Dorset County Show Report 2019

The 2019 Dorset show was once more a huge success - and we were blessed with fine weather on both days. This year all the Devon classes were again sponsored by our Auctioneers Greenslade Taylor Hunt and we are extremely grateful to them for this, without our sponsors the shows would struggle to carry on.

Yet again there were more Devons there than any other single breed, with double the entries on last year -so many thanks to all those who turned out for what is our last multiday show in the south west – we do appreciate your making the annual trek over to ‘deepest darkest’ Dorset.

Our judge, David Martin, had some very strong classes in front of him and his Breed Champion – Rocknell Quarrylad from Graham and Anita Summerhayes- went on to do him and the breed proud by winning the Reserve Interbreed Championship later in the day – only 4 points behind the Limousin heifer from Nick and Lisa Hill. No mean achievement as there were some tremendous cattle in the line-up. This was Quarrylad’s third Breed Championship this year.

Overall Breed Champion & Male Champion
Rocknell Quarrylad – Bred & exhibited by Mr G Summerhayes
Female Champion
Forde Abbey Beauty 134th – Bred & exhibited by Mrs L Roper

The Sunday classes also proved very successful for the Devons, with the Bagnell pair of heifers - Norton Valley Tamara and Toffee - winning the class for native heifers under 3 years old, whilst the rest of the Parsons/Warne team came fourth in the same class with Mark and Lisa’s homebred Kingsbury Tremendous and Tulip. Great work by Charlotte and Jacob – and not forgetting Archie!

The Progeny Pairs class saw Tamara and Toffee win again with Lisa Roper’s Forde Abbey Beauty148th and Taurus continuing their success from the day before by coming third – to have two Devon pairs in the top three in a very strong class of 10 entries was exceptional. To put the icing on the cake Tamara and Toffee went on the win the Tivington Challenge Trophy for the Champion Pair.

Charlotte, Jacob and Lisa with judge Andrew Hughes – Champion Interbreed Pairs.
With a change of format the Beef Interbreed Group of Three – sponsored this year by the NFU – was made up of groups chosen by the various judges representing each individual breed.. Our group, chosen by judge David Martin was made up of cattle from Graham Summerhayes, Simon and Grania Phillips and Lisa Roper. With ten groups in the class judge Andrew Hughes had a difficult job but the Devons were able to continue the tradition of success in this class when they were pulled in third.

Sunday also saw the young handlers’ classes with Stephanie Telling (on her first visit to the show) winning her class with ‘old timer’ Archie Parsons taking second place. We are lucky as a breed that we have a number of good young handlers coming forward.