

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Extension

August 26, 2005

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2005 Iowa State Fair Beef of Merit Results

The 2005 Beef of Merit Show had a record 68 steers exhibited! This is great. Keep inviting new exhibitors to share your experience next year. The 68 steers averaged 1304 pounds, 3.22 average daily gain, 2.87 yield grade and \$2.38 retail value added per day on feed. Fifty-seven percent were low choice, 20.6% average choice or higher, and 4 head were dark cutters. Sixty percent were yield grade 1 & 2.

Seventy six percent of the steers met the Window A grid requirement compared to 50% last year and 19% met the Window B grid requirement, 3% better than 2004. This was the second year we were able to have the live show in the large indoor show pavillion. The extended show time allocation this year allowed us to show only one Window at a time. Marshall Ruble, Ames judged both Windows. The real disadvantage of judging the live show is that in the carcass merit show all steers are eligible for both Windows.

BreeAnn Belding, Taylor County, showed a black crossbred steer that weighed 1465 pounds with a 4.17 average daily gain to the championship of Window A, the High Cutability Grid Market. The beef carcass was a yield grade 2.8 and a low Choice quality grade. The steer's retail value added during the project year was over \$150 more than the average of 68 steers in both windows! Melissa Johnson, Butler County showed the reserve champion, which was the 3rd place overall live.

Renae Dewey, Hardin County, showed her Normande steer the the championship in Window B, the High Quality Grid Market. This is the first time a Normanda steer has exhibited in the Beef of Merit. The Dewey steer weighed 1295 pounds with a 3.66 average daily gain. The 805 pound carcass was average Choice with a 2.6 yield grade. Nineteen percent of the steers met the Window qualifications. Traci Tiernan, Dallas County showed her Angus Maine Anjou cross steer to the reserve championship in Window B.

Over \$4000 in prize money is being paid in premiums. The two champions are awarded \$500 by the Sale of Champions Winner's Circle Club, Vermeer Manufacturing of Pella, Al & Jeanne Conover of Baxter and the Iowa State Fair.

If you want to view the results on the Internet, access them through the Iowa Beef Center webpage at: <http://iowabeefcenter.org> If you have any questions concerning the results, steer payment, or premiums, do not hesitate to email or call at the above address or telephone number.

Sincerely,



Dennis L. DeWitt
4H Beef of Merit Superintendent and
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