

TBBA Featured Breeder: Tommy and Ruth Ann Milliorn

Tommy Milliorn's ranching career began in June of 1955, straight out of high school. He was hired to operate a dairy herd for Tell Smith whose son, Lee Smith, was drafted into the military service. With the help of Granddad Smith, he milked a dairy herd of 100-125 cows plus a farming operation for 2 years. Leaving there, Tommy started leasing land and started his own farming/ranching operation. He built the first pig parlor in the area, which housed 50 brood sows and started a cow/calf herd and operated it for the next five to six years.

Tommy learned from his cow/calf operation the importance of good bulls. Cross breeding using Brangus bulls on Angus and Hereford cross cows added 25 to 50 lbs. to the weaning weight, which swayed him to use Brangus all the way. Based on that philosophy, he built a large commercial Brangus herd with a few good registered Brangus cows.

Association with other livestock boards inspired Tommy to buy more registered cattle and developed a sizeable heifer replacement program. He showed heifers for several years in Ft. Worth, San Antonio and the Houston All Breed Heifer Show. Tommy participated in the very first Fort Worth Stock Show. He was awarded numerous show awards from 1990 through 1995 from the Ft. Worth, Houston and San Antonio shows for his quality cattle.

In the 1990's Jack Luther persuaded Tommy to join the West Texas Brangus Breeders Association and he began buying registered Brangus cattle. Tommy served many years as President, Vice President and board member and was the Sales Manager for the West Texas Brangus Breeders Association. He also joined the Texas Brangus Breeders Association, and has served as Director and Vice-President. Tommy thoroughly enjoyed working as a member of West Texas Brangus Breeders Association, Hill Country Brangus Breeders Association and Texas Brangus Breeders Association and has been a member of International Brangus Breeders Association for many years.

Ruth Ann Milliorn, Tommy's wife, has served as Secretary from 2005 thru 2007 and Secretary/Treasurer from 2007 thru 2012 for West Texas Brangus Breeders Association.

The Milliorn herd continues to grow with more registered cattle each year by going to other register sales, buying registered cows, heifers and good bulls and, to this date, runs a great herd of commercial cattle along with a nice herd of registered cattle. The Milliorns produce registered and commercial cattle for the West Texas Brangus Breeders Association and Hill Country Brangus Breeders Association Sales and for private treaty.

Association with the West Texas Brangus Breeders Association, Hill Country Brangus Breeders Association and Texas Brangus Breeders Association has been most

enjoyable and rewarding and they have acquired many friends from being associated with Brangus people.

The Milliorns are located just outside of Abilene, Texas