



Hit Pay Dirt at Empire Farm Days

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2014 Empire Farm Days Winners include Horse Rescuer, First NYS 4-H Foundation EFD Kiddie Tractor Pull Champs

Seneca Falls, NY – The winners of the 2014 Empire Farm Days competitions and drawings at the farm show held at Rodman Lott and Son Farms in Seneca Falls, NY, include a horse rescuer, a dairy farmer, an organic producer, tots and teens, the NYS FFA President, and noteworthy agricultural environmental stewards.

Show King Saddle

Marty and Laurie Mosher run Haven of Rest Farm, a horse rescue operation in Owego, NY. Marty, who won the Empire Farm Days Equine Center Show King saddle sponsored by Empire Farm Days, says, “The Equine Center programs are a favorite stop at Empire Farm Days for us. We will definitely use the saddle for trail riding and with the grandkids at horse and pony shows.”

Kubota RTV400

Tompkins County, NY, dairy producer Jenny Baker won the Kubota RTV 400 sponsored by Kubota and Empire Farm Days. Jenny and her husband Jamie are long-time visitors to the farm show held each August. They will use the utility vehicle for calf feeding and other chores.

Trophy Hunter XP Rifle

Cindylou Lee of Kent, NY, won the Savage Model 111 Trophy Hunter XP rifle with a Nikon 3-9x40 scope. Cindylou and her husband Bob Van Wuyckhuysen operate a 150-acre certified organic beef and chicken farm and sell organic and soy-free eggs. Bob says, “We visit Empire Farm Days every year. One day is not enough time to get to everything it offers. It was a nice surprise to win a prize this year.”

New York State FFA Welding Contest

The 2014 New York State FFA Welding Contest co-organizer Johanna Fox-Bossard, agriculture teacher and FFA advisor at Hamilton Central School thanks Morrisville State College and Charles ‘Chip’ Ax III, assistant professor of agricultural engineering, for helping to organize, sponsor and run the contest at Empire Farm Days. Other sponsors include Haun Welding, Briggs and Stratton Yard Power Products Group, Clinton Tractor and Implement, and the Calidonna Family.

The top three individual winners receiving Morrisville State College scholarships are:

Hadley Palmerton, Pioneer Central School, Yorkshire, NY

Jake Eisel, South Lewis Central School, Turin, NY

Brandon VanCuren, Sherman Central School, Sherman, NY.

High team honors went to Hadley Palmerton and Kameron Fisher, Pioneer Central School.

New York State FFA/4-H Tractor Safety Contest

The New York State FFA/4-H Tractor Safety Contest winners at the 2014 Empire Farm Days are:

Junior Division for 14-16 year olds: Connor Westfall, Cazenovia Central School, Cazenovia, NY

Senior Division for 16-18 year olds: Tylor Trumbul, Jasper-Troupsburg Central School, Jasper, NY

4-H Division: Matt Andrews, Wyoming County.

New York State FFA/4-H Tractor Safety Contest sponsors included John Deere, Kubota, H and S Farm Equipment, New Holland Case International, the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health, Massey Ferguson, Java Farm Supply, Lamb and Webster, American Equipment LLC, and Kioti.

First-Ever Empire Farm Days Kiddie Tractor Pull Champions

The inaugural winners of the Empire Farm Days Kiddie Tractor Pulls hosted by the New York State 4-H Foundation were Ty Teel and Josh Maslyn.

2014 Empire State Potato Growers Association Scholarship

Ashley Willits of Copenhagen, NY, received the 2014 Empire State Potato Growers Association Scholarship at the Empire Farm Days Ag Leadership Luncheon. The scholarship provides \$500 per academic year for up to four consecutive years of agricultural education at a NY-based college.

“As New York State FFA President, Ashley has set a high standard for excellence in representing agriculture and youth in New York State,” said Melanie Wickham, executive secretary of the Empire State Potato Growers Association and Empire Farm Days Manager.

2014 NYS Agricultural Environmental Management Award

Tre-G Farms, owned by Jim and Sue Smith, in Onondaga County was presented the 2014 NYS Agricultural Environmental Management Award, co-sponsored by the Empire State Potato Growers, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, and American Agriculturist magazine at the show luncheon.

Wickham notes, ‘A huge team make Empire Farm Days possible and we thank all the agricultural organizations and agribusiness sponsors that made the 2014 Empire Farm Days youth competitions and show prizes possible.’

The dates for the 2015 Empire Farm Days are August 11, 12 and 13. Learn more at www.empirefarmdays.com.

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PHOTOS:



Marty Mosher with 'Big Boy,' one of Haven of Rest Farms' rescue horses, show off their new Show King saddle from the Empire Farm Days Equine Center. Photo: Laurie Mosher



Ashley Willits of Copenhagen, NY, received the 2014 Empire State Potato Growers Association Scholarship at the Empire Farm Days Ag Leadership Luncheon.



Dairy owners Jenny and Jamie Baker are joined by puppy Oakley in the Kubota RTV 400 they won at the 2014 Empire Farm Days. They will use the utility vehicle for chores on their Tompkins County dairy farm. Photo: Ken Scott/Kubota