



"Serving Michigan's Cattlemen Since 1960"

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Photos Available

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RELEASE

MICHIGAN CATTLEMEN SUMMER ROUND-UP

Training, tours and awards included in summer cattle industry program.

OKEMOS - (June 2018) –Distinguished individuals and businesses were recognized for their contributions and dedication to the cattle industry during the [Michigan Cattlemen's Association](#) (MCA) Summer Round-Up in Escanaba. MCA "Member of the Year" was awarded to Matt Germane of Hartland; "Agribusiness of the Year" was awarded to Thompson Veterinary Clinic; Highbanks Angus in Maple Valley received "Seedstock Producer of the Year"; and "Commercial Cattleman of the Year" was awarded to Rick Schapman of Ingleside Farm in Romeo.

Round-Up participants received Beef Quality Assurance Transportation (BQAT) training and earned their BQAT certification, preparing them for anticipated industry transportation requirements. The group explored parasite control strategies based on fecal egg count data and learned about unique marketing strategies used by cattle producers across the Upper Peninsula. The Round-Up included a cattle handling demonstration, a review of cattle trailer design and safety considerations and tours to a custom grazing operation and a seed potato farm where cattle are integrated into the potato cropping rotation.

Member of the Year

The Michigan Cattlemen's Association's "Member of the Year" is Matt Germane. Matt is an environmental engineer who has provided environmental remediation design services for emergency response to hazardous waste spills, environmental compliance, civil engineering design and agricultural engineering compliance. He operated his own consulting business for 14 years primarily providing consulting services to agribusinesses, including livestock producers and food processing companies. Matt represents MCA on the NCBA Property Rights and Environmental Management Committee. In 2018, he was elected to the MCA Board of Directors and represented the association at the NCBA Legislative Conference in Washington DC.

Agribusiness of the Year

The Michigan Cattlemen's Association awarded the distinction of "Agribusiness of the Year" to Thompson Veterinary Clinic. Dr. Gail Hoholik started Thompson Veterinary Clinic in 1983, initially operating the clinic from her home. Today Thompson Veterinary Clinic operates two locations, in Manistique and in Munising. The clinic provides services to livestock producers across the Upper Peninsula with cattle often trailered in from significant distance for breeding soundness exams and similar procedures. Dr. Hoholik has been involved with the Miracle of Life exhibit since it started at the U.P. State Fair. She coordinates the participation of veterinary students through the MSU College of Veterinary Medicine and has served as a mentor to many students who have demonstrated an interest in the veterinary field.

Seedstock Producer of the Year

Highbanks Angus was established in 1999 by Bob and Becky Zellmer in the Maple Valley region of central Michigan and is a family farm that produces quality registered Angus genetics. Their goal was to develop a herd with fertility, good udders, moderate framed fleshy cows and good dispositions; believing good cattle should have longevity and be forage efficient. The breeding program consists of intense AI with quality herd sires used to consistently produce genetics with balanced traits. Renowned cow families have been used for calving ease & carcass merit projected to hit the Certified Angus Beef target. Highbanks Angus has been an annual consignor to the MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation and Bob has served as the program's Chairman since 2016.

Commercial Cattlemen of the Year

Rick Schapman of Ingleside Farms has been an active member of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association and has served for many years on the MCA Board of Directors. Ingleside Farms has been entirely devoted to cattle feeding since 1975. They were one of the first to start using slatted floor barns in the late 1970's and they have continued making improvements in their facilities since. Today, cattle are marketed on a weekly basis directly to packing companies and regularly grade at 95% USDA Choice or better. The consistency and reputation that Ingleside Farms has developed in the market keeps buyers pleased. Rick has been an advocate in the community and surrounding areas, in addition to hosting multiple groups on the farm from foreign countries.

The Michigan Cattlemen's Association is an affiliate of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and represents all segments of the beef cattle industry including cattle breeders, commercial producers and cattle feeders. MCA is a grassroots policy development organization for the beef business. Through the Michigan Cattlemen's Association, cattle producers work to create a positive business environment, while providing consumers with a safe and wholesome product.

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Photos and Captions Below:



Member of the Year
Matt Germane is the 2018 MCA Member of the Year.



Seedstock Producer of the Year
Bob Zellmer of Highbanks Angus is the MCA Seedstock Producers of the Year, presented by Director Kevin Gould.



Agri-Business of the Year
Dr. Gail Hoholik of Thompson Veterinary Clinic received the MCA Agribusiness of the Year award presented by MCA Director Jon Haindl.



Commercial Cattlemen of the Year
Rick Schapman (r) was awarded MCA Commercial Cattlemen of the Year presented by MCA Vice President Dave Girton.