

2007 Beef Improvement Federation 39th Annual Meeting

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Northcutt Honored for Service

Release provided by **Beef Improvement Federation**

FORT COLLINS, COLO. (June 7, 2007) — The Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) honored Sally Northcutt with its Continuing Service Award June 7 during the organization's 39th annual meeting in Fort Collins, Colo. The award recognizes individuals for their service to the organization and to the beef industry.

Northcutt is the genetic research director at the American Angus Association. She works with the Performance Programs Department in data analysis and the modeling and application of the National Cattle Evaluation (NCE). Northcutt also works with universities across the nation to coordinate the expansive research activities of the Association.

Under her supervision and guidance, the American Angus Association developed a suite of dollar value indexes (\$Values). Since her arrival, the Association has transitioned genetic predictions to an in-house system, developed online genetic evaluation tools like the Angus Optimal Milk Module, and established expected progeny differences (EPDs) for Calving Ease Direct (CED) and Calving Ease Maternal (CEM).

Before her work at the American Angus Association, Northcutt was an Extension beef cattle breeding specialist for nine years at Oklahoma State University. She worked to direct the Oklahoma Beef Inc. (OBI) central bull test at Stillwater.

She is actively involved in industry organizations such as BIF, for which she has served in various leadership roles during the past 10 years. She has served diligently on the BIF board of directors and has helped with



► Sally Northcutt, genetic research director of the American Angus Association, receives the 2007 BIF Continuing Service Award from BIF President Chris Christensen.

BIF activities, including guideline revisions, convention program planning, and general policy.

Northcutt was a BIF regional secretary and the chairperson of the Producer Applications Committee. She eagerly helped record minutes at every board meeting. As a standing committee chair, her programming provided BIF convention attendees with cutting-edge information on such topics as EPD/selection criteria, animal identification systems, production system management, and genetic/environmental interactions. She

strived to educate and challenge BIF members to become better-informed, top-notch managers.

She is an avid golfer and runner, and she recently completed her first marathon.

A Kentucky native, Northcutt received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Kentucky and her doctorate in beef cattle breeding and genetics from Iowa State University.



Editor's Note: This release is adapted from a news release provided by the Beef Improvement Federation. It is available for redistribution. For more information about BIF, visit www.beefimprovement.org.