2014 Herdsman Youth Winner Paige Smith Narrow Gate Farm

NGF Crown Prince



NGF Fatality



NGF Gimly



NGF Ozuma



Hi all, my name is Paige Smith. I am the owner here at Narrow Gate Farm, and this year's youth Herdsman of the Year. I have been raising Holland Lops for twelve years and have had many great ones come through my herd. One of those was NGF Oscar, winner of the 2008 youth Best of Breed and the single most important rabbit in our barn. He was the father of the 2011 Youth Best in Show Holland lop NGF Odie (NG91). Almost every rabbit in my show string this year was descended from him, including the second place solid junior doe at convention, the ninth place solid junior buck at convention, as well as the fourth place broken senior buck, and the seventh place solid senior buck at nationals this year.

This year was tough with the losses of a few of my old herd bucks and does, as well as conflicting work and school schedules. With my mother, Brenda Smith's, help I managed to hit shows almost every weekend for a good chunk of the year and kept up with the day to day chores. Originally, I didn't think I was going to be able to go to nationals, but after a dinner discussion a week before the deadline, my dad and I made the decision to drive up. Half way through the year most of my really nice junior does had to switch from show does to brood does and I was once again left nervous about the state of my herd. However, I had more juniors hit show age and a few of my does who had previously gone to the breeding barn came off litters and came into their show prime. 2014 was a whirlwind of shows and happy memories that ended with the honor of coming out youth Herdsman of the Year. Since this is my last year in youth, I couldn't have asked for a better one.

Moving forward into Open, my mom (Brenda), will be added onto our Narrow Gate Farm rabbitry name. We have many tough calls and sore losses ahead of us, but we are both determined to get our herd nationally ranked in Open as soon as possible.



NGF Archangel



NGF Suzette



NGF Taria



NGG Angel Lullaby

Fall 2015

Hollander

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