

More Than Genetics

By Diana Dickinson 🐄 🐑 🐖 🐔 🐘

Traits from parents to progeny measured as a package deal according to George Hubbard

The Limousin breed ranks as one of the third largest breeds in the United States and is found in 70 countries. The crossbreeding of Limousin and Angus, aka Lim-Flex, has proven to be a valuable breeding resource both at home and work for George Hubbard of Miami, Okla. For the past 16 years it has been a hobby and employment for the Southern Division Magness Land and Cattle manager. The business is owned by Gary Magness and headquartered in Platteville, Colo., with a companion operation in Miami. "This is a 24/7 operation. It is great that I live nearby because there is always something to do every day of the week. Even a day off is a work day since the cattle still have to be fed," said George.

George also manages a small operation at home, which also includes sheep. Three of his children Grant, Shelby and Carter contribute their time as part of their 4-H and FFA programs. Grant serves as the Secretary/Treasurer for the Junior Association of the Oklahoma Limousin Breeders Association and acts as an ambassador for the Limousin breed. George and his wife, Suzanne, serve as Junior Advisors for the Junior Association. The advisory position oversees the



"With agriculture, you just don't see as many kids get involved anymore. You have to love to do it because you cannot get rich doing it," said George Hubbard.

Photo by Diana Dickinson

younger participants by educating and advising them while they make their own decisions.

Further west of Oklahoma are more of the ranch's Limousin. In Platteville, Colo. around 800-900 cows spend their time there. Some will calve in the spring while the others in Oklahoma calve in the fall. "It helps splitting the calving up between the two locations, otherwise we

would be calving all the time. We base the calving off of the better calving environments." They synchronize the reproduction from the first of September to the 15th of November in two different groups. Once they are synchronized then they will AI or ET (Embryo Transfer) them and later turn the bulls out.

They use both their own bull semen and outside genetics that are unique. They will wean about 200 calves this spring.



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