

Prologue:

The Organizing Committee:
Fred Owens, Don Gill,
Glen Dolezal, Brad Morgan,
and Gerald Horn



A wide array of growth stimulating implants is available to cattle producers in the U.S. to enhance rate and efficiency of growth of cattle. Producers must balance the effectiveness of growth stimulants to reduce cost of gain against potentially adverse effects of implants on behavior and, of particular concern, on carcass composition. Papers in this conference represent the reasoned opinions of individual experts. Although these opinions may conflict, free and open discussion is essential for progress and advancement. These papers should represent the "state of the art" with regard to growth enhancing implants. The organizing committee sincerely thanks all the experts for their input and reviews concerning modes of implant action, relative effectiveness, animal behavior, safety, statistics, economics, meat science, and consumer acceptance.

The topic for this conference on "Impact of Implants on Performance and Carcass Value of Beef Cattle" initially was proposed by Robert Botts and Bob Brandt to Don Gill and Fred Owens in July 1993 at the Animal Science Meetings in Spokane, Washington. Employment, locations of individuals, and implant types have changed markedly since that time. Planning the final program and invitations to speakers began in March 1996 using a conference format designed by the organizing committee. With the exception of two panel members, each individual that was invited participated in the conference. We were particularly pleased that Art Raun and Rod Preston consented to provide a detailed historical perspective on implants and that Mike Galyean and Jeff Savell agreed to summarize highlights from the conference. Thanks to financial support from implant manufacturers listed below, joint sponsorship from the Plains Nutrition Council, and to extensive input from speakers, the conference was held at the Sheraton

Hotel in Tulsa, OK from November 21-23, 1996. About 320 people attended the conference. Written papers were assembled, albeit gradually, from all the speakers and edited; questions and answers were transcribed, and this proceedings was assembled and published through Oklahoma State University. The organizing committee is particularly indebted to sponsoring companies, all the speakers who took time away from their regular duties to prepare presentations, and to the many feedlot consultants who attended and freely shared their thoughts, opinions, and ideas.

Sponsors of this Conference:

- Hoechst-Roussel Agri-Vet Company, Somerville, NJ.
Contact: Dr. Jerry Rains
- Fort Dodge Animal Health, Overland Park, KS.
Contact: Dr. Frank Prouty
- Mallinckrodt Veterinary, Mundelein, IL.
Contact: Dr. Richard Sibbel
- Vet-Life, Kansas City, MO.
Contact: Dr. Robert Botts

COVER PHOTOS

Speakers pictured on the front cover from left to right included: Row 1: Art Raun, Robert Botts, Allen Trenkle, Bob Brandt, Glen Selk. Row 2: Susan Duckett, Terry Mader, Tim Stanton, Ken Eng, Bob Wettemann. Row 3: Alfredo DiCostanzo, Jim Oltjen, Brad Morgan, Glen Dolezal, Don Gill. Row 4: Jim Trapp, Gary Smith, Russell Cross, Rod Preston, Mike Galyean. Speakers who did not supply a picture include: Bill Dayton, Danny Simms, Steve Rust, Robbi Pritchard, Abe Turgeon, Jeff Savell, and Gerry Kuhl.