

## Robinson scores remarkable back-to-back success for Suffolks 2010

FOR THE second successive year an outstanding Suffolk ewe presented by Downpatrick breeder Norman Robinson has walked off with the RUAS Interbreed Championships at Balmoral.

And in keeping with the Benraffon flock owner's stunning success of 12 months ago, the 2010 champion was also bred from the highly-acclaimed 30,000 guinea Glenho Gurka.

Robinson's remarkable achievement of back-to-back triumphs in the inter-breed championship came after the Co Down breeder emerged victorious from exceptionally competitive Suffolk classes in which the bar was raised considerably in comparison to recent years.

Unprecedented rivalry in the Suffolk fold meant that Robinson was well prepared to challenge any pretenders to his RUAS crown. And the Downpatrick man carried the Suffolk flag with distinction to claim ultimate glory.

Competition in the Suffolk classes had been at its fiercest in recent memory with an exceptional line-up of quality breeding stock in each of the seven categories.

From the moment Limestone flock owner Mark Priestley captured the top honour in the aged ram section ahead of William Tait, Philip Gurney and William Montgomery, adjudicator Melvin Stuart, Aberdeenshire, studied painstakingly in an attempt to select the major prizewinners.

Jason and Campbell Watson, Ballymena took the spoils in the shearling ram category before a packed gallery got their first glimpse of Robinson's overall champion ewe, which piped the reserve winner presented by Fivemiletown's Gary Beacom.

Mervyn Liggett, Drumquin, shaded the verdict in an impressive shearling ewe class, as Omagh breeder William Tait and John McKay, Ballymoney were the respective winners in the ram and ewe lamb classes. Again the line-ups in both sections had been the best in quite a number of years.

### Show Results

Champion, N Robinson; Reserve, G Beacom.

Group of Three, M Priestley.

Best pair, W Tait.

Ram, two shear and upwards: 1, M Priestley; 2, W Tait; 3, P Gurney; 4, W Montgomery.

Shearling ram: 1, RC and JC Watson; 2, W Tait.

Aged ewe, two shear and upwards: 1, N Robinson; 2 & 3, Gary Beacom; 4, D Taylor; 5, W Tait; 6, W Montgomery; 7, A Patton.

Shearling ewe: 1 & 4, M Liggett; 2, J McKay; 3, K Patterson; 5 & 7, N Robinson; 6, W Tait; 8, G Beacom.

Ram lamb: 1, 5 & 7, W Tait; 2 & 8, M Priestley; 3 & 6, G Beacom; 4, L Aiken.

Ewe lamb: 1, J McKay; 2 & 4, G Beacom; 3, W Tait; 5, A Gault; 6, D Taylor; 7, L Aiken; 8, RC and JC Watson.

Following the intensity of battle, the NI Branch's annual stock-judging came as light relief for all concerned with a record number of entrants casting the eye over three pens, including ewes, ewe and ram lambs. Results as follows:-

18 and under age group 1<sup>st</sup> – Wendy Liggett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Jonathan Chambers, 3<sup>rd</sup> Pearce Burns

19 to 25 1<sup>st</sup> Karen Liggett, 2<sup>nd</sup> Gareth Williamson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Richard Gibson

26 & over joint 1<sup>st</sup> Owen Kearney & Paul Goodman, 3<sup>rd</sup> Alastair Moore



Norman Robinson with his Champion Suffolk Ewe which went on to win the Interbreed Champion



Lee & Gary Beacom with the Suffolk reserve champion



Mark Priestley with his winning group



Stephanie & William Tait with their pair of lambs



William Tait with his  
1<sup>st</sup> prize Ram Lamb

John McKay with his  
1<sup>st</sup> prize Ewe Lamb



Jason Watson with his  
1<sup>st</sup> prize Shearling Ram



Leslie Liggett with his 1<sup>st</sup> prize Shearling Ewe

Mark Priestley with his 1<sup>st</sup> prize Aged Ram



Stock judging winners with A Patton branch chairman and Norbury Royale sponsor



Senior stock judging winners with Ivan Porter, sponsor.