

Newsletter

Summer '06

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Hello again. Hope you're all keeping well. Summer is well and truly upon us and hopefully the sunshine will continue long enough for us to remember summer as summer and not a couple of good weeks in June ! Balmoral was a busy event again and the crowds around the support group's display certainly proved that the time and effort put in by the group was well worth it.

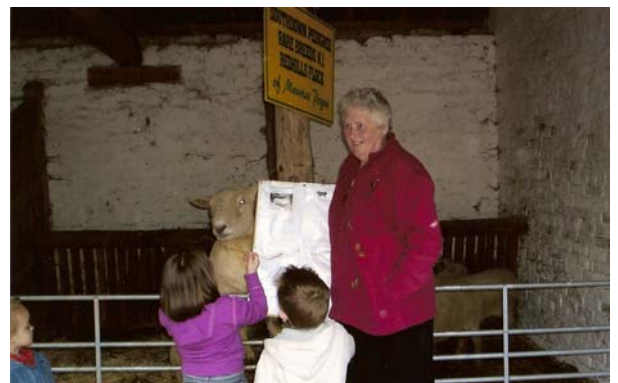
Preparations for this year's Cultra (19th & 20th August) are well underway. Schedules will soon be in the post to all RBST members (ni/i) . Anyone not a member can request a schedule from myself (tel. 028 66386642, email gavin@macneanfarm.com) or Clare O'Shea (tel. 07971 858299 , email clareo_shea@hotmail.com) .



Closing date of entries will be 26th July (although we won't be mean if they arrive a couple of days late..)

This year saw our first outing at the BT Country Fair at Florencecourt House in Co. Fermanagh. The National Trust property was the ideal venue for a display of rare breeds comprising of pigs, sheep and an Ex-moor pony. All the animals were housed in the period farm buildings and were a welcome diversion from Hugo Duncan and his band ! There were rumours of a rare breed stretched neck sheep on display , the reality was Ross Mowbray's description of his Alpaca to inquisitive youngsters !

Pictured here is Ethel Pogue from Brookeborough with her Southdown ram posing for the younger generation.



Something to bleat about...

Contributions by Evelyn Lindsay and Ross Mowbray

Sheep Convenors

The showing calendar once again started with Balmoral. Thanks to all who exhibited in our new location "The Alexander Hall".

Congratulations to the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum for taking 1st place with their Galway sheep; Jonathan Harshaw for taking 2nd place with his Southdown and to Cheryl Murray for 3rd place with her Hebridean. Thanks also to all who took the time and effort to show their sheep at Balmoral. Congratulations to Spurr/Colville who got Champion and Jackie Riseborough who got Reserve Champion.

Shows which have already taken place have been well attended . Thanks to the organisers of Coleraine Show who this year put on Rare Breed Classes and provided the McCracken Cup.

We hope everyone's hard work and dedication makes sheepful winners for the rest of the show calendar.



Thomas Cole and Freda Magill waiting patiently at Balmoral to see if Thomas or indeed the sheep has been pronounced the winner !

Young Gavin Blair leading the way for the next generation of "Rare Breeders" at Ballymoney.





A View from the Udder Side

Shetland Cattle



The Shetland cow is extremely efficient at converting limited grazing into healthy milk. Indeed it was originally classed as a dairy breed. This means that it will produce a fast growing calf and still find that little bit extra for the family. A young heifer, sympathetically handled, will soon take to hand milking, although older and more experienced cows are available. The meat from the pure bred Shetland is truly exceptional.

Owners have little difficulty in finding a premium market for their produce, assuming they are willing to let some go from their own freezer! When crossed with a continental beef bull, the Shetland will produce a calf that grows at the same rate as a pure bred continental animal, but at lower cost due to the more efficient food conversion of both itself and its dam.

The day to day management of a Shetland is very straightforward. It will live well on poor grazing supplemented by hay or silage in winter. For this reason it has proved extremely effective in conservation grazing. The typical Shetland has a temperament ideally suited to the role of "house cow", quickly bonding with a new owner. They can be easily trained to come to the bucket and can be haltered in the field. In a smallholder environment there is therefore no need for expensive handling facilities and crushes. Calving difficulties in pure bred Shetlands are extremely rare, and their ease of calving is known to catch many breeders by surprise. They make excellent mothers. Smallholders may sometimes have problems finding a suitable bull, depending on their location, but the SCBA offers help when required, and semen is available for artificial insemination. Being a small cow the Shetland does not poach the ground in winter to the same extent as heavier breeds, and will happily live out when provided with some shelter.

Most Shetlands are black and white - a result of breeders' preferences 60 or so years ago - but red and white is also now firmly established, and even whole colours are reappearing. The Shetland has delicately shaped inward and slightly upward curving horns (appropriately Viking style) but can be polled if preferred. It stands, on average, 48" high though the truly traditional type can be much smaller - "the most diminutive of its kind in the world".

For more information contact the **Shetland Cattle Breeders Association** via Mary Holloway on tel. 01730 895006.

Breeders Directory

reprinted from Spring newsletter

Ever wondered who else bred the animals you have ? Well you're not alone, the same can be said for most of us. From a committee perspective matching enquiries with breeders isn't always easy and when it comes to putting on displays it is mostly animals from committee members that get out there.

These are some of the reasons why a breeders directory would be a great resource for all members of the RBST N.I.. If you want to be listed please complete the form below, but please bear in mind that by doing so the directory will be available to literally millions of people as it will also be published on the website - ni.rbst.org.uk , so only include contact details that you are happy to supply.

Completed forms should be sent back to myself.

Regards

Gavin Goodman

Corralea, Belcoo, Enniskillen BT93 5DZ



RBST NI Breeders Directory 2006

Cattle Breeds _____

Sheep Breeds _____

Pig Breeds _____

Equine/Poultry/Other _____

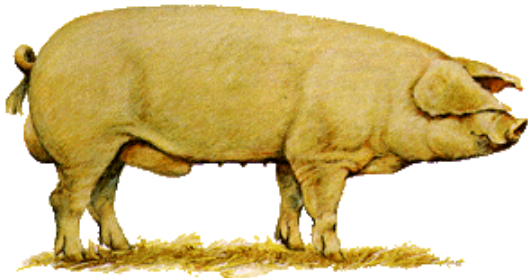
Name:

Address:

Tel:

Email:

website:



Happy as a Pig in.....

Contributions by Tom Fairley, Pig Convenor



This year's Balmoral was well attended with traditional breed pigs beginning to even the score on the amount of entries compared to the modern breeds. Tom & Elaine Fairley again had a successful show with a 2nd in the Interbreed Pig Championship for their Saddleback.

This year's Lurgan show proved to be a worthwhile outing for Forthill Farm. Pictured here (right) is

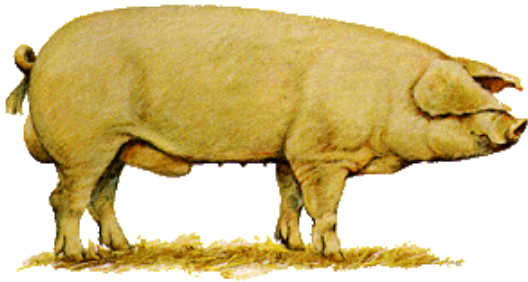
Jennifer Gracey with her Champion Saddleback Boar.



Pig Show Results :-

RUAS

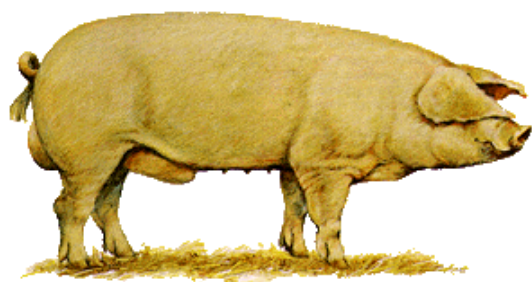
Name of Animal	Class	Owner	Place
	<u>G O S sow</u>		
Greenan Princess Anne	Gloucester old spot	T&M Magowan	!st
Forthill Ellen 92	Gloucester old spot	K&J Gracey	2nd
Forthill Ellen 91	Gloucester old spot	K&J Gracey	3rd
	<u>Saddleback sow</u>		
Forthill Babble 17	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	!st
Forthill Babble 20	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	2nd
Forthill Babble 80	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	3rd
	<u>Junior Gilt</u>		
Magherabeg Rosette	Saddleback	E Fairley	!st
Forthill Lady 145	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	2nd
Hazel	Gloucester old spot	T&M Magowan	3rd
	<u>Junior Boar</u>		
Forthill Dictator 157	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	!st
Oscar	Gloucester old spot	T&M Magowan	2nd
	<u>Champion traditional pig</u>		
Magherabeg Rosette	Saddleback	E Fairley	
	<u>Reserve</u>		
Forthill Babble 17	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	
	<u>Overall Show Reserve</u>		
Magherabeg Rosette	Saddleback	E Fairley	



Happy as a Pig in.....

Contributions by Tom Fairley, Pig Convenor

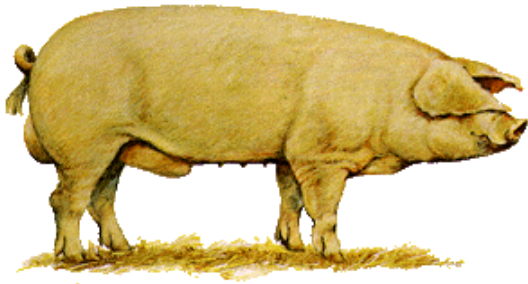
Name of Animal	Ballymena Class Senior Boar	Owner	Place
Smallicombe Namtjira	Berkshire Boar	William Moore-Bowman	1st
Forthill Dictator 16	Tamworth Boar Saddleback Boar Saddleback sow	Rodger Armour K&J Gracey	1st 1st
Forthill Babble 20	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	1st
Forthill Babble 80	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	2nd
	G O S sow		
	Gloucester old spot	C Knox and sons	1st
	Gloucester old spot	Elizabeth O Kane	2nd
	Tamworth sow		
Ballywilliam Lucky Lass 9	Tamworth sow Berkshire sow	William Moore-Bowman	1st
Edenboro Royal Sapphire 29	Berkshire sow	William Moore-Bowman	1st
	Junior Boar		
Forthill Rajah 170	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	1st
Forthill Dictator 157	Saddleback Gloucester old spot	K&J Gracey C Knox and sons	2nd 3rd
	Junior Gilt		
Magherabeg Rosette	Saddleback	E Fairley	1st
Forthill Babble 110	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	2nd
Forthill Lady 145	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	3rd
	Breed Champions		
	Tamworth		
Ballywilliam Lucky Lass 9	Tamworth sow Berkshire	William Moore-Bowman	
Edenboro Royal Sapphire 29	Berkshire sow	William Moore-Bowman	
	G O S		
	Gloucester old spot	C Knox and sons	
	Junior Boar		
Forthill Rajah 170	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	
	Junior Gilt		
Magherabeg Rosette	Saddleback	E Fairley	
	Champion		
Magherabeg Rosette	Saddleback	E Fairley	
	Reserve		
Forthill Rajah 170	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	



Happy as a Pig in.....

Contributions by Tom Fairley, Pig Convenor

Name of Animal	Lurgan <u>Class</u>	Owner	Place
	<u>Senior Boar</u>		
Smallicombe Namtjira	Berkshire	William Moore-Bowman	2nd
Forthill Dictator 16	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	1st
	<u>Saddleback sow</u>		
Forthill Babble 80	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	1st
Forthill Babble 20	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	2nd
Forthill Babble 110	Saddleback sow	K&J Gracey	3rd
	<u>G O S sow</u>		
Whinneyhill Ellen 5	Gloucester old spot	R A S Smyth	1st
	Gloucester old spot	C Knox and sons	2nd
	<u>Tamworth sow</u>		
Ballywilliam Lucky Lass 9	Tamworth sow	William Moore-Bowman	1st
	<u>Berkshire sow</u>		
Edenboro Royal Sapphire 29	Berkshire sow	William Moore-Bowman	1st
	<u>Junior Boar</u>		
Forthill Rajah 170	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	1st
Forthill Dictator 157	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	2nd
Whinneyhill Dictator	Saddleback	Brian Kelly	3rd
	<u>Gloucester old spot</u>		
Corbrook Gerald	Gloucester old spot	C Knox and sons	1st
	Junior Gilt		
Magherabeg Rosette	Saddleback	E Fairley	1st
Forthill Babble 180	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	2nd
Forthill Babble 134	Saddleback	Brian Kelly	3rd
	<u>Junior Gilt</u>		
Corbrook Freda 2	Gloucester old spot	C Knox and sons	1st
	Breed Champions		
	<u>Tamworth</u>		
Ballywilliam Lucky Lass 9	Tamworth sow	William Moore-Bowman	
	<u>Berkshire</u>		
Edenboro Royal Sapphire 29	Berkshire sow	William Moore-Bowman	
	<u>G O S</u>		
Whinneyhill Ellen 5	Gloucester old spot	R A S Smyth	
	<u>Junior Boar</u>		
Forthill Rajah 170	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	
	<u>Junior Gilt</u>		
Magherabeg Rosette	Saddleback	E Fairley	
	<u>Champion</u>		
Forthill Rajah 170	Saddleback	K&J Gracey	
	<u>Reserve</u>		
Whinneyhill Ellen 5	Gloucester old spot	R A S Smyth	



Happy as a Pig in.....

Contributions by Tom Fairley, Pig Convenor

New Boars available at Deerpark.

With the help of the RBST ReGeneration Appeal seven new boars are in situ at the AI Centre of Deerpark Pedigree Pigs. Details of the boars are below :-



Breed	Reg. No.	Name	Ear No.	D O B
BK	R000682BK	Applegarth Nama Abel 142	NAE/142	02/06/2005
BS	R001024BS	Victoria Golden Arrow 165	WMC/165	02/02/2005
GS	R001153GS	Alsa Gerald 451	KCE/451	01/01/2005
LB	R000455LB	Bilgrm Defender 14	BBL/14	07/07/2005
MW	R000472MW	Degiorgio Rajah 15	MTE/015	30/04/2005
TW	R000560TW	Stonemoor Royal Standard 6	HCE/395	26/02/2005
WE	R000530WE	Churchstone Workman 5	FFA/95	09/05/200

Deerpark can be contacted on 028 79386287, email :- info@deerpark-pigs.com

The Back Page

Classifieds

Dexter Cattle :-

The choice for the discerning connoisseur who wants to be sure of wholesome production. For further details contact :-

A.Bingham 028 90815641 Co.Down

K.Briggs 028 21759889 Glens of Antrim

H&D Hilton 028 29541490 Co.L'Derry

B.Mayers 028 92648257 Mid.Antrim

A.Montgomery 028 25821244 North Antrim

I.Simpson 028 94453147 Mid.Antrim

Tamworth Pigs - weaners available, birth registered with BPA, eligible for herd book registration. Contact 028 66386642, email info@macneanfarm.com, web www.macneanfarm.com

Gloucester Old Spots - weaners available, birth registered with BPA, eligible for herd book registration. Contact Terry Magowan 07714245639 (Ballynahinch)

Gourmet's Delight

Wensleydale (pure and X) hoggets for the freezer.

Tel: 028 40630772

Gloucester Old Spots & British Saddlebacks usually for sale - Contact Stefan Smyth tel. 028 90426682

Paul Beatty - variety of Bantams and Waterfowl - all bred from exhibition stock.

Tel: 077896 44772, 47 Leaney Rd, Dungannon

Saddleback Pigs for sale - weaners for breeding & fattening. Contact Tom or Elaine Fairley Tel: 028 92692426 or email t.e.29@btinternet.com

Looking for romance ? Well don't look here !

But if you're looking for fame why not contribute to the newsletter - feel free to send any articles to any member of the committee.