

## English Winter Fair, 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> November 2011



A 14 year old Farmer's daughter won a top title in a national competition at the English Winter Fair in Stafford.

Melissa Donaldson of Little Langton Grange Farm, Little Langton, near Northallerton, was named the overall Beef handler. She only began showing beef cattle this summer and beat other from three categories aged from 12 to 21.

Judge John Peckitt, from Thirsk, selected her "for demonstrating sound husbandry and handling skills".

Melissa, a pupil at St Francis Xavier School in Richmond, was showing Hilltop Flora, one of her father's pure Blonde Aquitaine heifers. David Donaldson, her father, said "It was a very good atmosphere, a really good weekend. "Melissa is keen to show. She has cousins who do it and she just picks things up very quickly."

Melissa received a glass bowl and championship awards from Pearce Hughes, agricultural development manager for Asda, who sponsored the event to encourage the young farmers of tomorrow.