

MSU 4-H Dairy Days



Sadie Green, Clinton County, was named Supreme Showman and the top overall individual in the Senior level of competition.



Clinton County Senior Team placed first in the Quiz Bowl Contest.



The two-county team placed first in the judging contest and scored a perfect 50 out of 50 in recent history at Dairy Days.

Sadie Green, of Elsie, and Hayleigh Geurink, Allendale, were recognized as the highest point getters in this year's 4-H Dairy Days, an annual dairy youth activity held in conjunction with Michigan Dairy Expo. The 12th annual expo took place July 21-25 at the Michigan State University (MSU) Pavilion for Agriculture and Livestock Education in East Lansing.

Green (Clinton Co.) was awarded the Overall Dairy Youth 4-H Dairy Award in the senior division, and Geurink (Ottawa Co.) was named the Overall Dairy Youth 4-H Dairy Award winner in the junior division. Each girl received a \$1,000 cash prize. Runners-up for the awards and winners of \$750 cash prizes were Sarah Bartley-Mann, Hillsdale Co., in the senior division, and C.J. Berens, Allegan Co., in the junior division.

The Overall Dairy Youth 4-H Dairy Days Award is awarded to the contestant who accumulates the highest total points in three of four contest categories: dairy cattle judging (conformation placings and oral reasons), dairy management, quiz bowl and showmanship. The senior division is open to youth ages 15 to 19; the junior division, to youth ages 9 to 14.

Green was named the supreme showmanship winner of the dairy youth show. She also placed fifth in the senior dairy management contest and was a member of the winning team.

In addition to placing first in her showmanship division, Geurink was a member of the winning junior quiz bowl team, earned a perfect score on the cow parts test, and was high individual overall and second highest overall in oral reasons in the junior division of the dairy cattle judging contest.

"Winning this award requires a lot of hard work and dedication and is the culmination of an entire week's worth of commitment to doing one's best in several challenging competitions, but we'd be remiss if we didn't emphasize the amount of time and effort these contestants commit to learning a number of skills before getting here to compete," says Joe Domecq, Michigan 4-H dairy youth specialist and coordinator of Michigan Dairy Expo. "The entire week's worth of activities help showcase some of the industry's most talented and engaged youth and the future of the state's dairy industry."

Michigan Dairy Expo is the largest annual dairy event in the state. This year's five-day event drew more than 600 dairy animals and more than 200 exhibitors. Michigan 4-H members competed for premiums, ribbons and scholarships in the 4-H dairy quiz bowl, a dairy management contest, a dairy cattle judging contest and the Dairy Days youth show. Winners may also receive an opportunity to represent Michigan 4-H at national dairy competitions held in Harrisburg, Pa., Madison, Wis., and Louisville, Ky.

The mission of Michigan Dairy Expo is to encourage and promote youth involvement in dairy activities, showcase the Michigan dairy industry, and provide continuing education opportunities for the dairy industry in Michigan and neighboring states.



h from Shiawassee/Isabella placed
ontest. Team member Emily Butcher,
on oral reasons, a feat not obtained
Dairy Days.