

Heifer & Hogget Competition 2011

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Keep setting up your online profiles!

This week's question!

SO WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU HAVE TO DO TO ENTER?

You have to answer the weekly question which will be found on the *Heifer & Hogget* page in *Irish Country Living*. The answer to these questions can then be posted, emailed, or completed online. It can consist of sheets stapled together or it can be typed up on your computer.

WHAT SHOULD THE ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS CONSIST OF?

We are leaving this choice to you; the only thing you need to take note of are the different questions that will be printed here every week. For the 10-14 year old category, answers should be no longer than 250 words. For the 15 to 18 year old category, answers should be no longer than 500 words. Use as many photos or drawings as you please.

Week 3



15-18 SHEEP WINNER 2010
Éimear Wallace
Co Galway
Won 2 Vendeen
Hogget Ewes



15-18 BEEF WINNER 2010

**Brian Sunderland
Co Wexford**

Won a Hereford Heifer

Brian Sunderland, who just turned sweet 16 a couple of weeks ago, was the proud winner of a Hereford heifer at last year's competition. He got some great news in the midst of his Junior Cert exams when his father rung to congratulate him on the new twin Simmental-cross bull calves that his prize heifer had just given birth to. Named Valentine (Val for short), Brian thinks this is a name that suits her well. He plans to breed her again, this time perhaps

with the a Limousin bull, and around Christmas time, so that she will calve in September 2012. Brian hails from a suckler farm in Castletown, Co. Wexford where they have over 40 cows and of his four brothers, Brian and the second oldest Kevin are the most interested in farming.

Brian hopes to study Dry Stock or Dairy farming in college, while his brother Kevin is in New Zealand at the moment, working on a farm with over 1600 cows. Since the Sunderlands are looking to expand their farm, selling off his two new bull calves is a brilliant way to get one cash.



ONLINE BEEF WINNER 2010

**Sean Moroney
Co Clare**

Won an Aberdeen Angus Heifer

Sean Moroney is 19 and has just completed his first year at Franciscan Brothers Agricultural College in Mountbellew, Co Galway, where he is studying agri-business. As Mountbellew is an hour drive from his home village of Corofin, Co Clare, Sean had to stay there during the week, and was only able to spend weekends tending to the Aberdeen Angus heifer he won in last year's competition. However, having finished for the summer in

mid-May, he now spends his days helping on the family suckler farm, where they currently has about 35 cows, most of which are pedigree Limousins. His heifer was bred with a Limousin and is due to calve in September, so Sean is crossing his fingers that it will happen before he must return to school.

She is getting on very well with no problems, and Sean says she "is one of the quietest cows on the farm, in fact she's one of the quietest animals I've ever deal with!" Hoping to graduate from Mountbellew with a Level 8 degree, Sean would like a career in agri-business before returning to farming.



Question 3

10-14 year olds:
Is farming a good way of life? Why?

15-18 year olds:
What would you do to improve the *Irish Farmers Journal* for younger readers?

WHEN YOU'VE ANSWERED ALL QUESTIONS PLEASE SEND ENTRIES TO:

- Postal Entries:** 'Heifer & Hogget Competition', *Irish Farmers Journal*, Irish Farm Centre, Bluebell, Dublin 12
- Email Entries:** heifers@farmersjournal.ie
- Online/Web Entries:** Go to www.myfarmbook.com, sign up and fill in your answers each week

Please note you can enter online and also by post! To enter the 10 – 14 year old category you must be those ages on the day of Tullamore Show – 14 August 2011. The same goes for the 15 to 18 year old category - you must be between 15 and 18 on the day of the show. *Deadline for entries is Friday 22 July 2011*

Many thanks to the breed societies who are the generous sponsors of the heifers and hoggets



BEEF: Irish Aberdeen Angus Association, Irish Angus Cattle Society, Irish Aubrac Cattle Society, Irish Limousin Cattle Society, Irish Parthenaise Cattle Society and Irish Salers Cattle Society **DAIRY:** Irish Holstein Friesian Association and Irish Montbelliarde Cattle Society **PAIRS OF HOGGETS:** Beltex Sheep Society, Irish Charollais Sheep Society, Irish Texel Sheep Society, Irish Vendeen Sheep Society, Mayo Blackface Sheep Society, Mayo Mule Sheep Society and Tullow Sheep Breeders Society (Suffolk Cheviot Cross)