

3200 GNS TOP AND TWO MORE AT 3000 GNS IN STORMING TRADE FOR SUFFOLKS AT BEESTON

It is now ten years since Wright Manley started selling pedigree Suffolk in-lamb females at Beeston Castle Auction. Cheshire and in that period the sale has gone from strength to strength; it is certainly correct to state that the Sale is now the top sale of it's kind for the breed in the country.

The sale this year attracted a wonderful entry of 186 in-lamb ewes and gimmers and ewe lambs representing many of the Britain's best flocks and it has to be said the quality was amazing. We've certainly come along way since the first sale!

The Suffolk breed is certainly on the up again and buyers are attracted to any sale where they know quality sheep are on offer; at Beeston last Saturday the largest crowd ever seen at this sale was in attendance and at the end of the day over 80 buyers were recorded from all over the country representing no less than 31 counties as well as Belgium.

In the pre-sale show sponsored by the Farmers Guardian, the classes presented before the judge, Viv Samuel of the Herefordshire based Monkton Flock, were tremendous. In the end the Championship was awarded, for the second year running, to the winner of the ewe lamb class from David Jones of the Ruthin based Drwsnant Flock who was dispersing his flock at this sale. The Reserve Champion was the winner of the in-lamb gimmer class from Mr & Mrs Jack Pryce's Horton Flock based at Welshpool.

Trade was on fire especially for the best with no less than twenty sheep selling at four figures or more. The top price was 3200 gns for the second prize ewe lamb from Tom Cox's Tomcroft Flock at Church Eaton, Staffs. She is a daughter of their 8000 gns stock tup Stockton Joint Venture and after a three way battle between a Lancashire breeder, a Dutch breeder bidding on the phone, the hammer was eventually knocked down to Mary-Julia Cornish for her Mardle Flock based at Buckfastleigh, Devon.

Two sheep made 3000 gns a piece; the first to hit this price was the 2nd prize winner in the in-lamb gimmer class from Kevin Proctor of the Conveth Flock based at Turriff Aberdeenshire. This was a daughter of the 20000 gns National Sale Champion 2009 and 'Sire of the Year' 2010, Cairness Achievement; she sold to join the Rookery Flock of Chris Holmes at Broadway, Worcestershire. Also at this price was the Show Champion; the ewe lamb from David Jones' Drwsnant Flock. This outstanding sheep is by Baileys Brigadier The Second and sold in a two way split to the father and son team, Hugh and Harry Annett for their Widdrington Flock at Morpeth, Northumberland and John Campbell of the Thrunton Flock at Alnwick, Northumberland.

Three others broke through the 2000 gns mark; the highest priced of these was a February born ewe lamb by Strathisla Ace from the Keighley based Jubilee Flock of Mark Evans. She sold for 2200 gns to join the Safaddan Flock of Mike Davies & Sons at Brecon. Jimmy Douglas of the Aberdeenshire based Cairness Flock has been a regular supporter of the sale for many years and again was rewarded with some top prices. His top seller was a three crop ewe by Thurston Chieftain in lamb to the 10000 euro Ardlea Arkle; this lovely ewe out of a Glensisla dam sold for 2050 gns and makes the long journey back north selling to G Troup of the Whitestone Flock at Sauchen, Aberdeenshire. At 2000 gns Ross Fotheringham of the Oldmill Flock at Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire purchased a two crop ewe also by Thurston Chieftain and in-lamb to Arkle from the Cairness consignment.

The reserve overall Champion from Jack Pryce was the next in the price stakes selling his gimmer to Martin Howard of Press Green, Shropshire for 1500 gns and at the same price David Jones of Drwsnant sold the mother of the 3000 Championship winning lamb, a two crop ewe by the 7000 gns Landale Leader Lad to H Annett & Son.

TOP PRICES:**GNS**

Lot 182	T S Cox	Ewe Lamb	M J Cornish, Buckfastleigh, Devon	3200
Lot 91	C A Proctor & Co	Gimmer	C J Holmes, Broadway, Worcester	3000
Lot 175	D T Jones	Ewe Lamb	H Annett & Son, Morpeth, Northumberland & J Campbell, Alnwick, Northumberland	3000
Lot 173	M L Evans	Ewe Lamb	Mike Davies & Sons, Llangorse, Brecon	2200
Lot 103	J G Douglas	Ewe	G Troup, Sauchen, Aberdeenshire	2050
Lot 106	J G Douglas	Ewe	Ross Fotheringham, Fraserburgh, Aberdeen	2000
Lot 19	J Pryce	Gimmer	Martin Howard, Prees Green, Shropshire	1500
Lot 62	D T Jones	Ewe	H Annett & Son, Morpeth, Northumberland	1500
Lot 97	C A Proctor & Co	Gimmer	A W Jones, Llanfairfechan, Conwy	1400
Lot 67	D T Jones	Ewe	S Mellor, Cellarhead, Stoke on Trent	1300
Lot 109	J G Douglas	Ewe	A & S Simpson, Elgin, Scotland	1300
Lot 95	C A Proctor & Co	Gimmer	H Annett & Son, Morpeth, Northumberland	1250
Lot 171	M L Evans	Ewe Lamb	M J Cornish, Buckfastleigh, Devon	1200
Lot 69	D T Jones	Gimmer	P O'Boyle, Saxelby, Lincoln	1150
Lot 96	C A Proctor & Co	Gimmer	A & S Simpson, Elgin, Scotland	1050
Lot 112	J G Douglas	Ewe	H Annett & Son, Morpeth, Northumberland	1050
Lot 99	C A Proctor & Co	Gimmer	A & S Simpson, Elgin, Scotland	1000
Lot 100	C A Proctor & Co	Gimmer	H T Turner, Hatton, Derbyshire	1000
Lot 108	J G Douglas	Ewe	Jen de Roock, Belgium	1000
Lot 144	Gary M Owen	Ewe Lamb	J M Jones & Co, Llannon, Ceredigion	1000

AVERAGES:**73 Ewes £577.07; 54 Gimmers £649.64; 36 Ewe Lambs £726.25; 163 HEAD £643.06***WRIGHT MANLEY of Beeston Castle Auction, Cheshire were the Auctioneers*