

## **Skipton Multi-Breeds**

The Fort sheep farming family – parents Graham and Mandy, and their children Terry and Beverley - from Brighton House Farm, Whitley Head, Steeton, secured their second championship success in as many days when sending out the Suffolk title winner, the first prize shearling ram, a home-bred by one of their stock tups, which performed best of the prize winners when joining Derbyshire's R Etches, of Buxton, for 600gns. The same buyer also paid 400gns for the third prize shearling ram from Ian Briggs, of Guiseley.

After 20 years of Suffolk breeding, the Forts were showing and selling their final two rams at Skipton – their second entry scooped second prize in class, selling for 480gns to RJ&R Greenbank, of Roecliffe, Boroughbridge – though daughter Beverley will continue to breed from two retained ewes, which she will register as the Beverton flock.

The Forts also sold a second home-bred shearling ram, by the same sire as their show champion, at 500gns to JB&SB Bowdler, of Whitewick, Wolverhampton. "It was good to bow out on a high," said Graham. The family is now concentrating on Lleyn sheep, having presented the shearling ram champion at the previous day's annual Lleyn Sheep Society registered show and sale.

First and second prizes in the ram lamb class fell to Stephen Bolland, of Bolton Abbey. The red rosette winner and reserve champion sold for 460gns to John Roberts, of Farnhill, the runner-up selling for 480gns. Mr Bolland also sold a shearling ram at 540gns to David and Jill Pennock, of Bolton Abbey, while Mr Roberts was again in action when paying 370gns for the third prize ram lamb from Mark Evans, of Steeton.

Matthew Reeday, of Hetton, topped the Suffolk prices with two shearling rams that both made 740gns when selling to Michael McKenzie, of Arncliffe, and Stuart and Stephen Lund, of Litton. Mr Reeday sold further entries at 560gns and 500gns.

David Towell transferred his interest to the Suffolk ring when selling a shearling ram at 550gns to David Sayer, of Threshfield, while G&MA Lawn, of Skipton, achieved 500gns with a shearling ram sold to SG Entwistle, of Darwen. Suffolk shearling rams averaged £368 and lamb rams £273.