



News Release

For Immediate Release

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Lamb Show winners selected at 2022 Florida Strawberry Festival

PLANT CITY, Fla. (March 12, 2022) – The winners in the Florida Strawberry Festival’s lamb shows were this week at the Patterson Companies Livestock Arena in the Grimes Family Agricultural Center.

Four competitions are held for lamb and their exhibitors: showmanship, a jumping contest, a sheep show and costume contest.

In the showmanship competition, where exhibitors are judged on their ability to present their animals, exhibitors are separated into junior, intermediate and senior categories.

In the beginner showmanship division, Reid Patino placed first and Josie Clark placed second.

In the junior showmanship division, Shelby Southerland placed first, Adelyn Jensen placed second and Gracie Lopez placed third.

In the intermediate division, Makinley Jensen placed first, Marissa Pelham placed second and Brighton Willis placed third.

In the senior division, Emma Leiss placed first, Ruca Rhoten placed second and Nadia Rhoten placed third.

In the jumping contest, a hurdle is placed in the arena that the participating sheep jump over. Each sheep jumps the hurdle at each height, and the hurdle is continuously raised until only one sheep remains as the winner.

In the short-legged division, Nathaniel Akri’s lamb won first place, Julia Jones’ lamb and Chloe Howard’s lamb tied for second place.

In the long-legged division, Makinley Jensen’s lamb, Brendan Flores’ lamb and Carly Ritchey tied for first place.

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In the lamb show, the animals are judged on their breeding characteristics and the likelihood that they will produce a quality lamb.

Jessica Ferreria's lamb won grand champion black face ewe and Riley Silkworth's won reserve champion black face ewe. Ruca Rhonton's lamb won grand champion black face ram and Benjamin Kanoza's lamb won reserve champion black face ram.

Emma Leiss' lamb won grand champion white face ewe and won reserve grand champion white face ewe. Emma Leiss' lamb won grand champion white face ram and Ruca Rhoton's lamb won reserve grand champion white face ram.

Riley Silkworth's lamb won grand champion crossbred ewe and Brooklin Ball's lamb won reserve grand champion crossbred ewe. Lila Potter's lamb won grand champion crossbred ram and Samuel Potter's lamb won reserve grand champion crossbred ram.

Makinley Jensen's lamb won grand champion rare breed ewe, Christopher Dudzinski's lamb won reserve grand champion rare breed ewe, Keely Wells' lamb won grand champion rare breed ram and Connor Kennedy's lamb won reserve grand champion rare breed ram.

Emma Leiss won supreme grand champion with her white face ram.

In the costume contest, Taylor Stewart won the "funniest" category with her "Chic-Fil-A Employee and Cow" costume, Makinley Jensen won the "most original" category with his "Strawberry Queen and Court" costume, Kaylee Snyder won the "most elegant" category with her "Miss Scarlet and Miss White" costume, Brenna Sturgis won the "most creative" category with her "Heard It Through the Grape Vine" costume, Braxton Willis won the "most colorful" category with his "Fiesta" costume and Chloe Howard won "best overall" with her "Sheep that Flew Over the Moon" costume.

About the Florida Strawberry Festival

The Florida Strawberry Festival is an 11-day community event celebrating the strawberry harvest of Eastern Hillsborough County. Each year, over 500,000 visitors enjoy the Festival's headline entertainment, youth livestock shows, exhibits of commerce and, of course, its world-famous strawberry shortcake. The 2022 Florida Strawberry Festival will be held March 3 through March 13 in Plant City, Fla. For more information, visit www.flstrawberryfestival.com, Facebook, Instagram and Twitter (#berryfest22).

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