

INVESTING *in The* FUTURE



For fifteen years the Certified Texas Bred Registry program, sponsored by the Texas Pork Producers, has strived to promote Texas-bred pork while supporting Texas 4-H and FFA participants. This program has helped many showman and producers to achieve success within the swine industry.

The Certified Texas Bred Registry program has become a recognizable program at a variety of livestock shows in Texas including the Southwestern Exposition & Livestock Show, San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Houston Livestock Show, San Angelo Stock Show and the State Fair of Texas. Swine shown representing Certified Texas Bred program are recognized within each class at every participating livestock show.

The highest placing Certified Texas Bred entry in each class receives an additional premium of \$100, which is awarded to the exhibitor. Although additional premiums are most often rewarded at barrow shows, there is also opportunity to gain recognition for Texas breeding stock.

Certified Texas Bred Registry is required of all participants of the Texas Stars Gilt Show at the San Angelo Stock Show. This is an exclusive Texas bred show, and the overwhelming amount of involvement, has surprised volunteers and supporters of the show.

“The last two years, our entrees have doubled in number,” said Stanley Young, Texas Pork Producers board member.

Promoting the swine industry within Texas was just the start for a program that offers so much more. One newly introduced aspect to the Certified Texas Bred Registry program is a scholarship and production grant available for graduating high school seniors who are involved with Texas pork.

“Obtaining a scholarship is just one of the many benefits of participating,” said Cassidy Smith, communications director at Texas Pork Producers.

The foundation for the current scholarship and production grant funds are stimulated from profits gained from the sale of a donated gilt. Since the first donated gilt was sold in 2010, Certified Texas Bred Registry has been able to sponsor five students as they attend Texas institutions. Recipients of the scholarship can be rewarded in two different categories, academic and production.

“Although academic scholarships are the most popular within our program, we also offer a production grant for individuals who are interested in beginning their own swine breeding operation,” Young said.

The production grant is an interesting facet to the Certified Texas Bred Registry program. Supporting current producers and providing start-up money for amateur swine breeders is essential for the future success of the Texas pork industry.

With so many producers and participants on board with the Certified Texas Bred Registry program, it is hard to predict anything but success for the Texas pork industry.

The sale of Certified Texas Bred certificates totaled over 9,000 in 2011, involving over 2,500 participants and breeders.

“It isn’t just the idea of getting recognized for exhibiting Texas pork, it’s the idea of supporting the future of the industry,” said Smith. 🏆



PHOTO COURTESY OF TEXAS PORK PRODUCERS



Tadd Knight, representing ADM Moorman's ShowTec, presenting Colby Stevenson with the Grand Champion Barrow Trophy at San Angelo Barrow Show.

