

Champions Named at 2014 Brangus National Show of Merit

Tyler Dean, IBBA Director of Shows and Youth Programs

Brangus exhibitors from six states including Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas brought 95 head of Brangus cattle to Shreveport, La., for the 2014 Brangus National Show of Merit on Saturday, October 25. Darrell Pitchford, owner and operator of Pitchford Cattle Services in Athens, Texas, judged the event. Pitchford has spent 35 years assisting in his family run Santa Gertrudis and crossbred commercial cattle operation. He has raised and exhibited numerous High Point and National Champion Santa Gertrudis. He truly enjoys judging and raising *bos indicus* cattle because of the great need for them in the beef industry. He believes their maternal strengths and longevity combined with feedlot and carcass performance are exactly what the industry needs. Pitchford brought a long list of success with show cattle as well as extensive experience with him as he evaluated the 95 head brought before him.

Coming from the Junior Heifer Calf Division, KK Miss Jillian 820B2 took the Grand Champion Female title home for Katy Knox of Hempstead, Texas. The February 2014 female is a daughter of Skyhawks Zorro 582Y2. Reserve Grand Champion Female honors went to Tanner Miller of Gilmer, Texas. WJ Ms Tara 622A, a September 2013 daughter of WJ 622W2, first captured the title of Champion Senior Heifer Calf. KK Déjà Vu 317A3, also owned by Katy Knox of Hempstead, Texas, was named the Grand Champion Red Female. Déjà Vu is a January 2013 daughter of Mr -C- Prince 30W and was first named Champion Red Junior Heifer. The Champion Red Junior Heifer Calf CX Ms Payloads Meathouse 957 was named the Reserve Grand Champion Red Female. Exhibited by Cox Excalibur Brangus of Katy, Texas, 957 is a January 2014 daughter of CX Payload's Meathouse 930/U.

In the cow-calf show, Grand Champion honors went to CMR Ms Lanie 488Z and her August 2014 bull calf CMR Duramax 488B. Owned and exhibited by Tanner Miller of Gilmer, Texas, Lanie is a May 2012 daughter of DDD Black Gold 804S25. Ryon Chaney of Windom, Texas, took Reserve Champion honors with Skyhawks Ms Mamie 99Y and her August 2014 heifer calf CCC Ms Samantha 99B. Mamie is a December 2011 daughter of Skyhawks Ike 430W3. Tanecka Ranch of Columbus, Texas, exhibited the Grand Champion Red Pair TX Ms Chief Advantage 53/Z and her July 2014 heifer calf Ms Lazy 3 Statesman 53/B. 53/Z is a March 2012 daughter of CX Mr Chief Advantage 49/T.

After first winning the Champion Junior Bull title, RCC Titleist 88A was named the Grand Champion Bull. Exhibited by Roop Cattle Company of Grapevine, Texas, Titleist is a March 2013 son of Skyhawks Presidente. Following closely behind, DDD One Source 103A4, an April 2013 son of DDD UpperCut's Legacy 804X37, was named Reserve Grand Champion Bull after first winning the Senior Bull Division. Sampson was exhibited by Doguet's Diamond D Ranch of McCoy, Texas. Cox Excalibur Brangus of Katy, Texas, swept the Red Brangus bull show as CX Apaches Dream 71/B claimed the title of Grand Champion Red Brangus Bull and CX Dream Maker 31/A claimed the title of Reserve Champion Red Brangus Bull. Apaches Dream is a May 2014 son of CX Chief's Apache 67/Y was first named the Champion Red Junior Bull Calf. Cox's Dream Maker first captured the title of Champion Red Summer Bull and is a February 2014 son of CX Legend's Dream 610/U1.

In the group classes, Daisy Verdin of Bernice, La., exhibited progeny of Miss JLS Abracadabra 789X11 to win the Produce of Dam and progeny of WBF Mr Transformer 820TP1-ET to win the Junior Get-of-Sire class. Triple JR Cattle Company of Friendswood, Texas, exhibited full sisters and daughters of Miss Clark Cattle 821 to win the Red Brangus Produce of Dam class.