

Producers Honored

Several Angus producers were recognized at the 2002 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Annual Meeting and Research Symposium in Omaha, Neb., July 10-13. **Richard McClung**, manager of Wehrmann Angus Ranch, New Market, Va., was elected BIF president for 2002-2003. **S.R. Evans Jr.**, Greenwood, Miss., was elected vice-president. **Bill Bowman**, director of performance programs for the American Angus Association, Saint Joseph, Mo.; and **Frank Felton**, Maryville, Mo., were elected to BIF's board of directors.

Circle A Ranch, Iberia, Mo., was named the 2002 BIF Seedstock Producer of the Year. The ranch is home to 700 registered Angus and Red Angus females. They also manage approximately 6,500 commercial cows and heifers at four locations. Dave Gust Sr. started the ranch with two goals in mind — to produce the best possible genetics in the industry and to provide service to customers in the best way possible. For more, see the feature story on page 20.

Other Angus seedstock nominees included: **Holly Hill Farm**, Dwight Houff family, Mount Sidney, Va.; **Lyons Ranch**, Jan and Frank Lyons, Manhattan, Kan.; **Rishel Angus**, Bill and Barb Rishel, North Platte, Neb.; **Shamrock Angus**, Gary and Gloria Parker, Laramie, Wyo.; and **Stewart Angus**, Tom Stewart, Jim Stewart, Steve Gunn and Gilman Stewart, Greensburg, Ind.

Griffith Seedstock, WaKeeney, Kan., owned by John, Terry and Connie Griffith, was named the 2002 BIF Commercial Producer of the Year. The family has been raising beef cattle since 1878. Through detailed recordkeeping and stringent culling, the Griffiths have developed an efficient, performance-based commercial herd. They calve about 250 Angus and high-percentage commercial Red Angus cows. Artificial insemination (AI) is used on all cows and heifers.

Other Angus commercial nominees included: **Alpine Farms**, Walter Nelson, Natural Bridge Station, Va.; **Amana Farms Beef Division**, John McGrath, manager, Amana, Iowa; **Indian Knoll Cattle Co.**, Kevin and Penny Bliler, Taylorsville, Ill.; **Shovel Dot Ranch**, Larry and Nickie Buell and Homer and Darla Buell, Rose, Neb.; **Torbert Farms Ltd.**, C.C. "Bo" Torbert, Opelika, Ala.; **White Farms**, Craig and Margaret White, Estherville, Iowa; and **Voyles Farms Inc.**, Norman Voyles and family, Martinsville, Ind.

Martin and Mary Jorgensen, Ideal, S.D., received the Pioneer Award, recognizing their lasting contributions to the improvement of beef cattle. The

Jorgensens are pioneers in the development of innovative management practices and the implementation of new technologies. They were one of the first to use integrated resource management (IRM) techniques, and Martin served as the first

chairman of the National IRM Coordinating Committee.

Both **Evans** and **Galen Fink**, Manhattan, Kan., were honored with the Continuing Service Award, recognizing their contributions to the beef industry. The Evans ranch consists of approximately 5,000 acres of rolling hills and fertile creek bottoms, which is home to 500 brood cows, mostly purebred Angus.

Fink Beef Genetics, operated by Galen and his wife, Lori, is known worldwide as a source of outstanding Angus, Charolais and F₁ genetics.

For more information about the conference and for more detailed information on all the award winners, visit www.BIFconference.com.

