

Honour Roll Ron & Nadine Wells



The Canadian Hereford Association congratulates Ron and Nadine Wells on their induction into the Honour Roll.

The history of how Ron and Nadine became involved with the Hereford breed goes back to Nadine's grandfather, William Alexander, who homesteaded in Greenock township and finished western Canadian Hereford steers on his farm. He had three sons, Ed (Nadine's father), Roy and Norman. All three boys created their own cow herds, focusing on the Hereford breed, and established Alexander Brothers (A.B.) Herefords. The Alexander brothers had an elite Hereford operation and were always on the leading edge of performance and marketing within the Hereford breed.

Nadine was born to her parents Ed and Marjorie and from an early age had experience with Hereford cattle. She was very active in 4-H, showing Hereford cattle and even showed the reserve champion Hereford steer in the 1958 Queen's Guineas Royal Agricultural Winter Fair at the age of 16. Both Ron and Nadine attended Walkerton District secondary school and Nadine went on to attend Loughheed Business College in Kitchener, ON. Ron became more involved with Hereford cattle in 1964 when he began working

with Ed, Roy, and Norman. Ron and Nadine married in 1966 which marked the beginning of Crystal Brook Polled Herefords. They have four children who played an active roll in the Crystal Brook herd - Sherry Emke (Wells), Shane Wells, Melanie Cowell (Wells) and Myron Wells. Ron and Nadine now also have 4 grandchildren - Michael Colwell, Ashley Zier Colwell, Miranda Emke and Larissa Emke.

Over the years, Ron and Nadine participated in several training courses to perfect their critique in seed stock selection and marketing techniques. Ron and Nadine successfully showed cattle at the Royal Agricultural fair, Mark of Excellence (MOE) shows and Canadian Western Agribition and they knew how to market their cattle. Many banners and trophies for champion and reserve champion animals, bred and owned by Ron and Nadine, were reaped at the Royal Winter Fair and other Ontario MOE shows. They earned several gold and silver Canadian Hereford Association MOE awards throughout their show career and consigned cattle to both the Western Hereford Zone Sales and to the Ontario Hereford Prestige Show and Sale.

Following the Crystal Brook Polled Hereford dispersal in 1985, Ron and Nadine established a small elite herd of Polled Herefords and formed Crystal Brook Fitting Services. Their passion for Herefords was evident in the hands-on clinics that they put on at their farm for breeders across Ontario for 8 years. The clinics included topics like cattle selection, fitting, showing and judging beef cattle, genetic heritability, performance data and carcass data.

From 2000 to 2002, Nadine was president of the Ontario Western Hereford Zone, where she applied for the Trillium Foundation grant. This

grant enabled the Ontario Western Hereford Zone to host a first-class MOE Show during the years she was president. Several years ago, Ron and Nadine introduced and annually sponsor the Ontario Commercial Breeder of the year award. This award is established in their name and is presented to a progressive Ontario commercial breeder who is using Hereford genetics in their operation. From April 1, 2003 to March 31, 2016, Ron fulfilled his duties in his role as Secretary-Manager of the Ontario Hereford Association. Nadine worked as hard as Ron did and together, they did a fantastic job, receiving several appreciation awards from the Canadian Hereford and Ontario Hereford Associations at their retirement.

Ron and Nadine take great pride in their operation and community. They are faithful members of the Immanuel Evangelical Missionary Church in Paisley, Ontario. They received the Danforth Foundation Certificate in recognition of Qualities of Leadership and received first and second place in the Ontario Ploughman's Association Beautification awards. In the spare time that he has, Ron is also an active volunteer with the local food bank.

The 2016 Agricultural Winter Fair Hereford Show was in honour of Ron and Nadine where they received their 50-year membership service pin from the Canadian Hereford Association. They are recognized for their outstanding involvement and dedication to the Hereford breed.

