

2017 Ham, Bacon and Egg Show/Sale a BIG Success



The 74th West Virginia FFA Ham, Bacon and Egg Show and Sale featured 111 entries from FFA members across the state. By the end of the sale on March 13, bidders forked over \$37,540 for some of the best pork and eggs in West Virginia.

The evening began with a reception at the Governor's Mansion for FFA officers, elected officials, bidders and longtime supporters of the event to thank them for their commitment. Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt urged buyers to get their checkbooks ready.

"Please be very generous. The young men and women who have participated in the program throughout the year have done a tremendous job," said Leonhardt. "Most people don't realize this is an organization that's growing throughout West Virginia. This is a major part of what can help revitalize the state of West Virginia."

The show and sale took place in building 7 at the state Capitol complex. Bidders had the opportunity to take a close look at all the entries and talk to the FFA members before the auction got underway.

The 24 lb. Grand Champion Ham, raised by Hunter Aston of Cameron FFA, sold for \$3,120 to the Kroger Company. The Grand Champion Bacon, weighed in at 8 lbs., was raised by Delaney Lucey of Cameron FFA and sold to Commissioner Leonhardt for \$2,200.

The Grand Champion Eggs sold to Kroger for \$1,000. They belonged to Alex Greathouse from Tyler Consolidated, a double winner. "I didn't think I was going to get grand champion down here. I was just happy winning grand champion eggs at our county sale. Accomplishing something like this at the state sale is a great honor."

The Reserve Champion Ham was raised by Tristan Dotson of Cameron and sold to Gunnoe Farms Sausage for \$1,150. The Reserve Champion Bacon belonged to Tiersa Helvey of Greenbrier East and sold to Gunnoe for \$2,000. Delaney Lucey of Cameron earned \$1,200 for her Reserve Champion Eggs purchased by the Marshall County Buyers Group.

Ron Morrison and Greg Murphy of Ronald Morrison Auction Services donated their time to auction off the items.

"In the 74 years of the event, this was one of our top ten sales," stressed state FFA Advisor Jason Hughes. "The product was of great quality. Every piece of meat sold was prime cut. That is highly unusual."

The first state Ham, Bacon and Egg Show took place in 1941 at the Daniel Boone Hotel in Charleston. The Grand Champion Ham went for \$23.63. The Grand Champion Bacon was purchased for \$2.75 and the Grand Champion Eggs went for \$2.25. The grand total that first year was \$204.82.