



Canadian Cattlemen's Association

News Release

Saskatchewan Environmental Stewardship Winner Just Wants to Talk about Grass

August 26, 2004

It's a known fact that the winner of the national Environmental Stewardship Award is passionate about the native grass on his ranch. It's that care and attention that earned Ted and Olive Perrin, their daughter Pam and her husband Neil Danroth the ninth annual award presented August 19 at the Canadian Cattlemen's Association (CCA) Semi-Annual Meeting and Convention in Calgary, Alberta. Generously supported by Merial Canada (Ivomec), the Environmental Stewardship Award is presented each year to a Canadian cattle producer doing a particularly outstanding job of caring for the environment.

Castleland Ranch is primarily a cow-calf operation in the brown soil zone on primarily native grass in provincial crown lease and supports about 320 cow/calf pairs, 60 heifers, and 20 bulls. The ranch markets steer calves, bred heifers, bulls, and grass-fed beef.

The ranch supports herds of ungulates and occasionally Ring-neck Pheasants. Various species of grassland songbirds, such as the Baird's Sparrow, migrate to the area to nest in the native grasslands and coulees. Golden Eagles and Prairie Falcons are year-round residents nesting in the badland landscape along Lake Diefenbaker. Huge flocks of waterfowl and shorebirds provide spectacular viewing as they stage on Lake Diefenbaker during their spring and autumn migrations.

Drought is a fact of life in the management of Castleland Ranch. Developing reliable sources of water and leaving substantial amounts of carryover of forage resource from year to year is essential for buffering the negative consequences of dry years.

The national Environmental Stewardship Award winner is selected from the winners of stewardship awards presented by provincial cattle associations. Other nominees this year were; Ray and Mae Van Steinburg of Cranbrook, British Columbia, Edith Wearmouth, Cochrane, Alberta and Mark and Carol Wilson of New Liskeard, Ontario.

This is the fifth year of a successful partnership between CCA and Merial Canada to recognize and promote excellence in environmental management in the Canadian cattle industry. Merial is an international animal health company with a focus on the development of products to keep livestock and pets healthy and productive. Merial is a Merck and Aventis company.

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CCA is the National Voice for the Beef Cattle Industry, representing over 90,000 Cattle Producers