

Viper son strikes at Skipton young bulls show

A home-bred British Blue-sired juvenile from JC Walker & Son, Dunsop Bridge, was top of a quality crop of youngsters at the annual Spring show and sale of young feeding bulls at Skipton Auction Mart. (Wed, March 31)

Exhibited by Geoff Walker, the 11-month-old young bulls supreme champion is by the Walker family's stock bull, Brennand Viper, who has been responsible for other leading up-and-coming performers at Skipton, including the reserve champion at February's annual show and sale of commercial store cattle with future show potential.

Out of a Limousin cow, the title winner headed the prices at £1,030 when joining Stephen Swales, of Melbourne, York, who was buying the Skipton young bulls champion for the second consecutive year.

He also paid £985 for the reserve champion, the second prize British Blue bull from 2009 victors David and Stephen Hollings, of Pecket Well, Hebden Bridge.

The Yorkshire branch of the British Charolais Cattle Society awarded a £50 cash prize for the pick of their breed entries, this going to Mark Wilson, of Selside, Settle, with a nine-month-old son of a Scottish Borders-based Greenhall bull, itself a product of the prolific Mowbray Park Paramount, bred by Michael and Margaret Atkinson, of Kirkby Malzeard, Ripon.

The first prize Charolais sold for £900 to JB Eastwood & Sons, Emley, Huddersfield, with Mr Wilson also taking second prize in class with an adolescent by the same bull. Both were out of Limousin-x-Friesian cows. The runner-up made £875 when acquired by AG Watson & Sons, County Durham.

Judge was Robert Matten, Thirsk, with the show attracting a local sponsor in James Reeday, of F Reeday & Son Trailer Servicing, Hetton. On a busy day, almost 400 cattle passed through the ring.



The Skipton young feeding bulls supreme champion, joined by exhibitor Geoff Walker, left, and show sponsor James Reeday.



Mark Wilson with his Skipton young feeding bulls first prize Charolais class winner.