

CAIRNESS CHAMPION LEADS BEESTON SUFFOLKS AT 1750 GNS

The 14TH Annual Sale of Suffolk females took place at Beeston Castle Auction on Saturday 7th November and the judge was Myfyr Evans of the well known Rhaeadr Flock. The show was sponsored once again by the 'Farmers Guardian'. The judge had some really good competitive classes put in front of him which were full of quality sheep. In the end it was a homebred two crop ewe sired by Cairness Classic Fyvie from Jimmy Douglas' well known Cairness Flock based at Fraserburgh, Aberdeenshire that came out on top. In reserve was a ewe lamb sired by Rhaeadr Rastafari out of Muireisk Kings Champion ewe from Stephen Bolland's Wharfe Flock based at Bolton Abbey, Nr. Skipton. The winner of the in-lamb gimmer class was a sheep sired by Rhaeadr Mad Man from WH Sinnett & Son's Stockton Flock.

A very good crowd were present for the sale with buyers travelling long distances. Buyers were recorded from Northern Ireland, Aberdeenshire, Bedfordshire, Northamptonshire, Somerset, Devon, Worcestershire, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire, Powys, Gwynedd, as well as Cheshire and its surrounding counties.

The top seller of the day was the Champion ewe who sold carrying twins to the privately purchased Rhaeadr Best of the Best. She sold to the vendor's shepherd, David Moir of Fraserburgh for 1750 gns.

Next in the price list was the overall Reserve Champion, the ewe lamb from Stephen Bolland, which now joins Mark Priestley's Limestone Flock at Downpatrick, Co. Down, Northern Ireland. Stephen Bolland had a great pen of lambs and another, also by Rastafari, sold for 850 gns to DG Davies of Coed Talon, Mold.

Selling for 1000 gns was a five crop ewe bred by John Gibb but consigned by Jimmy Douglas; this daughter of Deveronside Speedway was scanned carrying twins to the £3000 Kelso purchase, Conchar Crusader.

Selling at 800 gns was the second prize ewe from WH Sinnett & Sons; this one crop ewe by Conchar PR was sold carrying a single to Frongoy Welsh Champion and purchased by Laura-Jane Berry of Bacup.

Generally trade was pretty good throughout the sale with plenty of spirited bidding from start to finish. Although prices were back on last year reflecting the current uncertainty in the sheep industry prices were far better, on the whole, than vendor expectations.

AVERAGES:

23 Gimmers £330.52; 35 Ewes £440.40; 12 Ewe Lambs £460.25. 70 HEAD £407.70

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