

Choice Cuts butcher forks out £142

DAVID Miller, the Choice Cuts butcher who has built a reputation for selling first quality meat products, purchased the champion and reserve champion pens at this year's spring lamb competition organised by the NI Branch of the Suffolk Sheep Society.

Mr Miller, who has opened a new outlet in Portrush to add to his ever-expanding business, for the second year running judged and sponsored the annual competition at Ballymena Livestock Mart.

And so impressed with the quality on offer that the butcher was prepared to pay top dollar for the pick of the bunch. Mr Miller paid £120 for the first and second pens in the pedigree Suffolk section belonging to Denis Taylor and local man Packie Donnelly respectively.

However top price of the day went to Austin Jones, whose first prizewinning Suffolk crossbreds and overall champion pen, fetched £142. Again it was the Choice Cuts butcher who dug deep to secure the superbly conformed lambs which in every way highlighted the many attributes that the Suffolk has to offer as a terminal sire.

Product prizes on the day were generously sponsored by Janssen Animal Health and presented by their representative Bill Ferris. The NI Branch puts on record its thanks to all involved in making this year's competition a huge success.

Results

Pedigree section:

1, Denis Taylor, 23.5kg £120; 2, P Donnelly, 28kg £120; 3, P Donnelly 27.25kg £113.

Commercial section:

1, A Jones 23.5kg £142; 2, JC Orr 22.5kg £95; 3, J Jones 21kg £93.

Overall Champion Pen: A Jones





D Taylor 1st prize pedigree section



Butcher D Millar receiving the cup from A Patton N.I. Branch Chairman.