

**Brian Fox**  
**Region 3**

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

Fox has been involved directly with the Maine-Anjou breed since 2007, but has have been around show cattle his entire life. In 2007 Fox had the opportunity to move with his wife, Paula, to Fort Morgan, Colo., and become the manager of Blind Badger Ranch. In 2007 BBR was running about 350 cows, flushing a few cows and had just completed their first production sale. Since then, they have evolved to about 700 cows with an extensive ET program and are preparing now for their 12th production sale. "As we have evolved our focus has always stayed primarily Maine-Anjou."

**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?**

Growing up, Fox always knew the positive attributes the Maines brought to the table, but also heard some of the fallacies that they have taken a bad rap for. It wasn't until he began working with them every day at BBR that he was really blown away by their abilities to perform and be such a well-rounded breed. "Their ability to perform in the arid, dry, short grass country we live in is a true testament to the breed. We also live in big country where the Maine cattle are expected to cover large pastures, so their structural integrity is a huge focus of ours. The Maine cattle that are easy keeping and sound are ultimately the females that go on to milk and produce bigger calves, along with breeding back in a timely matter."

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

We have always been supporters of the Maine breed and Fox truly believe in their abilities to perform in the pasture, feed yards and show rings. We have always tried to send steers and bulls to the feed test trials, to further gain knowledge for ourselves and our breed. We have also been heavily involved in the show ring as well. What started as helping Taylor and Tori Hett with their show stock when Fox first started at BBR, has now turned into an entire family of breeders and friends throughout the breed. In 2014 with his wife, along with the support of the owners of BBR, Jim Hett and Bud Gamel, Fox started the Rocky Mountain Maine-Anjou Association which consists of breeders and exhibitors of Maine cattle in both Colorado and Wyoming. They have been able to raise money through various activities so that they can help provide scholarships to young people along with helping out with some of the expenses to go to junior nationals and present awards at local shows. Ultimately, we have used the RMMAA to continue to educate and support the Maine-Anjou breeders in Colorado and Wyoming.