

## Dalebanks Angus Receives Outstanding Seedstock Producer Award

Tom and Carolyn Perrier, owners and operators of Dalebanks Angus Ranch, Eureka, Kan., have been selected as the Beef Improvement Federation's (BIF) 1995 Outstanding Seedstock Producer at the BIF Convention held in Sheridan, Wyo.

The Perriers' Angus cow operation is located in the heart of the Flint Hills near Eureka, Kan. The cows graze 4,300 acres of native tall-grass pastures and 700 acres of farm ground are used to raise feed for cattle.

The Dalebanks herd was started in 1904 by Tom's grandfather with almost all of the present herd tracing to cows purchased before 1920. Tom and Carolyn's children — Matt, Michele and Mark — represent the fourth generation involved in the herd.

The objective of this herd has always been to provide quality bulls for the commercial cow-calf producer. Annually, 100 bulls are sold in their production sale the Saturday before Thanksgiving and 30 are sold in the spring at private treaty. The emphasis has been on selection for rapid early growth while avoiding excessive birth weight or mature size. Cows must calve, milk well, and breed back under range conditions.

The herd produces two different products for use by commercial cattle producers. They are:

**Calving ease bulls** — Birth EPDs of -2.0 to +2.0; weaning EPDs of +20 to +30; milk EPDs of +10 to +20; yearling EPDs of +40 to +50; scrotal EPDs of 0 to +1.2.

**Rapid early growth bulls** — Birth EPDs of +1.5 to +5.0; weaning EPDs of +25 to +40; milk EPDs of +5 to +20; yearling EPDs of +45 to +65; scrotal EPDs of 0 to +1.2.

Perrier believes expected progeny differences (EPDs) are a set of specifications that can be used to meet the needs of any herd and he promotes their use to his customers. He was one of the first to provide EPDs on sale cattle for use by customers. This reliance on EPDs continues today as they are utilized heavily in the selection program.

Tom Perrier provides insight into Angus breed policy by serving on the American Angus Association Board of Directors.



## Goggins Earns BIF Continuing Service Award

Patrick Goggins was honored with a Continuing Service Award at the BIF Convention.

Born May 28, 1930, in Orland, Calif., Pat was four years old when his family moved to Montana and started a dairy farm in the Bridger and Belgrade areas. He attended Western Montana College in Dillon and later graduated from Montana State University with a degree in animal husbandry.

Goggins is president of Western Livestock Reporter Inc., Billings, Mont. This corporation includes *Western Livestock Reporter*, *Agri-News*, Public Auction Yards, Western Sale Management, Vermilion

Ranch, Skymont Charolais, Pryor Creek Ranch, Diamond Ring Ranch, a farm and ranch real estate company, and numerous commercial real estate interests.

Goggins started his professional career in the newspaper business when he worked for the *Montana Farmer Stockman*, *Western Livestock Journal* and finally the *Western Livestock Reporter*. Goggins bought *Western Livestock Reporter* from publisher-founder, Norman Warsinske.

*Western Livestock Reporter* is a respected livestock publication which covers the 12 Northwestern states. Goggins started *Agri-News*, now a growing general agriculture publication which covers Montana and northern Wyoming agriculture news. He is publisher of both newspapers and writes a weekly column for each.

In 1968 Goggins purchased Public Auction Yards and is proud of the fact it has become the largest stockyard facility in the Northwest.

Goggins is an innovator, having put livestock auction selling on the map in a big way in the Northwest. He is the originator of Video Livestock Auctions, a sales tool which uses video equipment to sell cattle. His organization, PAYS Video Feeder Cattle Contract Auction Association, conducted nine successful video feeder cattle sales in Montana, Wyoming and Nebraska, before this form of feeder cattle sales became widespread.

In 1965 Goggins purchased the Vermilion Ranch east of Billings. Under his direction and the management of son-in law, Bob Cook, the ranch has become a nationally recognized quality registered Angus operation.

Goggins' career has had a widespread positive influence on the cattle industry. One need only attend an annual Montana Agriculture Political Action Committee fundraising luncheon at the Montana Stock Growers Convention to see the respect and esteem in which he is held.

Goggins' support, promotion and communications about BIF principles through his weekly columns, widespread travels, auctioneering activities and industry involvement have strengthened the performance beef cattle movement throughout the Northwest.

## 1995 BIF Pioneer Award to James Brinks

BIF Pioneer Award winner James S Brinks was born in South Haven, Mich., in 1934. He earned B.S. and M.S. degrees from Michigan State University in 1954 and 1957, respectively, and a Ph.D. degree from Iowa State University in 1960.

From 1960-1964, he was a USDA Agricultural Research Service animal geneticist with the Animal Husbandry Research division in Denver. From 1964-1967 he was the investigations leader for the USDA ARS W-1 Western Regional Beef Cattle Breeding Project. He joined the animal science staff at Colorado State University in 1967, and became a professor in 1971. He's involved in teaching and research activities, primarily in beef cattle animal breeding.

Brinks has excelled in student teaching and advising. Many of his former student have assumed leadership roles within the beef cattle industry.

Brinks has contributed greatly to worldwide knowledge of performance beef cattle concepts as he has lectured throughout the United States and in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina and Brazil.

Professional memberships include the American Society of Animal Science, the American Genetics Association, Gamma Sigma Delta, Alpha Gamma Rho, Sigma Xi and Alpha Zeta.

Brinks is recognized as the facilitator who, along with the support of his colleagues, implemented the genetic evaluation methodology which generates genetic information such as expected progeny differences (EPDs) through National Cattle Evaluation for numerous national level breed association performance programs.

### **Bennett Receives 1995 BIF Continuing Service Award**

The Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) also honored Paul Bennett with a Continuing Service Award at the convention held in Sheridan, Wyo.

Bennett's interest in beef cattle was first noticed when he was four years old. He started showing heifers when he was six and has maintained his family's Knoll Crest Farms cattle records since he was 10. A graduate of VA Tech, Bennett was a member of the livestock judging team and was the first recipient of the George Litton Award. He was an active Block & Bridle Club and AGR Fraternity member and officer. He returned to Knoll Crest Farms which today has a national reputation of producing performance oriented Angus, Polled Hereford, and Gelbvieh. Bennett produces bulls and females in demand by both the purebred and commercial cattle industries. Knoll Crest Farms have placed bulls in AI studs which have been used extensively throughout the United States and foreign countries.

This cattleman is a demonstrated leader at the local, state and national levels. He has served unselfishly and has made noteworthy contributions in several important organizations. He is the former president of the Virginia Beef Cattle Improvement Association (BCIA) and Virginia Cattlemen's Association. Bennett continues to serve on the BIF board of directors as immediate past president. Paul, and his father, James, represent the only father/son team that have served in this capacity in BIF's 27-year history.

### **Thielens Earn 1995 Outstanding Commercial Producer Award**

Joe and Susan Thielen, owners and operators of Thielen Beef, Dorrance, Kan., have been selected as the BIF 1995 Outstanding Commercial Producer.

Joe Thielen believes the beef industry is facing many challenges. He is committed to confronting these challenges by being creative, innovative and resourceful. One of the biggest problems facing today's beef industry is producing a consistent quality beef carcass at the lowest possible price. Determined to produce a desirable beef product, new technology and ideas such as quality assurance program, EPDs, AI, computerized recordkeeping and management skills have been incorporated into his program. The Thielens practice and improve with Integrated Resource Management (IRM) in their diversified opera-

tion consisting of cattle, winter wheat and grain sorghum.

The Thielens' beef production management practices include ammoniating wheat straw, utilizing crop residues and wheat midds, rotational grazing, and quality assurance programs aimed at improving herd health and nutrition and reducing production costs. Including EPDs in sire selection, utilizing AI, developing performance testing with the aid of computerized records and a chute scale have helped to increase herd production and profitability.

**A**