The third place steer this year was a 1,262-pound Blonde cross raised by Wayne Newman. It sold at auction for \$1.13 (compared to \$1.24 in 2004, and \$1.06 in 2003) to Jeff Van Noy of Campbellford



THIRD PLACE STEER: Wayne Newman, centre, produced the third-place steer. Left is purchaser Jeff Van Noy of Campbellford Farm Supply, and steer show judge Carl Hickson, right.

Farm Supply.

In Sunday's show and sale, fourth place went to a 1,484-pound Limo produced by Wayne Pollock, selling at auction for \$1.40/lb. to Londa Robinson of Hunco Farm Supplies Ltd. Mr. Pollock who, with wife Barb, has operated a livestock trucking business, delayed his scheduled October 1



GRAND CHAMPION: Murray McLeary, centre, won the trophy for producing the Grand Champion steer. Buyer, at \$2.21 per pound, was Gary Newman, right, of Newman, Oliver & McCarten Insurance.

retirement date to October 8. The one-week delay was to ensure his services were available for Sunday steer purchasers - gratis - to send their beef to one of three butchers or a cattle sales barn.

In fifth place: a 1,184-pound Limo cross provided by Trevor and Brenda Curtis sold at auction to Warkworth Co-op for \$1.20 per pound.

Sixth place: a 1,203-pound Red Polled Limo cross produced by Peter Simonsen, sold at auction for \$1.1125 per pound to Terry Hogg of Castle Building Centre.

Seventh place: a 1,290-pound Limo cross produced by Grant Clark sold at auction for \$1.05 per pound to Warkworth Co-op.

In eighth place: a 1,203-pound Charolais-Limousin cross produced by Dave Skinkle sold for \$1.05 per pound to Farm Credit Canada who announced it will be donated to the Campbellford Food Bank.

In ninth place: a 1,382-pound Charolais-Limousin cross



Auctioneer Jim Nelson perched atop a fence to lead the auction bidding at the 11th annual Northumberland Cattlemen's Association Market Steer Show and sale Sunday morning.

produced by Ross Poole sold for 91 cents per pound to Mac Farms of Warkworth.



Cost Watch: The crowd of cattlemen, buyers, sellers and the curious crowded around the pen for the 11th annual Market Steer Show and Sale at Roseneath Fall Fair Sunday. Prices this year ranged from 91 cents to \$2.21 per pound live weight to a maximum 1,400 pounds.

PHOTOS BY MANDY MARTIN



RESERVE GRAND CHAMPION: Van, left, and Dan Darling, third from left, won the trophy for producing the Reserve Grand Champion steer. Buyer, at \$1.12 per pound, of the 1,232-pound Limo cross was Jeff Wilson, second from left, of Northumberland Grain with show judge Carl Hickson, right.