



BELIEVE • BUILD • GROW... OUR YOUTH, OUR AGRICULTURE

7373 W. SAGINAW HWY. • LANSING, MI 48909 • PH: 800-292-2680 X: 2024 • FX: 517-323-0230

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2nd annual Michigan Livestock Expo raises whopping \$155,550 *Meijer leads way in investing in local youth, agriculture*

LANSING, July 22, 2010 – The second annual Michigan Livestock Expo concluded Tuesday, shattering expectations for money raised from the Sale-abration auction of award-winning farm animals and dairy products, as well as youth and spectator turnout for the livestock exhibition activities.

“For an event still in its infancy, the show and sale far exceeded everyone’s expectations,” said Ernie Birchmeier, Michigan Livestock Expo co-organizer and Michigan Farm Bureau livestock and dairy specialist. “Everyone is thrilled with the large number of youth who participated, the amazing spectator crowds at the livestock exhibition activities, and the impressive support of businesses and individuals at the Sale-abration auction. Inside and out, the second annual Michigan Livestock Expo lived and breathed its theme of ‘Believe, Build, Grow.....Our Youth, Our Agriculture’.”

In total, the Sale-abration auction grossed \$155,550, a 55 percent increase from last year’s inaugural event, thanks to generous purchases by more than 60 single and collective buyers, representing a combination of repeat and first-time buyers, who bid on 33 items. ***Auction details follow.***

Of the total, approximately \$30,000 will go toward the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund, which provides scholarships and educational awards to youth involved in livestock exhibition activities.

“Youth typically put their earnings toward current or future college expenses, with proceeds above a sales cap supporting the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund. So the investments made will pay off for years to come,” said Birchmeier.

Grand Rapids-based retailer Meijer led the bidding with seven purchases collectively totaling \$61,800, including the Grand Champion Market Steer purchased for \$20,000, the Grand Champion Market Hog for \$15,000, and the Grand Champion Market Lamb for \$12,000.

“Special thanks go to Meijer for the touching support, enthusiasm and encouragement they demonstrated for Michigan’s youth and the state’s agriculture industry. Everyone involved in the Michigan Livestock Expo is very appreciative of Meijer’s contributions and those of the Sale-abration’s other buyers, both our repeat and first-time bidders,” said Birchmeier.

In total, the second annual Michigan Livestock Expo involved around 700 young people from across the Upper and Lower Peninsulas and more than 1,000 head of farm animals.

The Michigan Livestock Expo is for youth, ages 8 to 20, and provides young people from across the state a centrally located event to exhibit and sell a variety of farm animals including beef cattle, hogs, sheep and goats, as well as dairy products.

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Youth compete in exhibition activities that judge their animal rearing skills and talents in the show ring. Award-winning beef cattle, hogs, sheep and goats along with dairy products representative of award-winning cattle from the Michigan Dairy Expo advance to the Sale-Abraction auction.

This year's exhibition activities for beef cattle, hogs, sheep and goats were held July 17-18. Dairy exhibition activities took place July 20 in conjunction with the Michigan Dairy Expo. The Sale-abraction auction was July 20. All activities took place at the Michigan State University Livestock Pavilion.

The Michigan Livestock Expo is sponsored by a large group of agricultural supporters including the Michigan Farm Bureau, GreenStone Farm Credit Services, United Producers, Inc., Kalmbach Feeds, Varnum Law Firm, Michigan Milk Producers Association, Corn Marketing Program of Michigan and Michigan State University. Bill Sheridan and the Mason-based Sheridan Realty & Auction Co. provided the auction services for the Sale-abraction.

To learn more about the Michigan Livestock Expo, go to www.milivestock.com.

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Editor's note: Photos of Grand, Reserve and Supreme Champion exhibitors can be downloaded at <http://www.milivestock.com/milivestock/photos>. Photos of Showcase exhibitors, if available, will be posted soon at this link.

2nd annual Michigan Livestock Expo Sale-abraction results

BEEF SALE

Grand Champion Market Steer

Weight: 1,329 lbs.

Exhibitor: Katie Geiman, 14, of Carleton

Buyer: Meijer, \$20,000

Reserve Grand Champion Market Steer

Weight: 1,295 lbs.

Exhibitor: Felicia Marcatch, 19, of Memphis

Buyer: Meijer, \$6,000

Great Lakes Grand Purebred Market Steer

Weight: 1,365 lbs.

Exhibitor: Tyler Berens, 20, of Hamilton

Buyer: A&B Farms, \$4,000



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Great Lakes Grand Crossbred Market Steer

Weight: 1,335 lbs.

Exhibitor: Chris Maye, 16, of Sherwood

Buyers: Scor'in Rite, Brott's Grocery, Arleen's Accounting, Fillmore Equipment, DeLong Cattle, Caledonia Farmers Elevator, Ventura Farms, GGS Genetics, Cattle Club, Dave and Denis Reaume, Katie Geiman, Brad Chapman and AcMoody Farms, \$4,100

Showcase Market Steer

Weight: 1,285 lbs.

Exhibitor: Ryan Smoes, 20, of Hamilton

Buyers: Fillmore Equipment of Western Michigan, Hamilton Farm Bureau, Zeeland Farm Services, Pioneer Hybrid Division of DuPont, Roy's Home Center, Ausra Equipment and Truck Services, Inc., \$4,000

Showcase Market Steer

Weight: 1,360 lbs.

Exhibitor: David Stutzman, 18, of Morenci

Buyers: MSU Federal Credit Union, Rural Partners of Michigan, GreenStone Farm Credit Services employees and Dennis Muchmore, \$4,500

Showcase Market Steer

Weight: 1,320 lbs.

Exhibitor: Austin Osentoski, 17, of Cass City

Buyers: Michigan Farm Bureau, Wayne H. Wood, John Vander Molen, David VanderHaagen, Andy Kok, Doug Kammann and Patty Cotter, \$4,700

Showcase Market Steer

Weight: 1,336 lbs.

Exhibitor: Brad Chapman, 13, of South Rockwood

Buyer: Meijer, \$4,200

SWINE SALE

Grand Champion Market Hog/Great Lakes Grand Champion Crossbred Market Hog

Weight: 269 lbs.

Exhibitor: Ben Littlefield, 12, of Burr Oak

Buyer: Meijer, \$15,000

Reserve Grand Champion Market Hog

Weight: 258 lbs.

Exhibitor: Matthew AcMoody, 14, of Coldwater

Buyers: GreenStone Farm Credit Services and The Wieland-Davco Corporation, \$6,500



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Great Lakes Grand Champion Purebred Market Hog

Weight: 260 lbs.

Exhibitor: Taylor Copes, 18, of New Lothrop

Buyers: Varnum Law Firm, Kalmbach Feeds, Fraleigh Law Firm, North Central Co-op, United Producers, Inc., and the Pig Posse, \$4,000

Showcase Market Hog

Weight: 259 lbs.

Exhibitor: Adam AcMoody, 17, of Union City

Buyer: GreenStone Farm Credit Services employees, \$3,250

Showcase Market Hog

Weight: 270 lbs.

Exhibitor: Morgan Wildt, 10, of Homer

Buyer: Michigan Farm Bureau, \$2,600

Showcase Market Hog

Weight: 266 lbs.

Exhibitor: Kaleb Bickel, 11, of Howell

Buyers: Michigan Soybean Association, Julian Vail, LLC., and Zeeland Farm Services, \$2,000

Showcase Market Hog

Weight: 260 lbs.

Exhibitor: Bailey Albright, 21, of Coldwater (*Age 20 at time of registration*)

Buyers: Michigan Farm Bureau employees and Gruner Farms \$3,750

Showcase Market Hog

Weight: 263 lbs.

Exhibitor: Morgan Kennedy, 14, of Perry

Buyer: Meijer, \$2,600

SHEEP SALE

Grand Champion Market Lamb

Weight: 140 lbs.

Exhibitor: Ryan Waltke, 18, of Burr Oak

Buyer: Meijer, \$12,000

Reserve Grand Champion Market Lamb/Great Lakes Grand Crossbred Market Lamb

Weight: 122 lbs.

Exhibitor: Katie Birch, 14, of Sherwood

Buyer: Foster, Swift, Collins & Smith, P.C., \$5,250



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Great Lakes Grand Purebred Market Lamb

Weight: 140 lbs.
Exhibitor: Sarah-Jane Sterrett, 11, of Jackson
Buyer: Meijer, \$2,000

Showcase Market Lamb

Weight: 133 lbs.
Exhibitor: Alexandria Schut, 14, of Belding
Buyer: Michigan Farm Bureau, \$2,000

Showcase Market Lamb

Weight: 143 lbs.
Exhibitor: Hannah Biniecki, 19, of Monroe
Buyer: Neogen Corporation, \$2,000

Showcase Market Lamb

Weight: 147 lbs.
Exhibitor: Logan Bracy, 17, of Quincy
Buyers: Hopkins Farm Service and AcMoody Farms, \$4,250

Showcase Market Lamb

Weight: 136 lbs.
Exhibitor: Adam AcMoody, 17, of Union City
Buyers: Independent Bank, Harwell Trucking, Bruce Caswell for state Senate, Michigan Representative Kenneth Kurtz, United Producers Inc., Showtec ADM, North Central Co-op, Albright Swine Farms, Hopkins Farm Service, \$3,000

Showcase Market Lamb

Weight: 132 lbs.
Exhibitor: Bryant Chapman, 16, of South Rockwood
Buyer: Michigan Farm Bureau employees, \$2,400

GOAT SALE

Grand Champion Market Goat

Weight: 75 lbs.
Exhibitor: Reanna Sloan, 12, of Quincy
Buyers: GreenStone Farm Credit Services and MSU Federal Credit Union, \$4,000

Reserve Grand Champion Market Goat/Great Lakes Grand Purebred Market Goat

Weight: 82 lbs.
Exhibitor: Cailyn Hines, 12, of Quincy
Buyer: Varnum Law Firm, \$4,500



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Great Lakes Grand Crossbred Champion Market Goat

Weight: 90 lbs.

Exhibitor: Alison Harwell, 19, of Quincy

Buyer: A&B Farms, \$1,500

Showcase Market Goat

Weight: 89 lbs.

Exhibitor: Payton Hines, 9, of Quincy

Buyer: Neogen Corporation, \$1,500

DAIRY SALE

Supreme Dairy Champion Showperson – Dairy gift basket in honor of showperson

Showperson: Katie Arndt, 19, of Ovid

Buyer: United Dairy Industry of Michigan, \$4,000

Supreme Champion Dairy Cow – Dairy gift basket representing cow

Exhibitor: Tera Koebel, 19, of Three Oaks

Buyer: Michigan Milk Producers Association, \$7,000

Supreme Champion Dairy Heifer – Dairy gift basket representing heifer

Exhibitor: Parker Hardy, 15, of Tipton

Buyer: Kalmbach Feeds, \$4,000

Dairy gift basket donated by the United Dairy Industry of Michigan, with all proceeds benefiting the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund

Buyers: Country Fresh, Dairy Farmers Of America, Caledonia Farmers Elevator, Vita Plus, Zeeland Farm Services, Julian Vail, LLC., Michigan Soybean Association, Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee, and Michigan Milk Producers Association, \$3,700

OTHER

Gold Medal Wines

Selection of Michigan wines donated by the Michigan Grape and Wine Industry Council, with all proceeds benefiting the Michigan Youth Livestock Scholarship Fund

Buyer: A&B Farms, \$1,250