

Commercial Producer Honor Roll of Excellence

Chan Cooper.....	MT... 1972	Morris Kuschel.....	MN... 1979	Boyd Mahrt.....	CA... 1984
Alfred B Cobb, Jr.....	MT... 1972	Bert Hawkins.....	OR... 1979	Neil Moffat.....	CAN. 1984
Lyle Eivens.....	IA... 1972	Dick Coon.....	WA... 1979	William H. Moss, Jr.....	GA... 1984
Broadbent Brothers.....	KY... 1972	Jerry Northcutt.....	MO... 1979	Dennis P. Solvie.....	MN... 1984
Jess Kilgote.....	MT... 1972	Steve McDonnell.....	MT... 1979	Robert P. Stewart.....	KS... 1984
Clifford Ouse.....	MN... 1973	Doug Vandermyde.....	IL... 1979	Charlie Stokes.....	NC... 1984
Pat Wilson.....	FL... 1973	Norman, Denton, & Calvin Thompson.....	SD... 1979	Milton Wendland.....	AL... 1984
John Glaus.....	SD... 1973	Jess Kilgore.....	MT... 1980	Bob & Sheri Schmidt.....	MN... 1985
Sig Peterson.....	ND... 1973	Robert & Lloyd Simon.....	IL... 1980	Delmer & Joyce Nelson.....	IL... 1985
Max Kiner.....	WA... 1973	Lee Eaton.....	MT... 1980	Harley Brockel.....	SD... 1985
Donald Schott.....	MT... 1973	Leo & Eddie Grubl.....	SD... 1980	Kent Brunner.....	KS... 1985
Stephen Garst.....	IA... 1973	Roger Winn, Jr.....	VA... 1980	Glenn Havery.....	OR... 1985
J.K. Sexton.....	CA... 1973	Gordon McLean.....	ND... 1980	John Maino.....	CA... 1985
Elmer Maddox.....	OK... 1973	Ed Disterhaupt.....	MN... 1980	Ernie Reeves.....	VA... 1985
Marshall McGregor.....	MO... 1974	Thad Snow.....	CAN. 1980	John R. Rouse.....	WY... 1985
Dave Matti.....	MT... 1974	Oren & Jerry Raburn.....	OR... 1980	George & Thelma Boucher.....	CAN. 1985
Lloyd DeBruycker.....	MT... 1974	Bill Lee.....	KS... 1980	Kenneth Bentz.....	OR... 1986
Gene Rambo.....	CA... 1974	Paul Moyer.....	MO... 1980	Gary Johnson.....	KS... 1986
Jim Wolf.....	NE... 1974	G.W. Campbell.....	IL... 1981	Ralph G. Lovelady.....	AL... 1986
Henry Gardiner.....	KS... 1974	J.J. Feldmann.....	IA... 1981	Ramon H. Oliver.....	KY... 1986
Johnson Brothers.....	SD... 1974	Henry Gardiner.....	KS... 1981	Kay Richardson.....	FL... 1986
John Blankers.....	MN... 1975	Dan L. Wepler.....	MT... 1981	Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Watts.....	NC... 1986
Paul Burdett.....	MT... 1975	Harvey P. Wehri.....	ND... 1981	David & Bev Lischka.....	CAN. 1986
Oscar Burroughs.....	CA... 1975	Dannie O'Connell.....	SD... 1981	Dennis & Nancy Daly.....	WY... 1986
John R. Dahl.....	ND... 1975	Wesley & Harold Arnold.....	SD... 1981	Carl & Fran Dobitz.....	SD... 1986
Eugene Duckworth.....	MO... 1975	Jim Russell & Rick Turner.....	MO... 1981	Charles Fariss.....	VA... 1986
Gene Gates.....	KS... 1975	Oren & Jerry Raburn.....	OR... 1981	David Forster.....	CA... 1986
V.A. Hills.....	KS... 1975	Orin Lamport.....	SD... 1981	Danny Geersen.....	SD... 1986
Robert D. Keefer.....	MT... 1975	Leonard Wulf.....	MN... 1981	Oscar Bradford.....	AL... 1987
Kenneth E. Leistriz.....	NE... 1975	Wm. H. Romersberter.....	IL... 1982	R.J. Mawer.....	CAN. 1987
Ron Baker.....	OR... 1976	Milton Krueger.....	MO... 1982	Rodney G. Oliphant.....	KS... 1987
Dick Boyle.....	ID... 1976	Carl Odegard.....	MT... 1982	David Reed.....	OR... 1987
James Hackworth.....	MO... 1976	Marvin & Donald Stoker.....	IA... 1982	Jerry Adamson.....	NE... 1987
John Hilgendorf.....	MN... 1976	Sam Hands.....	KS... 1982	Gene Adams.....	GA... 1987
Kahau Ranch.....	HI... 1976	Larry Campbel.....	KY... 1982	Hugh & Pauline Maize.....	SD... 1987
Milton Mallery.....	CA... 1976	Earl Schmidt.....	MN... 1982	P.T. McIntire & Sons.....	VA... 1987
Robert Rawson.....	IA... 1976	Raymond Josephson.....	ND... 1982	Frank Disterhaupt.....	MN... 1987
William A. Stegner.....	ND... 1976	Clarence Reutter.....	SD... 1982	Mac, Don, & Joe Griffith.....	GA... 1988
U.S. Range Exp. Stat.....	MT... 1976	Leonard Bergen.....	CAN. 1982	Jerry Adamson.....	NE... 1988
Maynard Crees.....	KS... 1977	Kent Brunner.....	KS... 1983	Ken, Wayne, & Bruce Gardiner.....	CAN. 1988
Ray Franz.....	MT... 1977	Tom Chrystal.....	IA... 1983	C.L. Cook.....	MO... 1988
Forrest H. Ireland.....	SD... 1977	John Freltag.....	WI... 1983	C.J. and D.A. McGee.....	IL... 1988
John A. Jameson.....	IL... 1977	Eddie Hamilton.....	KY... 1983	William E. White.....	KY... 1988
Leo Knoblauch.....	MN... 1977	Bill Jones.....	MT... 1983	Frederick M. Mallory.....	CA... 1988
Jack Pierce.....	ID... 1977	Harry & Rick Kline.....	IL... 1983	Stevenson Family.....	OR... 1988
Mary & Stephen Garst.....	IA... 1977	Charlie Kopp.....	OR... 1983	Gary Johnson.....	KS... 1988
Todd Osteross.....	ND... 1978	Duwayne Olson.....	SD... 1983	John McDaniel.....	AL... 1988
Charles M. Jarecki.....	MT... 1978	Ralph Pederson.....	SD... 1983	William Stegner.....	ND... 1988
Jimmy G McDonnal.....	NC... 1978	Ernest & Helen Schaller.....	MO... 1983	Lee Eaton.....	MT... 1988
Victor Arnaud.....	MO... 1978	Al Smith.....	VA... 1983	Larry D. Cundall.....	WY... 1988
Ron & Malcom McGregor.....	IA... 1978	John Spencer.....	CA... 1983	Dick & Phyllis Henze.....	MN... 1988
Otto Uhrig.....	NE... 1978	Bud Wishard.....	MN... 1983	Jerry Adamson.....	NE... 1989
Arnold Wyffels.....	MN... 1978	Bob & Sharon Beck.....	OR... 1984	J.W. Aylor.....	VA... 1989
Bert Hawkins.....	OR... 1978	Leonard Fawcett.....	SD... 1984	Jerry Bailey.....	ND... 1989
Mose Tucker.....	AL... 1978	Fred & Lee Kummerfeld.....	WY... 1984	James G. Guyton.....	WY... 1989
Dean Haddock.....	KS... 1978	Norman Coyner & Sons.....	VA... 1984	Kent Koostra.....	KY... 1989
Myron Hoeckle.....	ND... 1979	Franklyn Esser.....	MO... 1984	Ralph G. Lovelady.....	AL... 1989
Harold & Wesley Arnold.....	SD... 1979	Edgar Lewis.....	MT... 1984	Thomas McAvory, Jr.....	GA... 1989
Ralph Neill.....	IA... 1979				

Bill Salton.....	IA	1989	Gene Thiry.....	MB	1993	Karlen Family.....	SD	1999
Lauren & Mel Schuman.....	CA	1989	Fran & Beth Dobitz.....	SD	1994	Deseret Ranches of Alberta.....	CAN	1999
Jim Teshler.....	ND	1989	Bruce Hall.....	SD	1994	Nick and Mary Klintworth.....	ND	1999
Joe Thielen.....	KS	1989	Lamar Ivey.....	AL	1994	MW Hereford Ranch.....	NE	1999
Eugene & Ylene Williams.....	MO	1989	Gordon Mau.....	IA	1994	Mossy Creek Farm.....	VA	1999
Phillip, Patty, & Greg Bartz.....	MO	1990	Randy Mills.....	KS	1994	Iris, Bill, & Linda Lipscomb.....	AL	1999
John C. Chrisman.....	WY	1990	W.W. Oliver.....	VA	1994	Amana Farms, Inc.....	IA	2000
Les Herbst.....	KY	1990	Clint Reed.....	WY	1994	Tony Boothe.....	AL	2000
Jon C. Ferguson.....	KS	1990	Stan Sears.....	CA	1994	Glenn Clabaugh.....	WY	2000
Mike & Dianna Hooper.....	OR	1990	Walter Carlee.....	AL	1995	Connie, John & Terri Griffith.....	KS	2000
James & Joan McKinlay.....	CAN	1990	Nicholas Lee Carter.....	KY	1995	Frank B. Labato.....	CO	2000
Gilbert Meyer.....	SD	1990	Charles C. Clark, Jr.....	VA	1995	Roger & Sharon Lamont & Doug & Shawn Lamont.....	SD	2000
DuWayne Olson.....	SD	1990	Greg & Mary Cunningham.....	WY	1995	Bill and Claudia Tucker.....	VA	2000
Raymond R. Peugh.....	IL	1990	Robert & Cindy Hine.....	SD	1995	Wayne and Chip Unsicker.....	IL	2000
Lewis T. Pratt.....	VA	1990	Walter Jr. & Evidane Major.....	KY	1995	Billy H. Bolding.....	AL	2001
Ken and Wendy Sweetland.....	CAN	1990	Delbert Ohnemus.....	IA	1995	Mike and Tom Endress.....	IL	2001
Swen R. Swenson Cattle.....	TX	1990	Henry Stone.....	CA	1995	Henry and Hank Maxey.....	VA	2001
Robert A Nixon & Sons.....	VA	1991	Joe Thielen.....	KS	1995	2001 Paul McKee		
Murray A. Greaves.....	CAN	1991	Jack Turnell.....	WY	1995	3-R Ranch.....	CO	2002
James Hauff.....	ND	1991	Tom Woodard.....	TX	1995	Agri-Services Division, Oklahoma Department of Corrections.....	OK	2002
J.R. Anderson.....	WI	1991	Jerry and Linda Bailey.....	ND	1996	2002 Alpine Farms		
Ed and Rich Blair.....	SD	1991	Kory M. Bierle.....	SD	1996	Amana Farms.....	IA	2002
Reuben & Connee Quinn.....	SD	1991	Mavis Dummermuth.....	IA	1996	Griffin Seedstock.....	KS	2002
Dave & Sandy Umbarger.....	OR	1991	Terry Stuard Forst.....	OK	1996	Indian Knoll Cattle Co.....	IL	2002
James A. Theeck.....	TX	1991	Don W. Freeman.....	AL	1996	Miles Land and Livestock.....	WY	2002
Ken Stielow.....	KS	1991	Lois & Frank Herbst.....	WY	1996	Shovel Dot Ranch.....	NE	2002
John E. Hanson, Jr.....	CA	1991	Mr. & Mrs. George A. Horkan, Jr.....	VA	1996	Torbert Farms.....	AL	2002
Charles & Clyde Henderson.....	MO	1991	David Howard.....	IL	1996	White Farms.....	IA	2002
Russ Green.....	WY	1991	Virgil & Mary Jo Huseman.....	KS	1996	Voyles Farms.....	IN	2002
Bollman Farms.....	IL	1991	Q.S. Leonard.....	NC	1996	Clear Creek Cattle Company.....	WY	2003
Craig Utesch.....	IA	1991	Ken & Rosemary Mitchell.....	CAN	1996	Crider Salers.....	ND	2003
Mark Barenthsen.....	ND	1991	James Sr., Jerry, & James Petlik.....	SD	1996	Mike Goldwasser.....	VA	2003
Rary Boyd.....	AL	1992	Ken Risler.....	WI	1996	Patterson Ranch.....	CO	2003
Charles Daniel.....	MO	1992	Merlin Anderson.....	KS	1997	W.S. Roberts and Sons.....	IN	2003
Jed Dillard.....	FL	1992	Joe C. Bailey.....	NC	1997	Shriver Farms.....	OH	2003
John & Ingrid Fairhead.....	NE	1992	William R. "Bill" Brockett.....	VA	1997	Stroud Farms.....	AL	2003
Dale J. Fischer.....	IA	1992	Howard McAdams, Sr. & Howard McAdams, Jr.....	NC	1997	Tailgate Ranch Company.....	KS	2003
E. Allen Grimes Family.....	ND	1992	Rob Orchard.....	WY	1997	Burkhalter Cattle.....	AL	2004
Kopp Family.....	OR	1992	David Petty.....	IA	1997	Doler Farm.....	MS	2004
Harold, Barbara, & Jeff Marshall.....	PA	1992	Rosemary Rounds & Marc & Pam Scarborough.....	SD	1997	LU Ranch.....	WY	2004
Clinton E. Martin & Sons.....	VA	1992	Morey and Pat Van Hoecke.....	MN	1997	Namminga Angus.....	SD	2004
Loyd and Pat Mitchell.....	CAN	1992	Randy and Judy Mills.....	KS	1998	Nellwood Farms.....	GA	2004
William Van Tassel.....	CAN	1992	Mike and Priscille Kasten.....	MO	1998	Olsen Ranches, Inc.....	NE	2004
James A. Theeck.....	TX	1992	Amana Farms, Inc.....	IA	1998	Prather Ranch (Ralphs Ranches Inc.).....	CA	2004
Aquilla M. Ward.....	WV	1992	Terry and Dianne Crisp.....	AB	1998	Blair Porteus and Sons.....	OH	2004
Albert Wiggins.....	KS	1992	Jim and Carol Faulstich.....	SD	1998	Rx Ranch.....	MO	2004
Ron Wiltshire.....	CAN	1992	James Gordon Fitzhugh.....	WY	1998	Schuetts Farms.....	IL	2004
Andy Bailey.....	WY	1993	John B. Mitchell.....	VA	1998	Valdez Ranches.....	CO	2004
Leroy Beiterspacher.....	SD	1993	Holzappel Family.....	CA	1998	Wickstrum Farms, Inc.....	KS	2004
Glenn Valbaugh.....	WY	1993	Mike Kitley.....	IL	1998	CK Ranch.....	KS	2005
Oscho Deal.....	NC	1993	Wallace & Donald Schilke.....	ND	1998	Diamond V Ranch.....	ND	2005
Jed Dillard.....	FL	1993	Doug & Ann Deane & Patricia R. Spearman.....	CO	1998	Dover Ranch.....	MT	2005
Art Farley.....	IL	1993	Glenn Baumann.....	ND	1999	Gaines Farm.....	AL	2005
Jon Ferguson.....	KS	1993	Bill Boston.....	IL	1999	Hillwinds Farm.....	VA	2005
Walter Hunsucker.....	CA	1993	C-J-R- Christensen Ranches.....	WY	1999	Krupps Farm.....	IL	2005
Nola & Steve Kielboeker.....	MO	1993	1999 Ken Fear, Jr.			Jack and Ila Mae Larson.....	CO	2005
Jim Maier.....	SD	1993	Giles Family.....	KS	1999	Mule Creek Ranch.....	KS	2005
Bill & Jim Martin.....	WV	1993	Burt Guerrieri.....	CO	1999	Paxton Ranch.....	NE	2005
Ian & Adam McKillop.....	ON	1993				Pontious Farms.....	OH	2005
George & Robert Pingetzer.....	WY	1993						
Timothy D. Sufphin.....	VA	1993						
James A. Theeck.....	TX	1993						

Prather Ranch CA ...2005
Shovel Dot Ranch..... NE....2005
Wintergreen Farm..... IA....2005
Duck Farm Inc. VA ...2006

Hunt Hill Cattle Co..... MS ...2006
McDorman Farms..... OH ...2006
Pitchfork Ranch IL2006
Rock Creek Ranch KS....2006

Sutherland Ranches CO....2006
Van Waardhuizen Inc. IA.....2006

Commercial Producer of the Year

Chan Cooper	Montana	1972
Pat Wilson	Florida	1973
Lloyd Nygard	North Dakota	1974
Gene Gates	Kansas	1975
Ron Baker	Oregon	1976
Mary & Stephen Garst	Iowa	1977
Mose Tucker	Alabama	1978
Bert Hawkins	Oregon	1979
Jess Kilgore	Montana	1980
Henry Gardiner	Kansas	1981
Sam Hands	Kansas	1982
Al Smith	Virginia	1983
Bob & Sharon Beck	Oregon	1984
Glenn Harvey	Oregon	1985
Charles Fariss	Virginia	1986
Rodney G. Oliphant	Kansas	1987
Gary Johnson	Kansas	1988
Jerry Adamson	Nebraska	1989
Mike & Diana Hopper	Oregon	1990
Dave & Sandy Umbarger	Oregon	1991
Kopp Family	Oregon	1992
Jon Ferguson	Kansas	1993
Fran & Beth Dobitz	South Dakota	1994
Joe & Susan Thielen	Kansas	1995
Virgil & Mary Jo Huseman	Kansas	1996
Merlin & Bonnie Anderson	Kansas	1997
Mike & Priscilla Kasten	Missouri	1998
Randy & Judy Mills	Kansas	1998
Giles Family	Kansas	1999
Mossy Creek Farm	Virginia	1999
Bill & Claudia Tucker	Virginia	2000
Maxey Farms	Virginia	2001
Griffith Seedstock	Kansas	2002
Tailgate Ranch	Kansas	2003
Olsen Ranches, Inc.	Nebraska	2004
Prather Ranch	California	2005
Pitchfork Ranch	Illinois	2006

2007 COMMERCIAL PRODUCER AWARD NOMINEES



4Z Farms

**Owners/Managers: Dennis and Cheryl Zumbrunn
Kansas**

4Z Farms is located in eastern Dickinson County in north central Kansas. They have been operating as a family farm from this location for 30 years. They have 100 Black Angus and Angus-cross cows that they breed to black purebred Simmental bulls. They calve in the spring, with heifers beginning the last week in January and the balance of the herd in mid-February. Calves are weaned in early September and backgrounded at 4Z Farms through mid-December. The calves then are sent to Decatur County Feed Yard, Oberlin, Kansas, to be finished and sold at 14 to 15 months of age. These calves have been sorted by an electronic cattle management system to maximize profitability. Recently, the top end of the heifers to be sold as herd replacements during the Moser Simmental Ranch Annual Production Sale.

4Z Farms backgrounds 200 steers, purchased locally each winter and sold in the spring when they weight about 900 pounds. They also buy 200 steers in the spring to pasture during summer months. These calves are sold in August or taken back home to feed, depending on pasture conditions and the weight of the steers. Typically these stocker steers will weigh between 800 to 900 pounds.

4Z Farms was proudly nominated by the Kansas Livestock Association.

Broseco Ranch

**Owner: Broventure Co., Inc.
Manager: Tom Woodward
Texas**

Sandwiched between the Sulphur River and White Oak Creek at 300 foot elevation in North East Texas sets Broseco Ranch. In 1961, Paul Pewitt sold his 45,000 acre spread to Broventure Co., Inc. During the past 46 years, Broventure Co. has operated a commercial cow/calf operation under the banner of Broseco Ranch. The bottomland hardwood timber and a pine farm have been sold, 11,000 acres were taken by the Corp of Engineers, and another 10,000 acres of upland have been sold leaving 10,000 acres of upland improved pasture in the current operation.

The cow herd consists of 2700 mother cows that are exposed for a 60-day, spring breeding season. Yearling replacement heifers are exposed for 45 days. Prior to turning out bulls, they will synchronize and artificially inseminate. A normal year will have a breeding herd consisting of 300 to 400 yearling heifers and 300 to 400 mature cows. At weaning time all cows are pregnancy tested and all open cows are rebred for fall calving, sold, or removed from the herd.

In 1981, the ranch infused Brahman genetics into its primarily English cross cowherd. Then in 1984, a three breed rotational crossing system was established to stabilize the Brahman influence and optimize heterosis. Currently, the genetics used include Red Angus, and two composites (SimAngus and Hotlander). A 200 head Red Angus herd to produce bulls for use on replacement heifers and “balance bulls” for mature cows. They balance the adaptation, maternal, growth, and carcass traits to optimize performance at all phases of production.

Since 1988, Broseco has retained ownership on a majority of its production. Calves are individually weighed, preconditioned and electronically identified at weaning. The calves go to a wheat stocker program in the rolling plains of Texas and are then finished in the Southern Plains. The operation is QSA qualified. Finished cattle are marketed in the meat and sold on a value based marketing system. Through the Ranchers Renaissance Cooperation in partnership with Cargill Meat Solutions, the beef will be marketed in the Ranchers Registry product line to several major food store chains.

The Red Angus Association of America is proud to nominate Broseco Ranch.

CK Ranch

Owner: John K. Vanier

Manager: Ray Negus

Kansas

CK Ranch is located in the Smoky Hills region of Saline and Ellsworth counties of Central Kansas. This area is known as one of the best cow-calf grazing areas in the country. The CK Ranch has approximately 15,000 acres of native pastures and 1,000 acres of tillable crop ground. CK Ranch was founded by JJ Vanier, father of Jack and grandfather of John. The Ellsworth County land was first purchased in 1933. Mr. Vanier purchased the 5,600 acre Root Ranch that is now the ranch headquarters.

The CK Ranch was first stocked with steers. The Herefords arrived in 1936 and in the

1950's the ranch ran 2,000 head of registered cows and registered approximately 1,200 calves. CK became the largest Hereford operation in the world and enjoyed much success in the sale and show ring. Currently, a commercial herd consists of 600 to 950 Hereford and Red Angus cows and 175 to 200 registered Hereford and Red Angus cows make up the seedstock herd.

The primary purpose of the commercial cows is to serve as a genetic testing herd for Hereford and Red Angus. The cows calve in the spring with 100 to 400 heifers calving in January and February and the commercial cows in March and April. CK Ranch uses premium programs to collect data and to improve traits in the commercial herd. The ranch actively participates in the American Hereford Association's (AHA) National Reference Sire Evaluation (NRSEP) and Certified Hereford Beef's (CHB) Hereford Verified program. Prior to participating in the NRSEP, CK Ranch structured their own sire testing programs in conjunction with producers in Kansas and Nebraska.

The American Hereford Association is proud to nominate the CK Ranch.

Barry and Larry Dowell Families

**Owner: Barry and Larry Dowell
Illinois**

Barry and Larry Dowell of Stronghurst, Illinois were the recipients of the Illinois Beef Association Commercial Producer of the Year Award at the 2005 IBA Annual Meeting held near Carbondale, Illinois. The Dowells run a grain and commercial beef cattle operation consisting of 325 spring calving cows, 80 head of fall calving cows and 80 head of replacement heifers on 680 acres of permanent and rotational pasture. Besides the cow-calf operations, the Dowells farm more than 900 tillable acres with 650 being corn, 200 acres soybeans and about 60 acres of hay.

The Dowells are sixth generation farmers. The Henderson County land has been in the same family since 1840. The farm was

homesteaded by Larry's great-great-grandfather who traveled from Chicago to Peoria on boat and then on horseback to western Illinois.

Many of the acres on the Dowell's operation are ideal for pasture due to the rolling hills that approach the Mississippi River bluffs. The pastures are seeded with cool season grasses and legumes with shade provided by groves of hardwood trees including many walnut trees. The majority of the pastures are rotationally grazed with watering points centrally located.

The cowherd started with mostly Hereford cows. These were bred to Angus, Hereford and Limousin in a three breed rotation. Starting in the 1990's Angus bulls were used for several years to obtain a more uniform cowherd. After preconditioning, the uniform calf crop is shipped to a feedlot and sold finished beef. In recent years the herd has utilized the use of Angus-Gelbvieh composite bulls to increase growth potential in the feedlot and composition on the rail. The heifers are bred to calving ease Angus bulls.

Barry and Larry Dowell Families were proudly nominated by the University of Illinois Extension and the Illinois Beef Association.

Eagle Rock Ranch

Owner: Lawlor Wakem

Manager: Chris Christianson

Colorado

Eagle Rock Ranch is at 9,000 foot elevation above sea level and is located just above the Tarryall Reservoir in Park County. Average annual rainfall is only 14 inches, although significant drought conditions have been experienced over the past five years. Tarryall Creek runs through the middle of the ranch, with irrigated hay meadows on both sides of the river. The ranch, including leased property, is 8,500 acres. The herd is almost all purebred Angus. Currently they have 220 cows, 200 calves and 9 bulls, down from a total herd of 340 head in 2001. Cows calve in April and May. The herd is PAP tested and has virtually

eliminated brisket disease which experienced at high altitudes. The herd has access to Tarryall Creek at hard crossing points or to pumped well water tanks.

The ranch was purchased in 1993. At that time there was no irrigation. Water rights were subsequently purchased and irrigated hay meadows now total 265 acres. Currently they are in the process of acquiring additional water rights and water will be pumped from Tarryall Creek to gated pipe which will cover an additional 85 acres. The pump and gated pipe were installed this year. The area to be irrigated by gated pipe was previously largely low productivity short grasses and fringed sage and some native grasses. The entire area has been disked, plowed, dragged, and reseeded.

The Eagle Rock Ranch was proudly nominated by the Colorado Cattlemen's Association.

Eatinger Cattle Co. Inc.

Owner: Wayne and Roxanne Eatinger

Manager: Wayne Eatinger

Nebraska

Eatinger Cattle Co. is located in the southwest part of Cherry County in north central Nebraska. It was founded by Charles Henry Eatinger who, in 1878, purchased and then drove southern steers from Abilene, Kansas to the present location. Wayne and Roxanne Eatinger's son, Miles, is the sixth generation to live and work on the ranch. The ranch is run by Wayne and Miles Eatinger and Dennis Drews. Wayne's partents, Bryon and Mary Eatinger, and Wayne's uncle, Ralph Eatinger, are retired and live on the ranch.

Eatinger Cattle Co. is a commercial cow calf operation, running 1,400 beef cows on 16,000 acres. Two thousand of these acres are sub-irrigated. Angus and Simmental cross are the predominant genetics used on the ranch. Calving occurs from late May through July, with the greatest number of calves coming in June. Emphasis is placed on land management and livestock marketing. Fence and water

renovations have been a constant for the Eatinger Ranch. These improvements are made without any assistance from government programs. A large embryo transfer program has been developed on the ranch. This has enabled the Eatingers to receive large premiums for calves. Eatinger Cattle Co. has taken a novel approach to marketing by forming synergistic relationships with other producers.

The Nebraska Cattlemen and the University of Nebraska are proud to nominate Eatinger Cattle Co. Inc.

JHL Ranch

Owner: Art and Merry Brownlee

Manager: Tom Erxleben

Nebraska

The JHL ranch owned and operated by Art and Merry Brownlee is located in the Nebraska Sandhills, a semi-arid region of grass covered sand dunes receiving 12-14" of moisture and situated over the deepest part of the largest aquifer in the United States. The operation has been under current ownership since 1995. Merry's family, who has raised cattle since 1885, leased the ranch for 30 years prior to Art arrival. In 1995, city boy Art, who had worked in scientific research and financial analysis, decided to change directions and switched to ranching. At that time they also made a change in genetic direction, changing from Continental pounds of gain towards Continental/British crossbreds with an intentional push to higher quality grades.

Data analyses along with DNA, ultrasound, linear measurements and EPDs have been key technologies in the operation. The JHL cross breeding system uses moderate Angus and Braunvieh genetics. The current genetics and technology provide an end product harvest weight of 830lb, improved Choice grade from 26% to 90% with 50% achieving the upper two thirds of Choice. During the same genetic selection period, rib-eye area has been increased to 14.2 inches. The operation consists of 1400 -1600 cow/calf pairs utilizing intensive

rotational grazing management on 30,000 acres. Calving season is April and May, with almost the entire herd AI bred in June followed by clean up bulls and weaning in September. The calves are back grounded on the ranch, with ownership retained to the rail, selling source verifiable product since 1995.

The Braunvieh Association of America is proud to nominate JHL Ranch.

Lacey Livestock

**Owners/Managers: John, Mark and Nicki Lacey
California**

The Lacey family has been ranching in California since 1870. After settling in the Owens Valley, John William Lacey and his two sons expanded the operation to include 15,000 acres of city of Los Angeles lease land that increased their carrying capacity to 1,000 head. The ranch began with Hereford and Shorthorn cattle, but in 1960 Angus cattle were introduced to replace the Shorthorns.

Mark Lacey passed away in 1964 leaving John and his wife Dee, along with their children, Mark and Nicki to continue to run Lacey Livestock. John and his son, Mark, still ranch most of the original Lacey outfit. They have divested themselves of all Federal Lands and have added 40,000 acres more to the Owens Valley Ranches. Altogether, Lacey Livestock Ranch is 60,000 acres with approximately 2,000 cows.

Today the Lacey family ranch is a cow-calf and stocker operation. They also raise Quarter Horses and in 2003, Lacey Livestock was named AQHA's Remuda of the Year. The Lacey's owned several ranches in San Luis Obispo County which they sold in 2000 in order to purchase the historic Dressler Ranch in Bridgeport, California. This ranch has 7,000 acres and annually runs 8,000 steers. Lacey Livestock purchased this ranch with David Wood, under the partnership, Centennial Livestock. The partners just completed an easement with the American Land Conservancy

and the California Rangeland Trust. This ranch will be preserved for perpetuity. Centennial Livestock also leases 230,000 acres of the Historic Tejon Ranch, south of Bakersfield which runs about 7,000 head.

Lacey Livestock is proudly nominated by Cal Poly State University.

Lerwick Brothers LLC

**Owners/Managers: Michael & Diane, David & Ashley, Jim & Linda Lerwick
Wyoming**

Lerwick Brothers LLC is a third and fourth generation cattle operation in the southeast corner of Wyoming. The cow herd started on a 1907 with a 160 acre homestead and a few Milking Shorthorns. Hereford bulls were introduced in the second generation and Angus bulls were used on the Hereford herds in the beginning of the grandsons' tenure. In the 1960's, grandsons and great grandsons of homesteader August Lerwick operated various cropping and cattle operations on approximately 60,000 acres in southeast Wyoming and western Nebraska. Some have chosen straight Black Angus and some Red Angus cattle.

Presently, Lerwick Brothers LLC is a father and sons organization which produces about 650 Charolais/Angus calves per year. Cattle are in a partnership with Henry and Rachel Borchardt who operate a farm/ranch for Jim Lerwick, as well as their own at Chugwater, Wyoming. The Angus and Black-baldie cows are bred 20% Hereford/Angus for replacements and 80% Charolais/Black-baldie for terminal cross feeding cattle. Calving is done Jan 15-March 15 prior to farming intensity. Calves are weaned Aug 15-Sept 15 and finished for March and April fed markets. The cattle summer on various owned and leased pastures and winter on irrigated crop aftermath. Retained ownership, either whole or partial, allows for feedlot performance and carcass characteristics to be measured.

Lerwick Brothers LLC is proudly nominated by the American International Charolais Association.

MG Farms

**Owner: Ron and Shaunna Melancon
Manager: Ron Melancon
Mississippi**

Ron and Shaunna Melancon established MG Farms in 1994 in Southwest Mississippi. The Melancons own and manage MG Farms as a family beef cattle operation and rely on the operation to supply their entire living. The ranch has successfully grown from the original 550 acres to the present day operation consisting of 1,700 acres dedicated to the cow-calf operation and an additional 1,800 acres of timberland for a diversified operation including cattle, forestry, wildlife, and equine enterprises.

MG Farms currently consists of approximately 600 commercial cows and 200 replacement heifers, based on high performance Brangus, Angus, and Hereford genetics. Calving seasons are 75 days in length in both spring and fall seasons. The Melancons readily adopt profitable production practices based on research-based information. One example of this is that all calves are tested and culled for persistently-infected BVD. MG Farms utilizes a variety of marketing strategies including forward contracts, video sales, preconditioned calf sale participation, and private treaty marketing.

Extensive cow-calf production and financial records including feedlot performance and carcass data are kept to continually monitor and make needed management changes. Intensive forage management including rotational and limit grazing systems on improved forages and baleage production is an essential focus at MG Farms resulting in cost-efficient beef production. Even with all of the evidence of success in beef cattle production, Ron and Shaunna will both tell you that their greatest responsibility and most notable

accomplishment is that they are raising two children on the farm that provides their living.

The Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association is proud to nominate MG Farms.

Stuart Land and Cattle Co. of Virginia, Inc.

Owner: Family Corporation

Manager: Zan Stuart

Virginia

Stuart Land & Cattle consists of 16,000 acres on three closely located farms in Russell, Tazewell and Washington Counties of Virginia. It is on land that was deeded in 1774 by Patrick Henry, then Colonial Governor of Virginia to Henry Smith as a reward for building an Indian fort on the Clinch River. Henry Smith was the great, great, great, great grandfather of the present manager and part owner, W. Alexander (Zan) Stuart, Jr. The operation is recognized as

the oldest ranching establishment in the country still being run by the same family.

It may well have one of the oldest managers, too. Zan Stuart is 84 years young, still working every day. Zan eagerly checks this year's calves as they arrive even after 61 years on the farm. He still attends meetings and educational seminars and the National Western Stock Show every year.

The breed composition of the herd is 5/8 Angus and 3/8 Simmental and Gelbvieh which is closely monitored. Approximately 1,100 cows and heifers will be bred artificially this coming year using the Co-Synch+CIDR fixed time protocol on cows and MGA-PG system on heifers. All calves are born in March and April, are electronically identified, BQA qualified, and source verified as well as preconditioned for seven weeks.

The Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association is proud to nominate the Stuart Land and Cattle Co. of Virginia, Inc.