

BRILLIANT DAY FOR BEESTON SUFFOLKS - 3600 GNS TOP PRICE FOR ROUNDACRE EWE WITH ANOTHER FROM CAIRNESS AT 3100 GNS

The Ninth Annual Show & Sale of Pedigree Suffolk in-lamb females and ewe lambs, sponsored by Farmers Guardian, and consigned by leading breeders took place at Beeston Castle Auction on Saturday, 6th November.

The sale took place at Beeston Castle Auction, Cheshire and attracted an entry numbering towards 160 head from Breeders resident from Aberdeenshire in the North and Devon in the South. This was undoubtedly the best entry in terms of quality and pedigree since the sales were established and it is now considered the leading multi-consigner show and sale of Suffolk females in the country today.

David Inman who runs the Lindum flock based Nr. Melton Mowbray officiated as judge. For his Champion he selected a ewe lamb sired by Thurston Calzaghe from David Jones of Ruthin, Denbighshire. Reserve Champion was a one crop ewe sired Meikleson Impression from Ross Lawrence's Roundacre Flock based at Nr. Winkleigh, Devon whilst the Honourable Mention was the 1st prize gimmer, by Cairness Just The Best, from Aberdeenshire based Cairness Flock of Mr. Jimmy Douglas.

Trade was tremendous, particularly for the in-lamb ewes and gimmers, which was no doubt helped by the good trade achieved for Suffolk tups this year and the fantastic crowd of buyers in attendance. Over sixty buyers were recorded from Aberdeenshire to Cornwall as well as Belgium and Northern Ireland. In fact buyers from 29 counties throughout mainland Britain purchased sheep with large numbers going into Wales, the South West, the Midlands and throughout the Northern Counties as well as about six different buyers from Scotland.

Top price of the day was achieved by Ross Lawrence with his Reserve Champion ewe who was scanned carrying twins to this year's Edinburgh Champion Cairness Kaos. This one crop ewe is out of a Strathisla bred dam and after a flurry of bidding from many bidders she was eventually knocked down to Mr. & Mrs John Gould for their Rychmae Flock at Buxton, Derbyshire. Ross had a tremendous day selling his ten entries for the top flock average of the day of £1071 including two two crop ewes at 1400 gns and 1200 gns.

Jimmy Douglas of Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire always brings a marvellous consignment from his noted Cairness Flock and this year he achieved the second highest average of £777.00 for his group of 21 sheep. His top price was 3100 gns for the 1st prize gimmer and Honourable Mention of the Show. She was sold carrying twins to the 2010 Sire of the Year and 20000 gns 2009 National Sale Champion, Cairness Achievement. She was sold to James and Liam Scott for their Biffie Flock at Peterhead, Aberdeenshire. The third and fourth highest priced in-lamb females also came from Cairness; a three crop ewe by Cairness Save the day sold for 2000 gns to Bill Troup of the Whitestone Flock at Sauchen, Aberdeenshire and another similar aged ewe by Cragroe Craftsman sold for 1500 gns to Gary Beacom for his Lakeview Flock in Northern Ireland.

Ewe Lambs were harder to sell than the in-lambers, but nevertheless some notable prices were achieved. The overall show champion from David Jones' Drwsnant Flock was bred in the Criccin Flock and sold for 1450 gns to MJ Cornish of Buckfastleigh, Devon but the top price ewe lamb was 1700 gns for a daughter Morris Les from John Sinnett's Stockton Flock; she sold to JL Davies of Aberaeron, Ceredigion for his Frongoy Flock who purchased another by the same sire for 1100 gns. Mike Davies & Sons of the Brecon based Safaddan Flock purchased another Stockton ewe lamb by Morris Les for 1450 gns.

AVERAGES:

54 Ewes - £590.92; 44 Gimmers £514.74; 42 Ewe Lambs £402.75. 140 HEAD £510.53

WRIGHT MANLEY of Beeston Castle Auction, Cheshire were the Auctioneers.