

DJ Folkerts
Region 2

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

Folkerts started Eastview Maines in the late 1990's after purchasing some Maine females and a couple black Maine bulls to start his purebred herd. From there, he started raising and selling some purebred bulls. The herd has grown and evolved throughout the years and continues to promote the Maine-Anjou breed through selling bulls and has added an elite female sale in the fall. Plus his feeder cattle that he raise go to a cattle feeder that collects growth and carcass data that is returned to him to help with his selecting genetics that work in the feedlot as well!

Folkerts and his wife, Amy, have four children, Kendra, Rylee, Maesa and Charlie. "The kids love showing cattle and enjoy 4-H quiz bowl and livestock judging contests. Showing at the Maine Junior Nationals is a highlight of the show year!"

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?

The Maine-Anjou breed is a hidden secret in the cattle industry. The Maine-influenced female is such a great producer in all aspects of the industry. Commercial cow herd or seedstock producer, it's hard to beat a high quality, Maine female.

The Maine-influenced feeder cattle can flat get it done in the feedlot and on the rail! This is the area that we need to expand into the heart of the commercial herds. Maine cattle grow and perform in the meat aspects of the industry. Maine bulls are the backbone of the two areas he mentioned above. "Making high quality cattle in all aspects of the beef industry!"

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

Eastview Maines participates in selling bulls at NWSS in Denver, BHSS in Rapid City, S.D., and at the Watertown Farm Show in South Dakota. Plus they sell bulls off the farm private treaty.

They have a female sale in the fall, selling select heifer calves and bred heifers.

Folkerts is the secretary/treasurer of the South Dakota Maine-Anjou Association and support/donates to the Maine show classes at the Minnesota Beef Expo.

Comments:

I have been involved with Maine cattle for over 20 years now. I really enjoy raising Maine-Anjou cattle, our main area that we have concentrated on is raising high-percent bulls and females. That has been our bread and butter! I also enjoy working with fellow Maine breeders and customers! The best people to work with in the world are in the cattle industry!