

**Beau Ebersole
Region 2**

History of your operation/family and involvement with the Maine-Anjou breed.:

The Ebersole family has been breeding Maine-Anjou cattle since the early 1970's. The breeding program started out as Ebersole Brothers which consisted of Beau's dad and his brothers. Ebersole Cattle Company started in 1998 when Beau, and wife Shanen graduated from Iowa State University and began building their own herd. Currently their operation consists of around 100 Fullblood and percentage Maine-Anjou cows. Their goal has always been to focus on moderate, easy fleshing cows with structural soundness and good milking ability. The last five years they have shifted their focus more to the Fullblood side of things. "We are working to make a more modern type that is an outcross to the lines that are currently being used." Their children, Adelyda, Jolene and Wyatt exhibit Maine-Anjou cattle at local, state and national shows. Beau is currently serving his fifth term on the Iowa Maine-Anjou Association where he has been a past president.

What do you see as the strengths of the Maine-Anjou breed and how can those strengths best be used in today's beef industry?

Beau believes that the strength of our breed lies in its ability to make all other breeds better. Whether it's maternal ability, carcass traits, or docility, this breed can bring something to the table with any cross-breeding program. Beau believes that if we as breeders focus on performance oriented cattle and have the data to back them up we can regain a foothold in the beef industry. "The only area that there is opportunity for growth is in bull sales, but we have to produce a product that commercial cattleman want and give them a reason to use it."

What does your present operation do to promote Maine-Anjou genetics, whether it be locally, state, regional or national?

Lately Beau and his family have been making an effort to exhibit at more of the national shows. "We are the only family that has brought Fullbloods to the National Jr Show every year that they have had a show."