

Suffolks in huge demand at Lisahally

LAKEVIEW flock owner Gary Beacom swept the boards at the Northern Ireland Branch of the Suffolk Sheep Society show and sale at Lisahally mart on Tuesday evening.

The Fermanagh breeder scooped the winning rosette in both the ram lamb and shearling classes with his outstanding Kings High and Mighty bred lamb going on to lift the supreme championship. Beacom also claimed the top honour in the sale ring with a lamb bred by stock ram Garryhinch Empire attracting considerable interest before being knocked down for 800 guineas.

The sale itself had, for the second year running, been a qualified success. Twelve months ago a remarkable clearance rate of 100% was recorded at Lisahally; on Tuesday night the feat was almost repeated with a huge demand for the excellent quality on offer ensuring that all but one of the 42 rams shown changed hands.

Second top price of the evening went to Limavady breeder Geoffrey Douglas whose Moatfarrell Leader bred lamb turned more than a few heads before being knocked down for 720 guineas while the reserve champion, an eye-catching Bailey's Hilton ram lamb presented by Cookstown's Robin McAdoo, attracted a plethora of bids before auctioneer Richard Beattie's hammer dropped at 700 guineas.

Gary Beacom then received 680 guineas for the champion with John Hegarty selling the top priced shearling for 600 guineas.

Earlier in the show ring Beacom's Kings High and Mighty lamb held off stiff competition from Cookstown breeder Robin McAdoo and Fintona's finest Keith Telford to claim the top accolade in the ram lamb class before the Fermanagh breeder repeated the dose in the shearling category with Antrim breeder J Hegarty, runner-up, and William Moore, Ardstraw, in third.

Prices

G Beacom: 800 680 520 520 520 400 360 340 300. R McAdoo 700 600 550 520 500 450.

J Hegarty 600 560 370 300 S Douglas 720 440 420 300 W Moore 580 520 480. E & G Gould 500 420 380 380 340. G McAdoo 440 380 360. L & M Liggett 420 380 370. K Telford 380 350.

Prizes

Champion: G Beacom; reserve, R McAdoo.

Ram lambs: 1, G Beacom; 2, R McAdoo; 3, K Telford.

Shearlings: G Beacom; 2, J Hegarty; 3, W Moore.



Gary Beacom's Champion



Robin McAdoo and his reserve champion with Arnold McClure the judge



Arnold McClure the judge with Keith Telford holding the 1st prize shearling ram owned by G Beacom.