# Making the Grade at NJAS

## The carcass contest helps Angus juniors see a bigger picture of the beef industry.

*by **Ellie Hoffschneider,** American Angus Association*

Hundreds of quality Angus cattle went through the showring during the 2012 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) in Louisville, Ky. The steers entered into the carcass contest never made a trip across the shavings. Instead, the animals were judged after processing, giving juniors a chance to analyze carcass data and learn about the end product of the industry — beef.

"It's a great contest, because it allows us to showcase our knowledge of the entire beef industry process, from live animal to the product," says Tyler Ottensmeier, McLouth, Kan.

After arriving at the NJAS, exhibitors weighed their steers and sent them to an area processing plant. The animals were ranked according to carcass merit, and the top steers were announced as part of the NJAS award ceremony July 20.

In the bred-and-owned carcass steer division, Cortney Bromenshenk, Billings, Mont., claimed champion honors. The 1,400-pound (lb.) steer sired by Silveira's Style 9303 graded USDA Choice with a USDA Yield Grade (YG) of 3.2.

Hannah Wright, Spring City, Tenn., won reserve champion bred-and-owned carcass steer with a 1,165-lb. son of SRS Really Windy 9188. The steer graded low-Choice with a 2.3 YG.

In the owned division, Laramie Chaffin, Roodhouse, Ill., won champion carcass steer. Her steer sired by Summitcrest High Prime

Two weighed 1,290 lb. and graded low-Prime with a 3.3 YG.

Caroline Cowles, Rockfield, Ky., had the reserve champion carcass steer with a 1,240-lb. steer sired by GRC SB Hot Rod 234 366W. The steer graded low-Prime with a 3.4 YG.

In the state group division, the team from Missouri won overall. Team members

were Austin and Chase Thummel, both of Sheridan, Mo. In second was the Kansas 1 team, composed of team members Luke Sankey, Andale, Kan.; Tyler Ottensmeier, McLouth, Kan.; and Hannah McCabe, Elk City, Kan.

"Through this contest, my girls learn how we provide safe, wholesome beef to

| Rank | Team | Name | Entry no. | Carcass premium $/Hd. | State Avg. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **2012 NJAS Carcass Contest state group results** | | | | |
| | Missouri | Thummel, Austin | 22 | 92.51 | |
| 1 | Missouri | Thummel, Austin | 16 | 87.56 | |
| | Missouri | Thummel, Chase | 12 | 70.21 | $83.43 |
| | Kansas 1 | Sankey, Luke | 35 | 84.81 | |
| 2 | Kansas 1 | Ottensmeier, Tyler | 43 | 69.16 | |
| | Kansas 1 | McCabe, Hannah | 10 | 6.27 | $53.41 |
| | Nebraska | Clowser, Michaela | 17 | 71.52 | |
| 3 | Nebraska | Skow, Reagan | 25 | 70.00 | |
| | Nebraska | Skow, Reagan | 41 | 17.78 | $53.10 |
| | Montana | Bromenshenk, Cortney | 38 | 132.64 | |
| 4 | Montana | Bromenshenk, Garrett | 5 | 16.43 | |
| | Montana | Bromenshenk, Cortney | 37 | 8.74 | $52.60 |
| | Kansas 2 | McCabe, Hannah | 32 | 17.73 | |
| 5 | Kansas 2 | McCabe, Esther | 40 | 16.53 | |
| | Kansas 2 | McCabe, Esther | 42 | 16.45 | $16.90 |

▶ **Cortney Bromenshenk** (center), Billings, Mont., won grand champion bred-and-owned carcass steer. Also pictured are David Warfield (left), manager of Briarwood Angus Farms, presenting; and Brenda Bromenshenk.



▶ **Hannah Wright** (right), Spring City, Tenn., claimed reserve grand champion bred-and-owned carcass steer. Warfield is pictured presenting the award.



▶ **Laramie Chaffin** (right), Roodhouse, Ill., receives a trophy and banner for grand champion carcass steer from Warfield.

► **Caroline Cowles** (right), Rockfield, Ky., claimed reserve grand champion carcass steer. Also pictured are Corbin Cowles (left) and Catherine Cowles.



► Missouri won champion state carcass group. Pictured are (from left) **Chase Thummel** and **Austin Thummel,** both of Sheridan, Mo; and Warfield, presenting the award.

consumers," says Blaine Clowser, Milford, Neb., who says he values the lessons the contest taught his daughters. "It shows how well we are breeding, feeding and handling our animals with objective data."

**Editor's Note:** *Ellie Hoffschneider is public relations and communications intern for the American Angus Association.*



► Kansas won reserve champion state carcass group. Pictured are (from left) Warfield, presenting the award; **Hannah McCabe,** Elk City; **Tyler Ottensmeier,** McLouth; and **Luke Sankey,** Andale.

## 2012 NJAS Carcass Contest results

| Rank | Name | State group | Entry no. | Live wt. (lb.) | Dressing % | HCW (lb.) | FAT (in.) | REA (sq. in.) | Marb. Score (400 = Small$^{00}$) | % KPH | QG | YG | CAB | GRID PREM $/cwt. | CARCASS PREM $/hd. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Chaffin, Laramie | | 14 | 1,290 | 63.2% | 815 | 0.45 | 11.8 | 780 | 2.0 | PR- | 3.3 | | 21.00 | 171.15 |
| 2 | Cowles, Caroline | | 29 | 1,240 | 62.5% | 775 | 0.65 | 12.5 | 740 | 2.0 | PR- | 3.4 | | 21.00 | 162.75 |
| 3 | Bromenshenk, Cortney | Montana | 38 | 1,400 | 59.2% | 829 | 0.45 | 12.3 | 520 | 2.0 | CH0 | 3.2 | Yes | 16.00 | 132.64 |
| 4 | Whiteside, Ethan | | 27 | 1,335 | 61.9% | 827 | 0.40 | 14.0 | 420 | 2.0 | CH- | 2.5 | | 15.00 | 124.05 |
| 5 | Cowles, Corbin | | 33 | 1,255 | 62.7% | 787 | 0.35 | 13.2 | 450 | 2.0 | CH- | 2.5 | | 15.00 | 118.05 |
| 6 | Wright, Hannah | | 36 | 1,165 | 64.5% | 752 | 0.30 | 13.1 | 410 | 2.0 | CH- | 2.3 | | 15.00 | 112.80 |
| 7 | Cropp, Michael | | 9 | 1,145 | 64.0% | 733 | 0.60 | 11.9 | 540 | 2.0 | CH0 | 3.3 | Yes | 14.50 | 106.29 |
| 8 | Wright, Hannah | | 39 | 1,090 | 66.8% | 728 | 0.55 | 12.0 | 590 | 2.0 | CH0 | 3.2 | Yes | 14.50 | 105.56 |
| 9 | Bromenshenk, Cortney | | 23 | 1,215 | 61.4% | 746 | 0.40 | 12.9 | 450 | 2.0 | CH- | 2.6 | | 13.50 | 100.71 |
| 10 | Bromenshenk, Cortney | | 24 | 1,180 | 62.7% | 740 | 0.30 | 12.7 | 420 | 2.0 | CH- | 2.4 | | 13.50 | 99.90 |
| 11 | Thummel, Austin | Missouri | 22 | 1,310 | 64.2% | 841 | 0.40 | 12.3 | 480 | 2.0 | CH- | 3.1 | | 11.00 | 92.51 |
| 12 | Jallo, Jason | | 26 | 960 | 70.2% | 674 | 0.20 | 12.7 | 410 | 2.0 | CH- | 1.9 | | 13.50 | 90.99 |
| 13 | Thummel, Austin | Missouri | 16 | 1,245 | 63.9% | 796 | 0.55 | 12.1 | 490 | 2.0 | CH- | 3.4 | | 11.00 | 87.56 |
| 14 | Sankey, Luke | Kansas 1 | 35 | 1,215 | 63.5% | 771 | 0.60 | 11.8 | 650 | 2.0 | CH+ | 3.5 | Yes | 11.00 | 84.81 |
| 15 | Throne, Katherine | | 28 | 950 | 64.6% | 614 | 0.45 | 11.5 | 480 | 2.5 | CH- | 2.7 | | 12.00 | 73.68 |
| 16 | Clowser, Michaela | Nebraska | 17 | 1,330 | 67.2% | 894 | 0.55 | 13.3 | 450 | 1.5 | CH- | 3.3 | | 8.00 | 71.52 |
| 17 | Thummel, Chase | Missouri | 12 | 1,105 | 66.9% | 739 | 0.35 | 10.7 | 460 | 2.0 | CH- | 3.1 | | 9.50 | 70.21 |
| 18 | Skow, Reagan | Nebraska | 25 | 1,295 | 67.6% | 875 | 0.65 | 13.5 | 580 | 2.0 | CH0 | 3.5 | Yes | 8.00 | 70.00 |
| 19 | Walser, Cullen | | 30 | 1,105 | 66.4% | 734 | 0.30 | 10.5 | 420 | 2.0 | CH- | 3.0 | | 9.50 | 69.73 |
| 20 | Ottensmeier, Tyler | Kansas 1 | 43 | 1,120 | 65.0% | 728 | 0.60 | 12.3 | 480 | 2.0 | CH- | 3.2 | | 9.50 | 69.16 |