

# September 2010 Market Lamb Class

**Official Placing: 3-4-1-2**

**Cuts: 3-2-5**

I placed the class of market lambs 3-4-1-2, as I felt that the #3 ewe lamb displayed the best combination of structural integrity, muscularity and overall balance in this class. As you analyze #3, she is correct in her rib shape, adequate in her muscularity and exhibits a greater amount of showring style than the #4 wether that we find in 2<sup>nd</sup>. Additionally, 3 combines show style with productivity as you look at her overall width at the pins and base width. She is not only a quality meat-type animal but is a sound female to produce future market sheep. I placed the #4 hampshire wether 2<sup>nd</sup> because although he may be very attractive in terms of outline angularity, he lacks the overall volume of muscling and shape to place him above the ewe lamb. I would like to see this lamb wider in his hip and show more shapeliness in his rib, shoulder, and both the outside and inside dimension to his leg. I admit that he is a long cannoned, low flanked and attractive in his front end design, he just lacks the overall carcass merit for me to place him higher. Carcass merit is certainly where our 3<sup>rd</sup> place wether, #1 excels. This lamb is lacking anything but muscle. However, in terms of the correctness of his design he falls behind our top pair. This lamb is course in his overall makeup, round in hip design and gets exceedingly high in his flank, comparatively. Additionally, he appears to be softer in his overall condition, although difficult to discern from a picture, admittedly. To round off this class we come to the #2 charcoal ewe lamb. While this ewe is bold and long bodied, that is about where it stops for me. She is the “black sheep” of this group in terms of muscle design and depth of chest. She appears to be a bit past her prime in terms of condition and I would like see her cleaner up through her chest floor and her blade design. Additionally she appears to get a bit peaked at her rack.

Thank You,

*Adam Marx*