

Pennsylvania Jersey Breeders Honored

Pennsylvania Jersey breeders met for the annual meeting of their state Jersey association in State College on March 11, 2017. The new, single-day format included a business meeting and awards ceremony for senior Jersey breeders in the morning and a banquet for juniors in the evening. A special planning session was also held for the Annual Meetings of the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) and National All-Jersey Inc. (NAJ), to be hosted by the Pennsylvania Jersey Cattle Association (PJCA) in Gettysburg this summer. A silent auction raised more than \$600 for the benefit of the PJCA Youth Fund.

Beverly Gruber, New Tripoli, was honored with the Distinguished Service Award. Gruber has published the *Jerseys East Newsletter* since 2004.

Cole and Jessica Peters, Meadville, received the Young Jersey Breeder Award. The brother-sister team operates Spruce Row Farm LLC with their parents, Jeff and Janet. Cole earned a degree in diesel mechanics from Penn Tech University and is now the farm mechanic. Jessica manages the herd of 280 Jersey cows. She is also executive secretary for the PJCA. Both are active in local agriculture groups and advocate for agriculture through social media.

Mount Rock Jerseys LLC, Newville, earned the Norman Genetic Award for genetic merit. The 395-cow herd had an average JPI of +72 following the December 2016 genetic evaluations. The current herd average JPI of +58 (April 2017) ranks #31 in the nation.

Junior Awards

Lane Kummer, Evans City, was crowned as the 2017 Pennsylvania Jersey Queen. Jaydyn Isiminger, Union City, was named alternate.

Hannah Diehl, Mcveytown, won the senior division of the youth achievement contest and placed third in the senior division of dairy jeopardy.



Juniors to place in the speech contest included (back row, left to right) Ainsley Staples, Audrey Staples, Mason Davis, Ayla Blatt, Blaine Warburton, (front) Riley Thompson and Willow Voegtlen. Not pictured are Zachary Diehl and Sawyer Whitenight.

Jordan Anderson, Centre Hall, topped the intermediate division of the youth achievement contest and placed first in the junior division of dairy jeopardy.

Blaine Warburton, New Albany, was winner of the junior division of the youth achievement contest. He also earned second-place in the junior division of the speech contest.

The first-year project award was given to Ethan Knapp of Franklin.

Willow Voegtlen, Columbia Crossroads, took top honors in the senior division of the scrapbook contest and the speech contest and second in the senior division of dairy jeopardy. She also received a scholarship from the PJCA.

Ayla M. Blatt, Kutztown, won the senior division of dairy jeopardy and took second in the senior division of the speech contest.

Audrey M. Staples, Heritage, won the junior division of the scrapbook contest and placed second in the intermediate division of the speech contest.

Other juniors to place in the speech contest were Zachary Diehl, Mcveytown, winner of the junior division; Ainsley Staples, Heritage, third junior; Riley Sue Thompson, Smethport, winner of the intermediate division; Mason Davis, Dawson, third intermediate; and Sawyer T. Whitenight, Orangeville, third senior.

In the junior division of dairy jeopardy,



Pennsylvania Jersey royalty recognized at the meeting included Maria Noble, 2016 National Jersey Queen, Jaydyn Isiminger, 2017 Pennsylvania Alternate Jersey Queen, Lane Kummer, 2017 Pennsylvania Jersey Queen, and Brooke Ostrander, 2015 Pennsylvania Jersey Queen.

Maxwell Knapp, Franklin, was second and Jillian Anderson, Centre Hall, placed third.

For the fourth consecutive year, Jessica Nolt, Canton, won the Jacob M. Brunges Production Contest for the junior-owned cow that produced the highest m.e. protein record. Her entry, Elsbree Marshal Arkansas, produced a 5-1 record of 28,790 lbs. milk, 1,348 lbs. fat and 975 lbs. protein, with an m.e. of 946 lbs. protein. The Very Good-88% daughter of BW Marshal, GJPI +57, has four complete lactations—all over 25,000 lbs. milk. “Arkansas” also placed in the National Jersey Youth Production Contest in 2013 and 2015.

Other juniors to place among the top 10, in order, were Katelyn Nolt, Canton; Sarah Diehl, Mcveytown; Allison M. Younker, Mohrsville; Naomi Diehl, Mcveytown, and Wesley Noble, Gillett (tie); Kayle Knapp, Franklin; Carley Fries, Prompton; Lily Fries, Prompton; and Riley Thompson.

Production Awards

Jersey breeders were also recognized for production achievements of their Registered Jerseys.

Awards for herd average production of milk, fat and protein were given in four categories based on number of cows. In the division for small herds with 7-29 cows, Country Path Jerseys, owned by Scott and



PJCA President Steve Paxton, center, presents the Young Jersey Breeder Award to Cole and Jessica Peters. All photos courtesy Reneé Norman-Kenny.



Audrey Staples, left, was recognized for winning the junior division of the scrapbook contest while Willow Voegtlen took honors in the senior division.



Juniors placing in the dairy jeopardy contest include (back row, left to right) Maxwell Knapp, Jillian Anderson, Willow Voegtlen, Hannah Diehl, (front) Jordan Anderson and Ayla Blatt.

Pennsylvania Meeting

Karen Nolt of Canton, topped their peers for all measures of production with 22,256 lbs. milk, 1,123 lbs. fat and 819 lbs. protein on 21 cows.

Among herds with 30-59 cows, JD Brand Farms, Blandon, was the high milk producer with 19,197 lbs. milk, 871 lbs. fat and 667 lbs. protein on 32 cows. Dare E Land led its peers for components with a herd average of 19,046 lbs. milk, 965 lbs. fat and 700 lbs. protein on 33 cows.

Matt and Alicia Derr, Linden, topped the division for herds with 60-99 cows for milk and protein yield with a herd average of 19,226 lbs. milk, 905 lbs. fat and 701 lbs. protein on 84 cows. Cedar Acres, owned by Marty and Lois Hoover, Mohnton, was the high-producer for fat with 18,395 lbs. milk, 941 lbs. fat and 686 lbs. protein on 83 cows.

Among large herds with 100 or more cows, Vanderfeltz Jerseys, owned by Joe and Melinda Vanderfeltz of Lawton, was the leading milk and protein producer with 21,757 lbs. milk, 1,028 lbs. fat and 864 lbs. protein on 172 cows. South-Mont Farms had the high average for fat with 21,240 lbs. milk, 1,029 lbs. fat and 777 lbs. protein on 109 cows.

Awards for individual cows were given in 10 age categories based on production in cheese yield dollars.

Vanderfeltz Jerseys earned three certificates, including the award for the high-producing cow, Vanfel TBone Jalisa 750. The Excellent-90% daughter of Richies Jace TBone A364, GJPI +39, produced a 6-1 record with a value of \$5,230.67. Actual production is 36,906 lbs. milk, 1,344 lbs. fat and 1,322 lbs. protein. Her herdmate, Nevertell Govenor Laguna, Very Good-82%, was the leading five-year-old with a 5-2 record with a value of \$5,032.95. Actual production for the record is 30,854 lbs. milk, 1,499 lbs. fat and 1,180 lbs. protein. She is sired by Griffens Governor, ET, GJPI -58. The top-producing matriarch 10 years of over was VanFel



More than 25 juniors participated in competitions held during the annual meetings. Winners of the youth achievement contest included Blaine Warburton, second row far right, junior division; Jordan Anderson, back row third right, intermediate division; and Hannah Diel, front row far right, senior division. Ethan Knapp, second row third right, was winner of the first year project.

PJSChristine 503 {1}, Excellent-90%, with 23,759 lbs. milk, 1,120 lbs. fat and 832 lbs. protein. The value of the record is \$3,654.71.

Wingert Farms of Alexandria took home five certificates. JX Wingerts Zebulon Azura 3980 {5} was the high producing senior yearling in milk. The Very Good-83% daughter of Van De Q Zik Zebulon-ET, GJPI +102, made a 1-10 record of 28,449 lbs. milk, 1,250 lbs. fat and 840 lbs. protein, with a value of \$3,898.39.

Three paternal sisters in the Wingert Farms herd earned the certificates for top production in the next three age categories. JX Wingert Hendrix Noel 3895 {2} led junior two-year-olds with 25,297 lbs. milk, 1,405 lbs. fat and 922 lbs. protein at 2-1. The value of the record is \$4,250.66. She is a Very-Good-83% daughter of PF Lennox Hendrix, GJPI +128. Among senior two-year-olds, JX Wingerts Hendrix Gidgette 3715 {3}, Very Good-87%, was the top producer, with a record with a value of \$4,509.41. Actual production for the 2-10 record is 26,651 lbs. milk, 1,404 lbs. fat and 1,028 lbs. protein. JX Wingerts Hendrix Gia 3785 {3} made the leading junior three-year-old record, with 26,837 lbs. milk, 1,363 lbs. fat and 987 lbs. protein at 3-0. The value of the record is \$4,364.04.

Wingert Farms also earned the award for high-producing four-year-old. JX Wingert Allstar Acorn 3369 {3} produced 30,362 lbs. milk, 1,707 lbs. fat and 1,079 lbs. protein at 4-0 to top her peers. The value of the record for the Very Good-82% daughter of Sunset Canyon Anthems Allstar-ET, GJPI +80, is \$5,065.14.

Two other Jersey breeders earned individual cow awards as well. Ryan D. Clark, Windy Lane Jerseys, Tyron, is the owner of the high-producing senior three-year-old, Windy Lane Stone Freeda. The Very Good-81% daughter of SR Impuls Stone-ET, GJPI +32, produced a 3-7 record with a value of \$4,319.56. Actual production is 24,105 lbs. milk, 1,285 lbs. fat and 1,026 lbs. protein.

Jessica Nolt took home the award for top cow 8-9 years of age. SV Heaths Citation Maple, Excellent-92%, made an 8-2 record of 26,727 lbs. milk, 1,398 lbs. fat and 940 lbs. protein, with a value of \$4,300.12. She is sired by Jewels Citation-ET, JPI -83.