**BEEF IMPROVEMENT FEDERATION AWARD APPLICATION**

**COMMERCIAL PRODUCER AWARDS**

*(Revised, February 2023)*

**APPLICANT:**

**Name of Operation:**

**Owner:**

**Manager:**

**Street Address: City: State: Zip Code:**

**Best Contact Person: Phone: Email:**

**NOMINATOR:**

**Name:**

**Organization:**

**Title:**

**Street Address: City: State: Zip Code:**

**Best Contact Person: Phone: Email:**

**Letters of Recommendation*:*** One letter of recommendation may be submitted from the Nominator and will be the only letter of recommendation considered in the award selection. Please limit letter of recommendation to 500 words.

**Application Completion:** Please reply to those questions as they apply to your operation.

1. **OPERATION OVERVIEW**

Briefly describe your operation in terms of location, history (including number of years in operation), size of operation (include acreage, number of cows, and diversification), breeds, calving season, and any other details you feel are important in describing your operation. Please note: this overview will be used in publicity and presentation and should not exceed 250 words.

1. **GOALS**

List and discuss the most important short-term and long-term goals for your operation.

1. **RECORDS**

List the performance records measured in your operation and what record keeping program(s) used. Include any priority performance measures or metrics that you pay specific attention to and how they have improved over the years.

What economic/financial record keeping and analysis system(s) do you use for your operation and what information does it provide to you for projections and future management?

1. **BREEDING PROGRAM AND GENETIC TECHNOLOGY**

Describe your breeding program, including the following information.

1. Breeds of cattle
2. Breeding methods (Artificial Insemination, Natural Service, Embryo Transfer, Estrus Synchronization, etc.)
3. Technology methods (Parent Verification, EPD, DNA, etc.)
4. Sire selection criteria
5. Replacement female selection criteria
6. **PRODUCTION AND MARKETING**

Describe technology and management used in your animal production program, such as weaning, preconditioning, retained ownership, bull development, and heifer development.

Describe any marketing and customer service programs offered by your operation.

Discuss your thoughts on how your genetics are best matched to your customer’s environmental and genetic needs.

Discuss any other unique attributes that your product offers to the long-term success of attracting and maintaining customers.

1. **INNOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS**

Describe past innovations used for improvement in your operation and discuss any new innovations you plan to utilize in the future. Include discussion on the use of technology that can help meet your operational goals.

1. **STEWARDSHIP AND SUSTAINABILITY**

Discuss how your operation has managed stewardship of your resources (both land and cattle) and your future projections for long-term sustainability.

1. **PERSONAL AND INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS**

List leadership participation in your community with emphasis on any beef advocacy and/or beef industry awareness programs.

Discuss your personal contribution to beef industry leadership, to include local, state, national, and international.

1. **Beef Improvement Federation (BIF)**

What role has BIF played on your operation in the past?

What do you perceive as the most important role of BIF moving forward and give at least one suggestion of how you feel BIF can better serve the beef industry in the future.