

Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame

Celebrates Inaugural Year, Kicks off Second Year

In each profession there are visionaries who lead and shape their industry. The U.S. cattle-feeding industry is no exception. With the creation of the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame, cattle feeders are now able to recognize their own visionaries who have helped shape modern beef production.

"We have accomplished a great deal in this first year of the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame - established an independent foundation, selected a nomination committee, nominated 12 outstanding cattle feeders, selected our first class of inductees and are launching a virtual museum before the end of 2009," says Betty Jo Gigot, nominating committee chair. "Plus, we have received tremendous support and enthusiasm for the industry."

The Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame was established in March 2009 to honor exceptional, visionary men and women who have made lasting contributions to the cattle-feeding industry. The purpose of the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame is to celebrate the rich traditions of the cattle-feeding industry and recognize individuals who have devoted their careers to preserving its mission and improving production practices.

"The cattle-feeding industry has been fortunate to have innovative, passionate leaders who worked hard to make the industry what it is today," says Jim Miles, senior marketing manager, Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health. "We are proud to be the Hall of Fame's founding sponsor and look forward to continuing our support in the upcoming year."

Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health is the founding sponsor of the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame, along with *CattleNetwork.com* and Osborn & Barr. These organizations believe it's important to support the establishment and promotion of the Hall of Fame.

The inaugural Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame class included Paul F. Engler and the late William D. "W.D." Farr. While each inductee has a list of accomplishments that spans decades, Engler, 79, is most recognized as founder and chairman of Cactus Feeders, the largest privately owned, fed-cattle producer in the United States. Farr, who passed away in 2007 at age 97, was considered by many to be the pioneer of Colorado agriculture because of his innovative work in cattle-feeding

business management and environmental stewardship.

"Engler and Farr exemplify why the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame was established: to celebrate the rich traditions of the cattle-feeding industry and recognize those who have devoted their careers to preserving its mission and improving production practices," Gigot says. "It was a privilege to give the very first Hall of Fame awards to two gentlemen whose leadership and vision have fueled inspiration and innovation that is still being carried out today."

In January, the 2010 nominees will be announced. The nominating committee will select up to five visionary cattle feeders to place on the ballot. The ballot will be distributed to cattle feeders, who will then vote on the nominees. For at least the first three years, two inductees will be chosen by U.S. cattle feeders to become members of the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame. The virtual museum will house the history of the U.S.

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The nominating committee is comprised of five industry leaders: Betty Jo Gigot, editor and publisher of *CALF News*; Richard McDonald, former CEO of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association; Dr. Del Miles, veterinarian and industry consultant; Terry Stokes, former CEO of the National Cattleman's Beef Association; and Topper Thorpe, former CEO of CattleFax.

"Establishing a hall of fame has been a significant undertaking but deeply rewarding," says Luke McKelvie, Osborn & Barr Animal Practice Group director. "Many great initiatives are already underway for 2010, and our long-term vision for the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame is even more expansive."

Visit www.cattlefeeders.org to sign up for news and information alerts about the Hall of Fame. For more information about the nomination process, inductees or the Cattle Feeders Hall of Fame, contact Keri Geffert English at geffertenglish@osborn-barr.com or (816) 472-2900. ❧