



Monthly Spotlight

CAB names December-January monthly honorees and acknowledges who hit the “30.06” target.

As part of its Spotlight Awards series, Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) honors a feedlot and a quality assurance (QA) officer for excellence each month. In this issue we feature the monthly winners from December 2005 and January 2006.

December honors

Flint Rock Feeders Ltd., Gruver, Texas, is the December 2005 CAB Feedlot Partner of the Month. Managed by Frank Winters, the 14,000-head feedyard in the northern Panhandle is dedicated to feeding high-quality, Angus-influenced cattle. CAB Feedlot Specialist Gary Fike says Flint Rock has several customers who retain ownership on their Angus calves through the feeding phase.

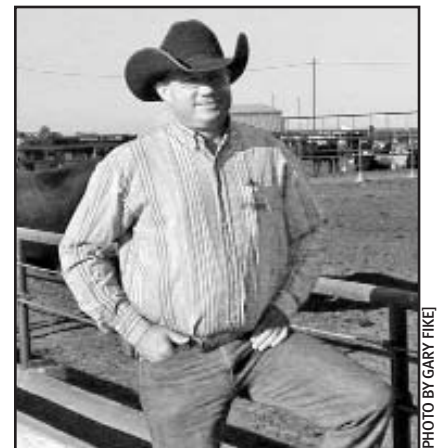


PHOTO BY GARY FIKE

The December feedlot Spotlight Award was earned by Flint Rock Feeders Ltd., managed by Frank Winters.

“Near the top of feedlots in that region in *Certified Angus Beef*[®] (CAB[®])-acceptance rates, Flint Rock strives to feed and manage cattle toward a grid market that rewards owners for quality,” Fike says. As 2006 began, Flint Rock was one of only three Texas feedlots with management in place to meet the quality-, age- and process-verified needs of export markets as administered by the Texas Cattle Feeders Association (TCFA).

Tim Brost, manager of Hergert Feeding Co., Mitchell, Neb., is the December 2005 QA Officer Spotlight Award winner. CAB Feedlot Specialist Paul Dykstra calls Brost “a multi-tasker and a steady hand when it comes to sorting cattle. He has honed his skills over thousands of cattle.

“Tim’s ability to target the proper marketing window for fed cattle has boosted the company’s CAB-acceptance rate to 24.8% over the past six months for cattle enrolled in the Feedlot-Licensing Program (FLP),” Dykstra says. Those skills have helped

the feedlot rack up 1,700 head of On-Target “30.06” program qualifiers, more than any other licensed feedlot.

January honors

Darnall Feedlot, Harrisburg, Neb., a 20,000-head-capacity feedlot and longtime CAB licensee, earned the Spotlight Award for the month of January in the FLP. “The Darnall family has a history with good Angus cattle,” Dykstra says. “Their own large cow herd is rooted in quality Angus genetics.

carcasses weighing more than 975 pounds. There is no minimum group size because sorting is encouraged to bring out the best in each animal. Honorable mention groups stand out for CAB acceptance but contain at least one discount problem.



[PHOTO BY LANCE ZIMMERMAN]

Gary Darnall is the manager of Darnall Feedlot, recipient of the January feedlot Spotlight Award.

“The feedlot staff does a great job and works hard feeding their many retained-ownership customers’ cattle,” Dykstra continues. “It shows in many ways, including Darnall’s 2005 rank in the top 10% of all licensed feedlots for *Certified Angus Beef*-brand-acceptance rate.” Managed by Gary Darnall and his son Lane, the feedlot is a leading participant in the National Angus Carcass Challenge (NACC) and won champion heifer pen in 2004.

Mike Beller has earned the QA Officer Spotlight Award for January 2006. He and brother Terry manage the family’s feedlot near Lindsay, Neb., where they feed nearly 9,000 cattle per year.

“Mike is responsible for enrolling all of those with CAB and making sure carcass data collection is accomplished,” Dykstra says. “Since Mike’s return to the feedlot a couple of years ago, he has enrolled almost 100% of the cattle that are fed at Beller Feedlot, while the company posted an amazing 23.4% CAB-acceptance rate. Mike also enrolled several groups of Angus-sired calves in the NACC in 2005.”



On Target

In the On-Target “30.06” program, the FLP honors feedlot partners that harvest qualifying groups of cattle with at least a 30% Prime or CAB-acceptance rate with an allowance for 3% Yield Grade (YG) 4s and 3%

Table 1: Summary of December 2005-January 2006 30.06 qualifiers

Licensed CAB® Feedyard	Head	Sex ^a	%YG 1&2	%CAB	%Prime
<i>December 2005:</i>					
Beller Feedlots	21 ^b	H	66.7	42.9	9.5
Beller Feedlots	45 ^b	H	40.0	37.8	0.0
<i>January 2006:</i>					
Irsik & Doll Feedyard	24	M	54.1	33.3	0.0

^aH=heifers; M=mixed; S=steers. • ^bIndicates 100% CAB eligible. • Call (785) 539-0123 or visit www.cabfeedlots.com for a complete and current list of feedlot licensees.