

August 27, 2010

2010 Iowa State Fair Beef of Merit Results

The 2010 Beef of Merit Show had 49 exhibitors showing 58 steers which is the same number as 2009. The 58 steers averaged 1300 pounds, 3.14 average daily gain, 2.2 yield grade and \$3.26 carcass value added per day on feed. 40% graded average choice or higher (significantly more than previous years), 47% were low choice, 7% low select & 7% standards. Two of the 58 head were dark cutters. 60% were yield grade 1 & 2.

Tim Schiefelbein, Kimbell, Minnesota evaluated the live show. Each exhibitor had to select which Window to exhibit in the live show. If they qualified in the Grid they exhibited in they were awarded additional \$10 premium money. 28 exhibitors correctly selected Window A and only 5 selected Window B correctly. 39 steers met the Window A grid requirements and 13 head qualified in Window B.

One good way to achieve market weight and grade at Iowa State Fair is at the December weigh-in time to enter younger and lighter calves that can reach a desirable market weight about 236 days later. The top 8 head in Window A beginning weight was 500 pounds or less and window B the top 2 beginning weights were 500 or less pounds. Genetically superior younger steers with good management and proper nutrition tend to have a more desirable carcass weight and merit at the Iowa State Fair Beef of Merit Show.

We think this is first time in the history of the Beef of Merit show that the same exhibitor won both the High Cutability Grid and High Quality Grid Market windows with **different** steers. Logan Bauer, Audubon County showed a red Simmental Angus crossbred steer with ear tag 5-119 that weighed 1325 pounds with a 3.87 average daily gain that was Champion in Window A. The carcass was a yield grade 1.5, 69.6% retail product, and a Low Choice quality grade. The steer's carcass value per day on feed was \$4.36. This steer was sixth overall in the live show. In the 2009 show, Logan won Champion and Reserve Champion in Window A.

Logan Bauer showed ear tag 5-123 a 1200 pound red Simmental Angus crossbred steer with a 3.74 average daily gain that was the Champion in Window B. That carcass was a yield grade 2.6, 65.1% retail product, and an Average Choice quality grade with a carcass value per day on feed of \$3.90.

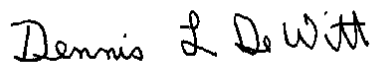
Melissa Johnson, Butler County showed the Reserve Champion in Window A with \$4.35 carcass value per day on feed. The 1345 pound steer gained 4.15 per day and displayed a Low Choice yield grade 1 carcass. Brandon Kane, Scott County showed his Angus steer to the Reserve Championship in Window B. The 1410 pound steer gained 3.77 lbs. per day, was a Prime quality grade and a 3 yield grade with \$3.65 value.

Over \$4000 in prize money is being paid in premiums. These checks will be mailed later from the Iowa State Fair. 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.

You may view the results on the Internet. Access them through the Iowa Beef Center webpage at: <http://iowabeefcenter.org> or the Iowa State Fair webpage www.iowastatefair.org

If you have any questions concerning the results, steer payment, or premium, do not hesitate to email me at dewitt@LivestockProfit.com or call me at 712.260.0019.

Sincerely,



Dennis L. DeWitt
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