

## **2018 Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair (SAFF)**

Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair (SAFF) hosted its second annual PBA Sanctioned Pygora Goat and Fiber Shows October 26-27, 2018. Lisa Grzeskowiak served as judge for the events, which drew spectators, Pygora owners and entries from Florida to Iowa. Beverly VanHook served as Show Chair. Professional photographer Gary Depp served as show photographer.

A total of thirty Pygora goats from nine owners were entered in the Pygora Doe and Wether Shows at SAFF 2018.

SAFF Grand Champion Doe was Gun Plain Pygoras Emma, owned by Amanda Sadowski and bred by Nan Nichols. Reserve Grand Champion Doe was Painted Shadow Farm Emily, owned by Kim Depp and bred by Bonny Collard.

SAFF Grand Champion Wether was Mountain Meadow Farm Dodger, owned by Robin Oliver and bred by Beverly VanHook. This was Dodger's second appearance at the SAFF Pygora Wether Show and his second Grand Champion win. Reserve Grand Champion Wether was Gun Plain Pygoras Atticus, bred and owned by Nan Nichols.

In keeping with the SAFF tradition of educating the public on fiber animals and fiber use, Grzeskowiak provided ample comments as she judged the 14 Pygora fleece entries and answered questions from the audience while she assessed the entries. Every fiber type was represented in the Fleece Show. We thank all the Pygora owners who mailed in fleece entries and look forward to even more Pygora fleece entries at SAFF 2019.

SAFF Grand Champion Fleece winner went to Pygora buck Hawks Mountain Ranch Abraham, owned by Amanda Sadowski and bred by Lisa Roskopf. This was HMR Abraham's third Grand Champion Fleece award, making him PBA's first Permanent Grand Champion Fleece winner! Reserve Grand Champion Fleece winner was Pygora wether Mountain Meadow Farm Mudslide, owned by Janet Metz and bred by Beverly VanHook.

At SAFF all fleeces entered for Show must also be offered for Sale. Fleeces may be entered as Sale only or as Show and Sale. Fifteen percent of the fleece sale proceeds go to SAFF to help offset the cost of the huge regional weekend event. Fleeces that earn Championship, Best in Show and Blue Ribbons are entered into a Saturday night fleece auction to raise even more funds for SAFF.

In addition to PBA sanctioned Fleece, Doe and Wether Shows, Mountain Meadow Farm hosts a vendor booth at SAFF where Pygora owners and family members may drop off items for sale. This year's sale items included raw and processed Pygora fiber, Pygora rugs, shawls, boot toppers and jewelry as well as handmade yarn bowls, handmade drop spindles, spindle pouches and artisan jewelry. With a larger booth reserved for 2019, there will be room for demonstrations and additional sale items from Pygora owners and their families. While SAFF allows sale of goats by any Pygora Goat Show entrants, fleece and other items may only be sold in the vendor booth or at the Fleece Show and Sale.

SAFF Fleece and Livestock Superintendents Fallon Newell and Kelsey Russell, respectively, contributed to the success of our Pygora Shows at SAFF 2018. Fallon, who is in her second year as SAFF Fleece Show and Sale Superintendent, is wonderful to work with and appreciates PBA representation at SAFF. All other fleeces are entered in their clear plastic bags, but Fallon welcomes our Pygora fleeces in their traditional banker's boxes. Kelsey followed in her mother Tami Russell's footsteps to become Livestock Superintendent at SAFF this year. She represents all our Pygora goat needs at SAFF Board meetings, arranges for our Pygora pen locations and secures place ribbons for the Pygora goat shows.

A special thank you goes to Fran Bishop for supporting our Pygora Fleece and Goat Shows at SAFF 2018 by paying our sanction fees. When Fran realized that she would not be able to join us at SAFF with her own Pygoras this year as anticipated, she asked to make a contribution by reimbursing us for the cost of our PBA Sanction Fees. Thank you, Fran. We appreciate your continued support of SAFF Pygora shows.

Additional thanks for support of SAFF 2018 goes to Nan Nichols for not only participating but transporting goats to the show for other owners and always providing much needed advice.

Mark your calendars for SAFF 2019, October 25-27, at the WNC Agricultural Center, Asheville, NC, across the street from Asheville Regional Airport. Liza Sanford-Crane will judge Pygora Goat and Fleece Shows at SAFF 2019.



Gun Plain Pygoras Emma, owned by Amanda Sadowski and bred by Nan Nichols (Left), was SAFF 2018 SAFF Grand Champion Doe. Lisa Grzeskowiak (right) served as judge.



Painted Shadow Farm Emily, owned by Kim Depp (Left) and bred by Bonny Collard, was SAFF Reserve Grand Champion Doe. Lisa Grzeskowiak (right) served as judge.



Mountain Meadow Farm Dodger, owned by Robin Oliver (center) and bred by Beverly VanHook, was SAFF Grand Champion Wether. This was Dodger's second appearance at the SAFF Pygora Wether Show and his second Grand Champion win. Pictured with Dodger and owner Robin are judge Lisa Grzeskowiak (left) and Wade Oliver (right).



Gun Plain Pygoras Atticus, bred and owned by Nan Nichols, was SAFF Reserve Grand Champion Wether. Shown here with Atticus are Nan's granddaughter Amelia (left) and judge Lisa Grzeskowiak.





SAFF 2018 Goat Show winners pictured above from left are Grand Champion Wether Mountain Meadow Farm Dodger with owner Robin Oliver and husband Wade; Reserve Grand Champion Doe Painted Shadow Farm Emily with owner Kim Depp; Grand Champion Doe Gun Plain Pygoras Emma pictured with breeder Nan Nichols, and Reserve Grand Champion Wether Gun Plain Pygoras Atticus shown with handler Amelia and judge Lisa Grzeskowiak.



Five young handlers gained experience showing goats in SAFF's Showmanship class and continued to handle goats in various classes throughout the SAFF 2018 Goat Shows.



Grand Champion Fleece went to Hawks Mountain Ranch Abraham, owned by Amanda Sadowski.



Reserve Grand Champion Fleece went to Mountain Meadow Farm Mudslide.