

Simmental National Calf Finals at Strokestown Show

The National Simmental Calf Finals at Strokestown Show on Saturday September 7th turned out to be a day to remember for Carlow breeder Nigel Hogan who finished the day winning four out of the five National Titles down for decision. Nigel who is from Bennekerry, Carlow established his Rathnashan Simmental Herd in 2010 and the National Calf Finals at Strokestown were without doubt the highlight of his showing achievements to date.

Judging these finals which were sponsored by Dovea Genetics was Michael Barlow. Michael is currently the President of the UK Society and runs the Denzies Simmental Herd in Lancashire.

The first National Calf Class was the Senior Heifer Class for calves born in December `18 & January `19. Taking this title was Clonagh Kiana Miss Joan for Garrett Behan, Ballyfin, Portlaoise. This December born heifer is sired by Kilbride Farm Dragoon and is out of a homebred Clonagh Bart Man dam Clonagh Gorgeous Joan. Reserve went to Declan Oates from Castlegal, Co. Leitrim with Tawley Kaisee ET, a Hillcrest Butcher sired heifer out of an Auchorachan Wizard dam, Annadale Dainty.

Next class was the Junior Heifer Calf Class for heifers born after February 1st 2019. Rathnashan Livia Empress gave Nigel Hogan his first winner of the day in this class. This February 2019 born heifer calf is sired by Curaheen Tyson and out of an Auroch Bullet P sired dam Seafort Empress. Taking Reserve Junior Heifer was Derek Costello from Barnattin, Kilineer, Drogheda, Co. Louth with Barnattin Laura. This March calf is sired by Kilbride Farm Delboy and is out of a Seepa Tee Jay dam Barnattin Amanda.

Taking the First Bull Calf Class for December / January bulls was Rathnashan Klum ET again for Nigel Hogan. This Curaheen Gunshot P sired December bull is out of a homebred Kilbride Farm Bantry dam Rathnashan Heidi. Reserve Senior Bull went to Gerry Neenan, Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo with Fearnha Kungfu Jim ET. Again sired by Curaheen Gunshot P, this bull is out of a Raceview King sired dam Fearnha Vienna.

Rathnashan Leonardo ET again for Nigel Hogan won the Junior Bull Class. Born in February `19 this Mullyknock Gallant sired calf is out of a Curaheen Viking sired dam Seafort Beverly. Reserve here went to Garrett Behan with Clonagh Lucky Explorer. Born in May `19 this Manor Park Handsome sired calf is out of the Banwy T-Rex dam Clonagh Dora the Explorer.

A new class to the schedule this year was a class for Polled Calves and this class was sponsored by Lanmor Simmentals, Ardee, Co. Louth which is owned by Raymond O`Malley. This class gave Nigel Hogan his fourth winner with Rathnashan Kellogg's P ET taking the title. This December `18 born bull is also sired by Curaheen Gunshot P and is also out of Rathnashan Heidi. Fearnha Khalessi Tiffany P ET took Reserve Polled Calf for Gerry Neenan. This December `18 born heifer calf is sired by Sneumgaard Emperor PP and is out of a Milton Lord Tiffany dam Fearnha Tiffany.

The Final National Class of the day was the National Simmental X Heifer Class for breeding heifers under 750kgs. This title went to Frank Mulligan, Creggs, Co. Galway and Reserve went to Martin Glennon, Athlone.

Taking the Overall Simmental Champion in the regular show section was Garrett Behan with Clonagh Dora the Explorer. Reserve Overall Champion went to Billy Gubbins, Cush, Kilfinane, Co. Limerick with Cush Krispy.

The Simmental Society would like to thank Strokestown Show for facilitating these National Finals and also Michael Barlow for Judging on the day.