National Western Highlights

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Dominating Denver

Hereford breeders brought their very best to command attention at the National Western Stock Show.

Whether up on the “Hill” or down in the “Yards,” Hereford breeders had a reason to be proud of the 646 head that paraded the grounds of the National Western Stock Show (NWSS) in Denver, Jan. 15-18. Judges and spectators alike commented on the excellent quality of the Hereford exhibits.

“People take notice of the Hereford breed, and they really can’t believe how good the cattle are from top to end,” says Brent Lowderman, who judged the open bull and female show alongside his brother, Cody Lowderman, Macomb, Ill.

Still, only a select few came out on top. See who brought home the prestigious purple from the 2020 National Hereford Show in the following pages.

Junior show
The junior show set the stage for an exceptional four days. Judge Graham Blagg, Spring Hill, Kan., sorted the 150-head show in Stadium Arena.

Berkley and Denver McKay, Orlando, Okla., exhibited the grand champion horned female, MCKY Monroe 8688 ET. Grand champion polled honors went to Vada and Hans Vickland, Longmont, Colo., with LAR Annslies 843 ET.

The reserve champion horned female, BK Good Point 937ET, was exhibited by Clairborne and Eli Perry, Madison, Miss., and the reserve champion polled female, GGSC MGS Magnolia F03 ET, was exhibited by Mason Allan, Schulenburg, Texas.

Bull show
Judge Cody Lowderman and associate judge Brent Lowderman had their work cut out as they sorted through Thursday’s 94-head open bull show — arguable the pinnacle of Hereford events in Denver. Champion horned bull honors went to SR Dominate 308F ET, owned by Hoffman Herefords, Thedford, Neb.; Buck Cattle Co., Madill, Okla.; and Stuber Ranch, Bowman, N.D. Hoffman Herefords and Buck Cattle Co. exhibited the champion polled bull with H The Profit 8426 ET.

The reserve champion horned bull title went to C BAR1 Candy Belle 9036 ET, owned by Piper Colyer, Bruneau, Idaho. Reserve grand champion polled bull and champion junior bull calf honors went to Coyote Ridge Ranch, La Salle, Colo., with CRR 8Y Leverage 971.

Pen and carload show
Brent Meeks, Taylor, Neb.; Brent Mrnak, Bowman, N.D.; and Troy Thomas, Harrod, S.D., evaluated the Yard exhibits Jan. 17, which included two carloads, 37 bull pens and 27 heifer pens.

Baumgarten Cattle Co., Belfield, N.D., took top honors in the Hereford carload show, and Hoffman Herefords was named reserve.

Coyote Ridge Ranch, La Salle, Colo., topped the pen-of-three bull show and Barber Ranch, Channing, Texas, won the pen-of-three female show in the Denver Yards.

Colyer Herefords, Bruneau, Idaho, was selected reserve champion pen of bulls, and Pérez Cattle Co., Nara Visa, N.M., showed the reserve champion pen of females.

Mile High Night
The Mile High Night National Hereford Sale rounded out Friday evening, where 21.33 live lots grossed $304,000 and averaged $14,252. The Hereford Youth Foundation of America’s (HYFA) Lot 1 Foundation Female, donated by Pérez Cattle Co., raised $70,000 for Hereford youth and was purchased by Whitey and Weyman Hunt of Innisfail Farm, Madison, Ga.

Female show
In Saturday’s 190-head open female show, Vada and Hans Vickland took home the grand champion polled female banner with LAR Annslies 843 ET. Lindsey, Elizabeth and Maverick Pugh, Louisville, Ohio, claimed the reserve grand champion polled female with DeLHawk Claudia 70F ET.

Riley Rhodes, Carlinville, Ill., exhibited the grand champion horned female, Purple Shirley 15F ET. Clairborne and Eli Perry, Madison, Miss., won the reserve grand champion horned female title with BK Good Point 937G ET.

Finale
In the final showdown in Stadium Arena, SR Dominate 308F ET received the final slap as he was named supreme champion Hereford. Owners Hoffman Herefords, Buck Cattle Co. and Stuber Ranch received the Tom Lane Sr. Memorial Trophy, which was presented by Tom Lane Jr.

Following the supreme selection, Gary and Kathy Buchholz, Waxahachie, Texas, were named horned premier exhibitor, and Purple Reign Cattle Co., Toulon, Ill., claimed horned premier breeder honors.

The polled premier exhibitor title went to Vada and Hans Vickland, Longmont, Colo., and DeLHawk Cattle Co., Earlville, Ill., received polled premier breeder honors.

Robyn Kelley Samsel, Cloverdale, Ind., was honored as the 2020 Hereford Herdsman of the Year.
Tom Lane Jr. presents the Tom Lane Sr. Memorial Trophy in his father’s honor to Jason Hoffman, Hoffman Herefords, Thedford, Neb., after judges Cody and Brent Lowderman selected SR Dominate 308F ET as supreme champion.

Robyn Kelley Samsel, Cloverdale, Ind., was voted the 2020 Hereford Herdsman of the Year. Samsel works with Barber Ranch, Channing, Texas, and owns and operates Samsel Cattle Co. with her husband, Ryan.