

## Iowa Distinguished Jersey Breeders

Over the years, many Jersey breeders have received state awards for their achievements and/or leadership within the dairy industry. Listed below are the Jersey winners of the Iowa Distinguished Dairyman Award, Ralph Keeling Leadership Award and the Robert Massee Sportsmanship Award.

The *Iowa Distinguished Dairymen Award* is a sincere effort to honor dairy farmers who have achieved excellence in managing their dairy enterprises; have contributed leadership to the Iowa Dairy Industry; and are respected in their communities.

Honoring these outstanding dairy leaders will serve as a tribute to the time and effort they have put forth in advancing the industry. The Iowa Distinguished Dairyman Award program is sponsored jointly by Cedar Rapids Gazette, Midland UDIA, and ISU Extension. It began in 1964 and was awarded until 1983.

- 1965 Wilbur Little, West Branch
- 1966 G. Joe Lyon, Toledo  
Howard Lyon, Toledo
- 1969 Ernst Metzger, Lester
- 1972 R. Claire Wemer, Montezuma
- 1976 Don Egli, Lockridge
- 1978 William Church, Riceville  
Donald Metzger, Lester
- 1980 Forrest Hatfield, Leon

Each year an outstanding member of Iowa's dairy industry is presented the *Ralph Keeling Leadership Award*.

Nominations are open to educators, industry, or producers in the dairy field who have significantly contributed to the progress of Iowa's dairy industry.

The award is given in honor of the late Ralph Keeling. Keeling operated a successful dairy farm and business, devoting much of his time and talents to help the progress of the state's dairy industry. Since 1967, this award has been presented annually to outstanding individuals in various fields of Iowa's dairy industry.

The Iowa State Dairy Association sponsors the Ralph Keeling Leadership Award. The ISDA is a non-profit organization directed by the dairy producers of Iowa.

- 1975 G. Joe Lyon, Toledo
- 2001 David Kunde, Manchester
- 2002 Norma "Duffy" Lyon, Toledo
- 2006 Dave and Pam Bolin, Clarksville

The *Robert Massee Sportsmanship Award* began in 1990 and is awarded to an

individual who exemplifies good sportsmanship in the show ring as well as in the cattle barn. This individual is selected by previous winners. In Iowa State Fair brick will be designated in the winner's honor by the cattle barn. It's been said of Bob Massee, he loved Jerseys. He had his own herd, as did his father, Harold. They hit the show circuit hard for many years and were always ones to tease the kids around the barn. In the ring showing, he was a formidable presence and tough to beat, but not a whiner or mean-spirited loser. He and his father both kept classy looking show exhibits and people loved to hang around their show trunks visiting. Both were gifted story tellers!

- 1991 Ken Core, Ackworth
- 1993 L. Claire Gates, West Liberty
- 2001 Gene Henderson, Maynard
- 2004 Lyon Jerseys, Toledo
- 2005 Jim Pflughaupt, Central City