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showman.

Showmanship



Showmanship Summary

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 Showmanship
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Showing A Market Lamb



You will see many different styles in market lamb showmanship classes. This presentation is to help you with the basic most accepted hand and leg holding, as well as walking and setting up tips in the show-ring. From here you can develop your own style and finesse. Patience and time are two of the key elements. Both need to come from you.





Hand Positions

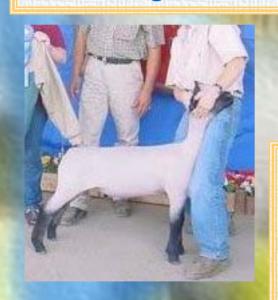
- > Hold your hands firm, but not so tightly as to scare the lamb and choke it.
- When showing the front-end of the lamb, place your hands on both sides of the ears, flicking the ears forward with your thumbs or fingers to make the lamb appear alert and show off the head, neck and front-end. Stretch the neck gently upward to give the effect of lifting your lamb.
- When your hands are small, you will need to hold differently than a youth with larger hands. Practice several ways until you find what works for you and is comfortable to you.
- Reaching over the top of your lamb to set the legs will give you greater control and keep the lamb still.





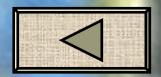
Leg Placement

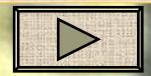
The exhibitor should hold the lamb high into the upper thigh.





- The neck stretched up and the lamb's body picked up in the front, but the front legs are not off the ground.
- The back should be flat and smooth and the lamb will set the hind legs to balance for the brace.





Judge's usually like to see the lamb itself, track straight away from them. As you walk away or towards the judge, the lamb should lineup directly to the judge.

Walking

Walking with your lamb is very important in showing both in market and showmanship. In both classes you are presenting your lamb to the judge for consideration to win.

Your actions should be smooth, not jerky.

Try walking with your arms extended a little, the lamb at your side, your body position beside the lamb's shoulder. You should be comfortable in your walk. The hands should be placed around the head so you have control of the lamb. Do not pull on the lamb's head to make them go. Stop, move your body position back behind the lamb's shoulders. You may need to give the dock or tailhead a little pinch until the lamb understands what you are asking.

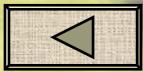




Walking In The Show-ring



It takes a lot of practice and patience with a lamb to get the smooth walk around the arena. In fact, count on many days and hours. You should also remember to teach the lamb to walk and lead from both the right and leftside of the lamb. Spend at least 10-15 minutes daily leading, bracing and moving your lamb. If you do this before you exercise the lamb will handle best. After your exercise they can become tired and fight the work.

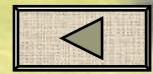




Setting Your Lamb Up



- Lineup even with whoever was 1st in the ring or lineup itself. Look down the line and make sure who is 1st and make yourself even.
- >Setup making sure the lamb's back is flat and the spine is straight.
- If the person next to you is moved to a new place and a gap is in front of you and the next person, fill the gap by going forward.
- ➤ Check your lamb's body, legs and general position. Fix anything that needs to be done and return your eye contact to the judge.
- > Showing can be very exciting. Let the judge know by your attitude, that you are glad to be doing this job. Yes, it is a job. Professional behavior should be practiced at all times.





Extra Help and Tips

Do not wait until the last few weeks before your fair to work or train your lamb, or ask for help. Many problems can arise and you will not have anytime to work through them. Give yourself lot's of time. Practice will build your confidence.

Knowing the weight of your feed is very important. Do not think that a 3 lbs coffee can holds 3 lbs of feed.

Weigh your lamb as frequently as possible. I recommend weekly, monitoring all gains and stopping any loses.

Basic health care of your lamb should be taken care of on the advice of your local veterinarian or advisor. Overeaters C & D and Tetanus shots are a must. Check with your local vet or extension service about Vitamin E and Selenium deficiencies in the area and ruffage you may feed. A rumen stomach needs hay to keep the flora working so the lamb may utilize the feed ration.

Worming on a regular bases is a must for good overall health and growth. Above all, read. Knowledge is power.

More Tips Maybe Found At:

www.mylamb.com www.geocities.com/ stebnerclublambs www.nebraskasheep .com

www.

danekeclublambs.

com

