Orion Beef Group

Ludvigson Stock Farms

Reputation Red Angus and Hybreds

We've Got You Covered!™

Home of Elite Red Angus Genetics

Snowy Mountain Ranch
LSF Elite Nucleus Herd Headquarters
Lewistown, Montana

Orion Beef Group

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Dakota Bull and Female Sale • February 23, 2015
Glatt Livestock Center • Mandan, North Dakota • 1 PM CST

Ozark Bull and Female Sale • March 7, 2015
White's Livestock Center • Diamond, Missouri • 1 PM CST

Spring Herdbuilder Bull Sale • April 11, 2015
Weschenfelder Development Center • Shepherd, MT • 1PM MST

Fall Herdbuilder Bull Sale • November 6, 2015
Weschenfelder Development Center • Shepherd, MT • 1PM MST

Our Program
Ludvigson Stock Farms is a family operation established in 1954. Our roots are based in the commercial cow calf and cattle feeding sectors. We understand what is needed to be successful in these areas and it has shaped our breeding philosophies in the genetics that we produce.

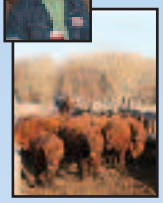
Our Ranches
The Elite Nucleus herd runs on our "home" ranch located 10 miles south of Lewistown, Montana in the Snowy Mountains. We also have an advanced genetics center located in Iowa where our parents began farming over 50 years ago. In addition to these ranches we have established regional ranch centers in Mandan, North Dakota and Raton, New Mexico.

Our Genetics
We have established a breeding philosophy that incorporates optimizing multiple traits without over emphasizing any single trait. Our herd sires Expectation and Packer are perfect examples that balance all traits and produce least cost cattle with exceptional phenotypes. Our next generation of herd sires such as Takeover, Nextpectation, Night Calver and Saga continue this tradition and headline the bulls that we will be selling in this event.

Our Bull and Heifer Development
We develop our bulls and females at various development centers throughout the United States. All the bulls are fed a highroughage ration designed to producea 3.0 lb ADG with 0.2 of an inch back fat. The replacement females are fed a carrying ration and we have maintained over an 80% first service AI conception rate on our females. The cattle are developed to adapt to any environment and thrive.

Our Team
The LSF team includes not only our family but our managers, cooperators and customers. It takes a team to remain competitive in the industry today and we value the input from all of our team members.

Our Key Members:



- Ryan Ludvigson – is our main marketing representative and oversees the cowherd and development operations in Montana.
- Park Ludvigson – is our main breeding specialist, managing our embryo collection and transfer program as well as our embryo export program.
- Rodger Reitman – Our main reproductive specialist and development manager – numerous years experience with seed stock and commercial herds.
- Kraig Sweeney - Our ranch manager that oversees the Elite Nucleus Herd in Lewistown. Well qualified with years of experience in seedstock and commercial cow calf production.
- Our Development Coordinators – These family operations develop our bulls and females to meet and exceed our expectations.
- Cooperators – Well known and historic cooperating families as well as some of the hottest new young breeders in the business.

Our Customers

Our customers play an integral and ongoing part in our breeding program. It would be impossible for us to remain competitive without constant input by our customers. Our customer's environments range from the High Desert to the High Plains and from the Midwest to the Rio Grande. Adaptability of our genetics has been the key to why our customers come back year after year.

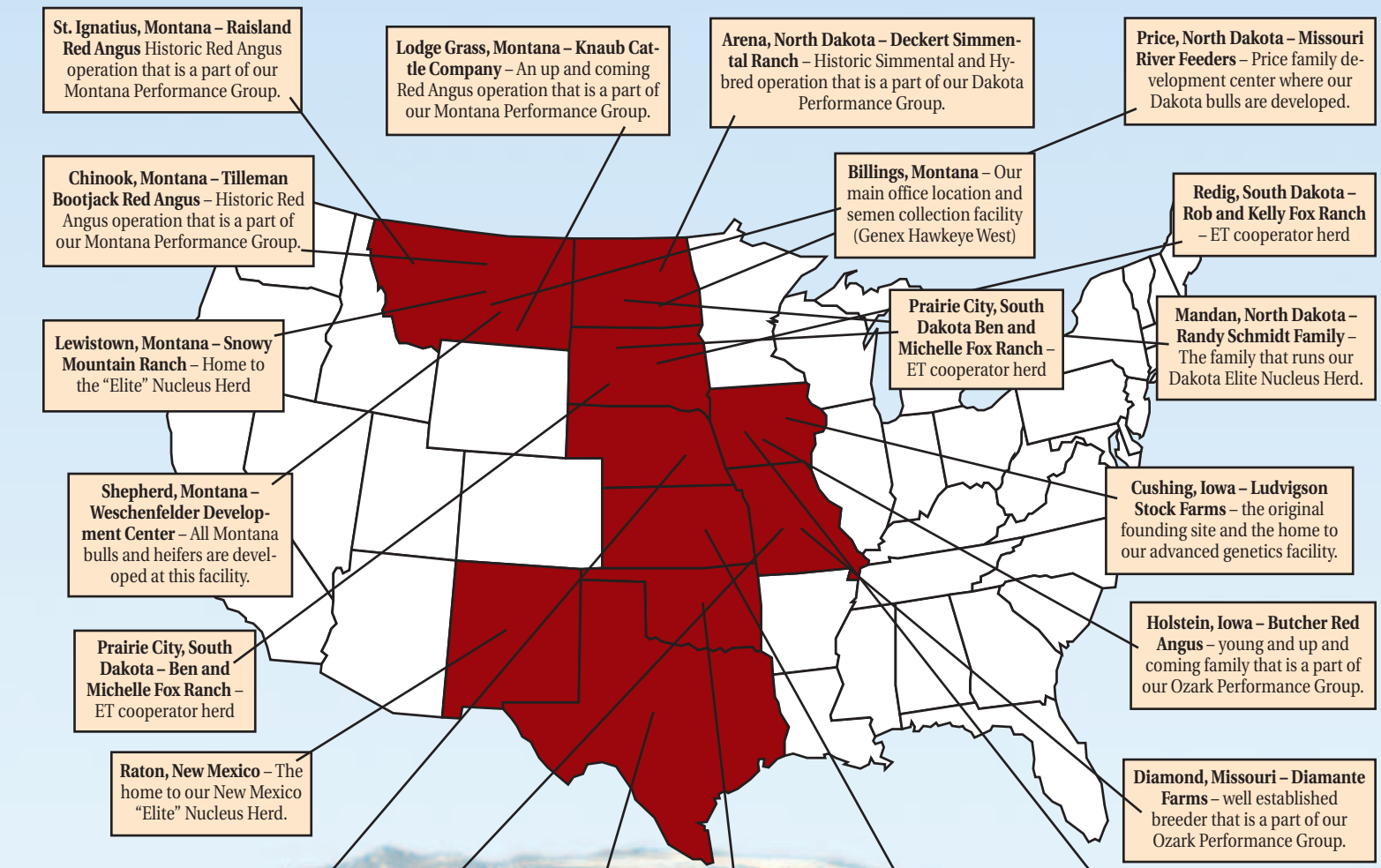
$Profitability
Again this year, every bull will have a $Profit Index. This index ranks cattle on their ability to return "profit" to the beef industry. We believe that this index will simplify the selection process for our customers and move their operations in the right direction faster in this competitive market. Please contact us to visit about this ground breaking index as well as to receive materials that explain the process in more detail.

www.ludvigsonstockfarms.com

Partners in Progress

In the summer of 2013, Steve Newberry and Ryan Ludvigson met and discussed the state of the beef industry and out of these discussions a partnership was formed to meet the increasing demand for Red Angus influenced genetics. Like minded and extremely progressive, the Ludvigson and Newberry families are committed to providing the beef industry with the most cutting edge genetics as well as industry leading customer service. In addition to providing some of the top genetics to the industry look for this partnership to introduce some of the most dynamic customer service programs that the industry has ever seen.

Our Team • Nucleus Herds, Development Centers & Cooperators



St. Ignatius, Montana – Raisland Red Angus Historic Red Angus operation that is a part of our Montana Performance Group.

Lodge Grass, Montana – Knaub Cattle Company – An up and coming Red Angus operation that is a part of our Montana Performance Group.

Arena, North Dakota – Deckert Simmental Ranch – Historic Simmental and Hybred operation that is a part of our Dakota Performance Group.

Price, North Dakota – Missouri River Feeders – Price family development center where our Dakota bulls are developed.

Chinook, Montana – Tilleman Bootjack Red Angus – Historic Red Angus operation that is a part of our Montana Performance Group.

Billings, Montana – Our main office location and semen collection facility (Genex Hawkeye West)

Redig, South Dakota – Rob and Kelly Fox Ranch – ET cooperator herd

Prairie City, South Dakota Ben and Michelle Fox Ranch – ET cooperator herd

Mandan, North Dakota – Randy Schmidt Family – The family that runs our Dakota Elite Nucleus Herd.

Lewistown, Montana – Snowy Mountain Ranch – Home to the "Elite" Nucleus Herd

Shepherd, Montana – Weschenfelder Development Center – All Montana bulls and heifers are developed at this facility.

Cushing, Iowa – Ludvigson Stock Farms – the original founding site and the home to our advanced genetics facility.

Holstein, Iowa – Butcher Red Angus – young and up and coming family that is a part of our Ozark Performance Group.

Prairie City, South Dakota – Ben and Michelle Fox Ranch – ET cooperator herd

Raton, New Mexico – The home to our New Mexico "Elite" Nucleus Herd.

Diamond, Missouri – Diamante Farms – well established breeder that is a part of our Ozark Performance Group.

Herman, Nebraska – D&D Cattle Cattle Company – well established breeder that is a part of our Ozark Performance Group.

Springtown, Texas – Henderson Red Angus – one of the up and coming breeders in the business and part of our Ozark Performance Group.

Maize, Kansas – Rhodes Red Angus – well established breeder that is a part of our Ozark Performance Group.

Sioux Center, Iowa – Trans Ova Genetics – Our embryo collection facility – we were the first beef project that this ground breaking company embarked upon and have worked with them continuously for the last 33 years.

Southwest City, Missouri – NeoSho Farms – Historic Red Angus operation that is a part of our Ozark Performance Group

Stilwell, Oklahoma – Wood Red Angus – one of the hottest new breeders in the business and part of our Ozark Performance Group.

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Sword Ranch • Drewsey • Oregon

John and Laura Sword – some of the strongest people that we know.

John and Laura Sword own and operate the Sword Ranch in Drewsey, Oregon in Harney County. Harney County is a High Desert environment where cattle are required to travel long distances to graze and find water. Some the best feeder cattle in the West are produced in this cattle "rich" area of the western United States.

Ryan first met the Sword's in the late 1990's while working at Leachman Cattle Company in Billings, Montana. Staying in touch over the years, John and Laura purchased bulls in the inaugural Ludvigson Stock Farms Bull Sale held in 2007 in Cushing, Iowa. The bulls were shipped for "free" to the Sword Ranch and when those bulls were unloaded a few neighbors had gathered to see how "crazy" John had been to buy bulls in Iowa. Needless to say, we received a couple of calls after delivery to see if we had any more bulls for sale.

The Sword cattle are "unpampered" and run in some of the toughest conditions anywhere.

John and Laura trusted us to send them bulls on a Sight Unseen basis and have ever since. John has commented to Ryan many times that he thinks they end up with better bulls by relying on Ryan to select the bulls for their operation. John and Laura were instrumental in the success that we have enjoyed in the West by "gambling" on a few bulls from Iowa. Today we market a large percentage of our bulls into High Desert environments just like and John and Laura's ranch and the bulls work.

Sword Ranch cattle run in high desert conditions

Our program has been built around breeding cattle that are sound and functional with a high degree of predictability that will adapt to any environment. Just ask the Sword's about how our cattle perform in their environment and you will find out about their positive experiences.

"I have been shipping the Sword cattle for 30 years even before I started with Superior. We have repeat buyers for these cattle year after year and it's because the cattle perform."

Jim Davis • Superior Livestock Representative

"Ryan just buy me some bulls. You know what I need and they always work for me."

John Sword • Professional Bull Buyer

Delong Ranches • Winnemucca • Nevada

John and Judy Delong along with their son Will and his wife Katie own and operate Delong Ranches in Winnemucca, Nevada. This ranch is headquartered in one of the "toughest" environments in the U.S. It takes over 100 acres to run a cow in this area with less than 10 inches of precipitation annually. This environment produces some of the best feeder cattle in the world.

Will and John Delong moving cattle to pasture in the High Desert of Northern Nevada.

The Delong's are well known in the West for their work ethic, quality cattle and overall perseverance to take on the challenges of ranching over the years. "Reputation" feeder cattle is an understatement when describing their cattle and the performance of their cattle both in the feedyard and on the harvest floor.

Our uncle, Don Ludvigson was a long time cattle feeder in Iowa and he had the opportunity to feed the Delong cattle a few years ago. He told us out of the thousands of cattle that he had fed over the years that the Delong cattle were some of the best. He always fed high quality cattle and told us that paying a little "extra" for the "good" ones was always worth it.

"We've only had 3 bulls that have ever wintered out on our ranch and two of those bulls were Ludvigson bulls."

John Delong • Professional Bull Buyer

We have had the privilege to work with the Delong's for many years and provide bulls to their program. Some of the most discerning bull buyers in the industry, when we load the bulls to be delivered to their ranch, we always comment that those must be the bulls going to "Delongs." Stout heavy muscled bulls that hold up in "Big Country."

The Delong Family – a heritage ranch family passing on the passion for the western ranching tradition to the next generations. A high quality outfit that produces some of the best feeder cattle in the world.

"I've shipped the Delong cattle for 26 years on Superior. When we started we would put 125 steers on a truck and today we ship half the cattle and the same amount of weight. It's been fun to see the progress they've made over the years."

Jim Davis • Superior Livestock Representative

Turkey Track Livestock • Douglas • Wyoming

Tiffany and Joe Hampson living the American ranching dream!

Tiffany and Joe Hampson own and operate Turkey Track Livestock north of Douglas, Wyoming in the open plains of eastern Wyoming. Tiffany's family have been in this country for a very long time and are well known in Wyoming for producing "top" feeder cattle. Tough country that is perfect for producing some of the best yearling cattle anywhere in the country.

Tiffany attended our first spring bull sale in Montana and has been at every one since. The Hampson's are astute bull buyers that study their sale books and online videos before coming to the sale. Tiffany will quiz both Park and Ryan about the bulls and will assess the bulls in depth at the sale. She is one of the best bull buyers in the country and we would put up her against anyone if we needed a bull evaluated and purchased at a sale.

Check out this LSF Saga 1040Y steer calf. Can you imagine a whole truckload of these?!?!

"The Ludvigson bulls have a 'Wow' Factor that I have not been able to find anywhere else. When I say Wow Factor, I mean, Wow look at that one. Wow look at that one. They have so many bulls that will wow you it is just incredible."

Tiffany Hampson • Professional Bull Buyer

Last year, we had the opportunity to make a connection between Turkey Track Livestock and Kurt Meyer, a high quality farmer feeder from Holstein, Iowa. Tiffany contacted Ryan last winter and told him that they were going to market their cattle in the spring as opposed to running on grass over the summer. Ryan made a few phone calls and was able to "hook" up Turkey Track Livestock with Kurt Meyer. Kurt along with his son Kyle have been feeding cattle for years and they have expressed not only to us but the Hampson's that these were some of the best cattle they have ever fed. We can only say "Repeat Customers!"

Kurt and Kyle Meyer - Iowa farmer feeders in Western Iowa

The (Turkey Track) cattle were fun to feed. The most consistent set of steers that we have ever fed. Their steers came in and hit the ground running. No health problems at all. We had a heavier group of steers that came in at the same time and both groups finished at the same weight and the (Turkey Track) steers ate less!

Kurt Meyer • Professional Cattle Feeder

Burchfield Ranch • Cody • Nebraska

Mark and Jamie Burchfield – "Top Producers" in the beef industry.

Mark and Jamie Burchfield along with their family own and operate the Burchfield Ranch in the sand hills close to Cody in north central Nebraska. The Burchfield's were originally from the east slope of Colorado but moved to Nebraska in 2007. One of the most reputable commercial Red Angus operations in the country, the Burchfield's cattle are some of the most sought after feeder cattle and replacement females in the country.

Mark and Jamie were planning to attend our bull sale in Iowa in the spring of 2008 when a terrible spring "blizzard" descended upon them. Mark needed bulls and we assured him that he would have a Sight Unseen Guarantee if he bought any bulls. He not only bought bulls for himself but he bought bulls for several friends in Colorado.

Burchfield Ranch cows grazing Sandhills hay meadows.

Mark took delivery of his bulls in Valentine at the famous sale barn in that town. He told us later he had taken quite a "ribbing" for buying bulls in Iowa and he gathered up a real crowd to "check" out his Red Angus bulls from Iowa. He told us things got fairly quiet when the bulls came off the truck. Mark has been buying bulls from us ever since and today over 90% of his herd bull battery carries the "LSF" prefix.

"You can be guaranteed that the Burchfield Ranch is taking the strides to select the top genetics in the industry. I have seen it first hand with the repeat buyers that come back year after year."

Tom Odle • Superior Livestock Representative

Every summer, Ryan attends the Superior Week in the Rockies Sale in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Usually one of the best Superior Sales of the year, the excitement builds during the week when the "heart" of the Red Angus feeder cattle will sell. The room is "electric" when the Burchfield cattle go to selling, both the feeder steers and heifers and especially the replacement heifers. Nothing can simulate how the "feeding" frenzy begins when these cattle sell. You need to experience it in person to appreciate the true demand for high quality Red Angus cattle.

The "famous" Burchfield Ranch replacement heifer calves.

Tom Odle loading Burchfield Cattle.

"Why have we been so successful? We have been buying bulls in Billings, Montana. It's really that simple. The Ludvigson bulls have made us what we are today."

Mark Burchfield • Professional Bull Buyer

Whisman Red Angus • Palco • Kansas

Whisman Red Angus is owned and operated by the Berdena Whisman family near Palco in the north central part of Kansas. In the "heart" of cattle country both for cow calf outfits and some of the best feedyards in the country. Cattle production is extremely competitive in this part of the country and the Whisman's are some of the most competitive cattle people that we have ever met. Some of the stoutest bull buyers ever to sit in our sale barn.

The Whisman "Genetics" Team meeting prior to the Fall Herdbuilder Bull Sale.

Bull selection is a "family" affair in the Whisman household. The "whole" family pours over our catalog as well as the Red Angus website to put a list of bulls together before traveling to Billings for the bull sales.

The Whisman's studying and evaluating the LSF offering.

Berdena and Leola have been assigned the task of traveling to Billings to evaluate and purchase the bulls. Arriving the day before the sale, these two sharp cattlewomen spend the day "sorting" the bulls and then give the crew at home an idea of what they have found.

Berdena told me that then there are a lot of opinions thrown about on which bulls should be purchased. She went on to tell me that Leola and she take it all into consideration and then make the best decisions for the ranch. From Ryan's perspective from the block it looks like these two are doing "alright." No complaints from home so far either.

Lot 6 LSF TBJ Direction 3438A, the herd bull selection by the Whisman's from the Fall 2014 Herdbuilder Bull Sale.

"It is always rewarding to see how are customers improve their selection processes. The Whisman family takes a "team" approach to bull selection and when we load the trucks, we know which bulls are going to Palco."

Ryan Ludvigson

The Whisman cowherd grazing the productive Kansas plains.

Cooper Ranch • Billings • Montana

Dick and Katie Cooper – Long time ranchers and agriculturalists

Dick and Katie Cooper own and operate the Cooper Ranch just south of Billings in the hills above the Yellowstone River Valley. "Reputation" feeder cattle is an understatement when it comes to the Cooper cattle. The Cooper replacement heifers are a feature in the Superior Big Horn Classic Sale held every August in Sheridan, Wyoming. Their heifers have been some of the most sought after replacement heifers anywhere in the country.

The Coopers have been a "fixture" in the seats at the Ludvigson Bull Sales and are one of our biggest supporters in Montana. Always attending our seminars and any programs that we have going on. It doesn't go unnoticed and we appreciate their support of our program.

The Cooper cowherd runs in the hills above the Yellowstone River south of Billings.

Howard Hawkes, long time Superior representative has told Ryan many times that since Dick and Katie began buying Ludvigson bulls, their program has improved dramatically.

"I've seen it. Ever since Dick has been buying bulls from the Ludvigson's his calves have been improving and are attracting serious buyers."

Howard Hawkes • Superior Livestock Representative

Disposition is a high priority on the Cooper Ranch. Working cattle smoothly and problem free is the only way.

"I've really improved my herd with the Ludvigson bulls. Not much else I can say. The bulls really work."

Dick Cooper • Professional Bull Buyer

Jim and Mary Sue Davis • Boise • Idaho

Jim and Mary Sue Davis along with the legendary Mary Otley on shipping day at the Otley Ranch in Diamond, Oregon.

Jim Davis is an "icon" in the American West. Jim has had more to do with increasing the quality of genetics in the cowherds west of the Rocky Mountains than any other single person. Jim is not a seedstock producer but one of the savviest commercial marketing representatives in the country.

Jim began marketing cattle over 30 years ago and has been with Superior Livestock Auction for 26 years. Jim has marketed more cattle through Superior Livestock than any other representative. Jim recognized early on in his career that he needed to help his customers improve their cattle so that they could put more "dollars" in their pocket and ultimately produce more long-term profitability.

Jim took an active role in helping his customers find the very best genetics and went so far as to go to bull sales to personally select bulls for his customers. We have had the pleasure to work with Jim for over 17 years. Through Jim's guidance we have had the opportunity to work with several great commercial outfits in the west and supply them with our genetics.

Jim and Mary Sue Davis receiving a well deserved Industry Service Award from the Red Angus Association of America.

We cannot begin to express our appreciation for Jim and Mary Sue. They have been great friends and great customers. We have learned a great deal from them and have patterned our customer service programs after their commitment to their clients. It has been a great relationship and we look forward to working together for a very long time.

Ryan Ludvigson sorting bulls for the Davis' customers.

"The Ludvigson bulls work for my customers. These bulls hold up in our desert conditions and the Ludvigson name is recognized by the feedlot buyers."

Jim Davis • Superior Livestock Representative

SUPERIOR Livestock Auction

Merten Red Angus • Reasnor • Iowa

Chris and Debbie Merten and their family own and operate Merten Red Angus in southern Iowa near Reasnor. This young progressive family has been buying bulls from us since 2009. Even though the Merten's are from Iowa, they made their first purchases from us in our inaugural sale in Montana. They had always wanted to visit Montana and had the perfect excuse to visit and attend the sale.

The Chris & Debbie Merten Family

Chris and Debbie are the "face" of the next generation of cattle producers in the U.S. Young, progressive people that are utilizing next generation genetics to produce beef for the growing U.S. population not to mention the growing global market for "high quality" beef. The Merten's have been using a "blend" of Red Angus and Red Hybred genetics to produce not only high quality cattle but cattle that will grow with the best in the industry.

Chris and Debbie take advantage of the convenience of buying bulls using Superior Livestock Auction. SLA is a great way for people that are unable to attend the sale to purchase bulls. The Merten's think that this has been a great way to access our genetics and utilize this option for every one of our sales.

"It is so exciting to work with young families like the Merten's. Currently we are in a generational turnover in agriculture and young families like the Merten's are the key to the success of the beef industry in the future. Chris & Debbie understand the value of top end genetics in keeping their operation competitive and profitable."

Ryan Ludvigson

The strength of American Agriculture is "rooted" in family operations working together for the common goal of feeding the world. Parents passing knowledge as well as "honing" skills and developing work ethics, is the key to successful family operations. Passing the "torch" from parent to child is what makes us all "love" this business and this lifestyle so much.