

BLUE TEXELS IN DEMAND AT THEIR INAUGURAL SALE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The inaugural sale of Blue Texel Sheep in Northern Ireland, took place on Monday 29th August at Dungannon Mart. There was a good show of sheep forward for this export sale and averages and clearance rates, reflected the quality of the sheep and demand for them, both for pedigree use and commercially.

Females were in particularly high demand, with the top price of the day of 1800gns going to Adrian & Clive Richardson, 24 Abbey Road, Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh, when they sold their Female and Overall Champion, judged earlier by Rhys Cooke, Nantderri Farm, Llantilio Crossenny, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, to Johnny Timms, Springlodge. Miles Hill Place, Leeds.

This Cleenagh Gimmer, was one of twins sold by The Richardson family, with the lot following her selling for 1200gns to Mark McConnell, Drumdoit, Castle Fin, Donegal. She had also followed her sister in the show ring, standing second to her in their class and taking the Reserve Overall Female ticket. These full twins are by Beili Blues Import (26262-92618) out of a Dutch ewe (08476-10618).

Clive and Adrian Richardson, also took the top price in the ewe lamb section, when the judge stood by his first prize lamb choice from the show and paid 1000gns, to take her back to Wales. She is by Cleenagh Walt Disney and out of Cleenagh X96.

The Richardsons' also featured in both sections in the male classes. Their first prize shearling ram Cleenagh Yardman by the Dutch ram Nijboer, sold for 850gns to Leslie Glenn, Pinhill Farm, 82 Mealough Rd, Carryduff, Belfast. The third prize ram in the section, also from Cleenagh, sold for the same amount to Edgar Rodgers, 87A Rehaghey Rd, Auchnacloy. This one by C J's Will I Am out of an Innishmore ewe.

The ram lambs were however the stars of the earlier show in the male section, with the first prize lamb from Clive and Adrian taking the Male Championship and Reserve Overall to the gimmer. Cleenagh Anchor Man, is by Whatmore Xpert out of Cleenagh W7 and sold for 1000gns to Paddy Kent, Aclare, Newross, Co Wexford.

Top price in the section however, went to the third prize lamb from the same vendor, when Cleenagh Alfonso changed hands for a bid of 1200gns to S Allen, 158 Fyfin Rd, Strabane, Co Tyrone. Alfonso is again by Xpert and this time out of a Millside ewe.

Colin Hamilton, 104 Strabane Rd, Castlederg, bid 1100gns for the second prize ram lamb and reserve male champion, Cleenagh Alabama, a Will I Am sired lamb out of Cleenagh V3.

Sale Averages

| | NO SOLD | AVE(gns) | TOP |
|----------------|---------|----------|------|
| Shearling Rams | 16 | 526 | 850 |
| Ram lambs | 15 | 532 | 1200 |
| Shearling Ewes | 12 | 723 | 1800 |
| Ewe Lambs | 8 | 605 | 1000 |

