

## High clearance rate at Suffolk shearling sale

A CLEARANCE rate of 90% and a top price of 1020 guineas provided further evidence that the NI Branch of the Suffolk Sheep Society's shearling (only) show and sale at Ballymena is a fixture that is meeting the needs of its customers.

Monday evening's event was organised following the success of the inaugural sale some 12 months ago and once again there was strong demand for the outstanding quality on offer .

Top price on the night went to Limavady breeder, Geoffrey Douglas, whose exceptional Moatfarrell Leader-sired ram attracted considerable interest before being knocked down for 1020 guineas.

Across the board prices averaged in excess of 500 guineas with commercial producers willing to dig deep for the cream of the crop.

Second highest price went to Limestone flock owner Mark Priestley, who was paid 850 guineas for a Limestone Obama son while a Burnview Big Horse-bred ram, presented by the Cookstown stable of Keith and Gordon McAdoo, commanded a similar price.

Philip Savage and Omagh flock owners William and Stephanie Tait were both paid 800 guineas for Castleisle Impact and Moatfarrell Titan bred rams respectively while a Conveth Masterpiece shearling, brought forward by J and C Hamilton, Greyabbey, attracted a plethora of bids before the hammer dropped at 700 guineas.

Earlier in the show ring it was the Cookstown flock of Keith and Gordon McAdoo which scooped the top honour with Stuart Hamilton second, S & W Tait, third and Geoffrey Douglas fourth.

Judge was Noel Mawhinney and the prizes were once again generously sponsored by Norbrook.

### Prices

Geoffrey Douglas 1020, 550; Mark Priestley 850, 500; K and G McAdoo 850 500; Philip Savage 800; S & W Tait 800 680 620; J and C Hamilton 700; JS Hamilton 650; William Moore 680, 580.

Prizes: 1, K and G McAdoo; 2, S Hamilton; 3, S & W Tait; 4, Geoffrey Douglas.



Noel Mawhinney the judge with Keith McAdoo and his 1<sup>st</sup> prize ram



William Tait with his 3<sup>rd</sup> prize ram



Geoffrey Douglas with his 4<sup>th</sup> prize ram