

2019 Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair Shows

By Beverly Van Hook-Schrey

This year marked the third annual PBA sanctioned show at the Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair (SAFF) in Asheville, NC. It was the very first year, however, for a SAFF Pygora Buck Show. There was a great showing of bucks for this first ever event at SAFF with a total of eight owners showing 13 bucks in two junior and two senior classes. PBA Judge Liza Sanford-Crane judged each of the Pygora goat shows and the Pygora fleece show at SAFF.



Junior Bucks line up for showing at SAFF's first-ever PBA sanctioned Pygora Buck Show. Handlers are Wade Oliver, Celeste Collins, Sarah Jones, Gary Depp and Nan Nichols with Judge Liza Sanford-Crane.

Owner Hilary Schrey's tiny four-month-old buck Mountain Meadow Farm Anakin earned a blue ribbon in the Junior Buck 1 class for bucks under six months of age for his wide stature and good fleece coverage.

Five additional bucklings competed in the Junior Buck 2 class. Six-month-old Caney Fork Pygoras Carlos Jackson from owner Robin Oliver took first place with the judge commenting on his perfectly square build and extremely dense dark caramel fiber. Blackberry Blossom Farm Augusta from owners Dale and Pam Gregg took second place in the class. Sanford-Crane credited Augusta's strong build and excellent fiber density and said less uniformity in the fiber on his chest and neck was the one minor factor that put him in second. Third place in the JB2 class went to Greystone Jumping Jack Flash, owned by Shannon Collins and shown by Celeste Collins.

Caney Fork Pygoras Carlos Jackson took Junior Champion Buck, and the young Anakin was named Reserve Junior Champion.

The Senior Buck 1 class also had five competitors, and Mountain Meadow Farm Hamilton from owner Sarah Jones took first in the class. Sanford-Crane called Hamilton "majestic" and commented on his strong, wide chest, good stance, excellent coverage and his beautiful, soft fiber. RSA

Jolly Jester from owner Beverly VanHook-Schrey took second in the class for the quality and softness of his fiber as well as his dense coverage.

Two elder bucks made up the Senior Buck 3 class for goats age 5 years and older. Nine-year-old Gun Plain Pygoras Abe from owner Nan Nichols took first place with the judge commenting on how well he has held up to age, including a still-straight top line and incredibly strong legs and stance. Owner Beverly Vanhook-Schrey's 5-year-old Mountain Meadow Farm Hughbert took second, and Sanford-Crane commented that he was an absolutely excellent buck with straight top and good fiber.

Sanford-Crane chose Gun Plain Pygoras Abe as Champion Senior Buck, but Mountain Meadow Farm Hamilton beat out the elder Mountain Meadow Farm Hughbert for Reserve Senior Champion.



Gun Plain Pygoras Abe (left) took Senior and Grand Champion Buck. Abe is shown here with his owner Nan Nichols. Junior Champion Buck Caney Fork Pygoras Carlos Jackson (right) was named Reserve Grand Champion. Carlos Jackson, who is owned by Robin Oliver, brought home a first-ever win for the Caney Fork Pygoras herd name.



Gun Plain Pygoras Abe

In the end, Sanford-Crane chose Senior Buck Gun Plain Pygoras Abe as Grand Champion Buck, but after debate turned to Junior

Champion Caney Fork Pygoras Carlos Jackson for Reserve Grand Champion. It was Abe's first Grand Champion win, having received several Reserve awards in his long life.

A total of 21 does as young as four months and as old as 10 years participated in the SAFF Pygora Doe Show.

The show included three junior classes with first place in the Junior Doe 1 class going to Mountain Meadow Farm Princess Leia owned by Beverly VanHook-Schrey.

There was significant competition in the Junior Doe 2 class, with eight goats from three Pygora breeders competing. Eight-month-old Pawsitive Plantation Ladybug Fly Home from owner Kim Depp took first in this class. Mountain Meadow Farm Fox Lady took second place.

Twins Gun Plain Pygoras Keara and Kristal from owner Nan Nichols competed against each other in the Junior Doe 3 category for goats from 12 to 24 months who have not yet kidded. Keara beat her sister out for first.

Ultimately, the Junior Doe 2 class dominated the juniors with Pawsitive Plantation Ladybug Fly Home taking Junior Division Champion and Mountain Meadow Farm Fox Lady earning Reserve Junior 6 Champion Doe.



Pawsitive Plantation Ladybug Fly Home Kim Depp



Grand Champion Doe: The Oaks Cornell owned by Beverly VanHook-Schrey is shown by Nan Nichols. This was Cornell's first-ever goat show.

The high level of competition continued with the Senior Does at SAFF. Pawsitive Plantation Jolene took first in the Senior Doe 1 category over two other competitors for her sturdy body and ample fleece coverage. Coming in second in this category was Mountain Meadow Farm Charlotte.

Mountain Meadow Farm Beatrix from the same owner took second in the Senior Doe 2 class for her beautiful fiber.

Sanford-Crane took her time judging the last and final Senior Doe 3 class of breeding does age 5 and over. It was a highly competitive class consisting of four seasoned does, but ultimately 10-year-old The Oaks Cornell from VanHook-Schrey took first for her straight top line and ample coverage in what was her first Pygora show. Eight-year-old Mountain Meadow Farm Betty Lu took second place for her ample coverage.

The Oaks Cornell won Reserve Senior Champion Doe and was Grand Champion Doe at SAFF.

The Pygora Wether Show at the Southeastern Animal Fiber Fair brought out 13 goats from five owners showing in three classes. The most competitive class was Junior Wether 2, with seven goats age 6 to 12 months. Mountain Meadow Farm Chewbacca from owner Robin Oliver took first place in the class, with Judge Liza Sanford-Crane commenting not only on his ample fleece and large square build but also on his excellent demeanor with handler 10-year-old Woody Oliver.

Mountain Meadow Farm Sir Elton from owner Beverly VanHook-Schrey took second in the class. Sanford-Crane commented on his sturdy build and extremely dense fleece despite his petite build. With no other junior classes, the two also took Junior Champion and Junior Champion Reserve.



Owners Robin Oliver and Wade Oliver with Reserve Grand Champion Wether Mountain Meadow Farm Moonshine (left) and Grand Champion Wether Mountain Meadow Farm Dodger (right). This is Dodger's third Grand Champion win and puts him in position to be a PBA Permanent Grand Champion Wether.

There were two senior wether classes, with four goats competing in Senior Wether 1. Of the four, Gun Plain Pygoras Kole from owner Nan Nichols took first place for his excellent stature, wide build and thick fleece. Gun Plain Pygoras Jengo from owner Robin Oliver took second in the class. Sanford-Crane commented on his excellent, thick fleece but said he had a slightly narrower build than the first place wether.

In the Senior Wether 2 class, the competing goats were both Mountain Meadow Farm goats owned by Robin Oliver. Sanford-Crane commented that both had excellent, lovely fleece and good coverage as well as a nice stance. She asked each handler to walk their goats the length of the show ring to display their gait and width as she weighed the two. In the end, she chose Mountain Meadow Farm Dodger for the win with Mountain Meadow Farm Moonshine coming in second.

The two elder wethers dominated in the remainder of the competition, with Dodger and Moonshine taking Senior Champion Wether and Reserve Senior Champion Wether and then beating out the junior bucks for Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Wether. It was Mountain Meadow Farm Dodger's third Grand Champion win, leading him to a Permanent Grand Champion status for the Pygora breed.

The SAFF PBA sanctioned Fleece show included 18 entries from 9 owners representing six states. Fleeces included three junior does, four senior does, four junior bucks, three senior bucks and four senior wethers.



Judge Liza-Sanford-Crane gives a lesson on fleece as she compares fleece samples.

Hawks Mountain Ranch GeGe, a 3-year-old doe from owner Amanda Sadowski, took Champion Doe Fleece and Grand Champion fleece overall. GeGe's long, soft Type B fleece impressed Judge Liza Sanford-Crane with its length, volume and amazing feel. GeGe's fleece has now earned enough Grand Champion places to make her a Permanent Grand Champion for fleece.

Reserve Grand Champion Fleece overall went to 5-year-old buck Great Lakes Pygoras Eewan from owner Debbie Eubanks; Eewan's Type A fleece was also awarded Champion Buck Fleece.

Reserve Champion Doe Fleece went to 3-year-old Mountain Meadow Farm Hermione's Type B fleece, entered by owner Beverly VanHook-Schrey. Reserve Champion Buck Fleece went to End of the Road Farm Buckette List, also a 3-year-old with Type B fleece, entered by Kim Depp.

Among the wethers, owner Robin Oliver took both Champion Wether Fleece and Reserve Champion Wether Fleece with the win going to Mountain Meadow Farm Blackberry's extremely soft Type B fleece. Mountain Meadow Farm Moses took second place with his Type B fleece.



*End of the Road Farm Buckette List
Kim Depp*



Judge Liza Sanford-Crane and Show Secretary Kim Depp.