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Angus Association Elects President

ST. JOSEPH, Mo. — Andrew Starr, a registered Angus breeder from Sunbright, Tenn., is the new president of the 24,000-member American Angus Association with headquarters here.

Starr, who served six years as a member of the board of directors of the American Angus Association and a seventh last year as vice president, was elected by a unanimous vote of the 229 delegates

attending the 108th annual meeting of the Association recently in Louisville, Ky. Elected vice president was Keith Stevenson from Hobson, Mont.

Also elected at the annual meeting were five men to serve on the American Angus Association's 15-member board of directors. Elected to their first term on the board were William Borrer, Gerber, Calif.; John Hamilton, Belgrade, Mont.; and Dr. R. J. "Bob" Hillier, Garden City, Kan. Re-elected to their second three-year terms were Ralph Bridges, Lexington, Ga. and Glen Swanson, Durant, Iowa.

Andrew Starr, the new association president, operates Star Dust Farm and has been in the registered Angus business for more than 30 years. He attended the University of Tennessee and served in the U.S. Army before starting his registered Angus herd.

In addition to serving seven years as director and then vice president of the American Angus Association, he is past president of

the Tennessee Angus Association and East Tennessee Angus Association. Starr, his wife Kathy, and their family operate a 200-cow registered Angus herd. All of their children have been junior members of the American Angus Association.

Keith Stevenson, the new association vice president from Hobson, Mont., was born into an Angus family and has been raising Angus cattle since 1947. Stevenson is a graduate of Montana State University where he earned degrees in agricultural production and agricultural education. He took over management of Stevenson Angus Ranch after the death of his father in 1975.

Stevenson has served six years on the board of directors of the American Angus Association. He has been actively involved in performance work, and he and his brother and their families market more than 600 bulls a year. He and his wife Roberta have four sons — Darrell, Mike, Bob, and Billy Jake.

CROP MYCOSIS (THRUSH)

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Crop mycosis might be considered the forgotten disease.

Why? Because many of the original reports on the disease are from the 1920s and the most "current" reports are from the 1960s.

This common health problem does not receive as much attention as it should from poultry producers and researchers. One author states that mycosis of the digestive tract probably occurs rather frequently, but in many cases does not appear to be of sufficient significance to be considered seriously.

Unfortunately, poultry diagnostic laboratories may not report crop mycosis as a primary disease problem, too often considering it to be a minor or secondary condition.

As its name indicates, crop mycosis is a fungal infection affecting primarily the crop and caused by the organism *Candida Albicans*. The mouth, esophagus, proventriculus, and the small intestine may also be affected. Young turkeys are particularly susceptible, but chickens, both broilers and layers, can experience the disease too.

Crop mycosis is commonly associated with unsanitary management conditions (dirty waterers and poor litter) and with other health problems in the flock. These conditions along with the use of high levels of broad spectrum antibiotics have been implicated in mycosis problems. The poor management conditions allow the fungus to proliferate while the antibiotics reduce the growth of competitive bacteria.

The reason crop mycosis may be overlooked and not easily recognized in a flock is that affected birds do not have any specific characteristic symptoms. In fact, the symptoms of crop mycosis are seen with many poultry health problems and, in general, may be of little help in making a diagnosis. Symptoms include ruffled feathers, unthrifty appearance, listlessness, and paleness. Severely infected birds may be stunted and undersized.

As one would expect, the primary lesion is found in the crop. Normally the crop is thin walled and transparent. When infected with *C. Albicans*, it becomes thickened and covered with white raised areas of mold growth. The diseased areas should not be confused with feed or mucus in the crop,

which can be flushed out with water, whereas the mold growth adheres to the lining of the crop. When the mold growth is scraped off, a sore, irritated area is evident.

Although its effectiveness has been questioned, the most common and popular treatment for crop mycosis is the use of copper sulfate in the drinking water. A number of commercial products are available. However, medicating directions must be carefully followed to avoid toxicity problems. We have seen turkey poults killed because of overdosing with this drug. For feed treatment, the most effective drug is nystatin (mycostatin). A seven to ten day treatment at 100 gm per ton is recommended to control crop mycosis.

Crop mycosis is a disease which seems to get little respect. Although it can be a primary health problem, it can also be a warning of other health and management problems. Therefore, whenever it is a problem in a flock, a close examination of management practices and other flock health problems should be made.

Hereford Show Held

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — The American Hereford National Show was held at the North American International. Fifty-one exhibitors entered a total of 107 head of cattle at the event.

Premiums for the show were \$10,000, with half provided by the American Hereford Association and half by the NAILE. Premiums were distributed among 8 female classes, 9 bull classes, 2 group

classes, and the champions. Placings were determined by Judge Doug Bennet, from Texas.

The grand champion female honor was awarded to Adams Brothers & Co., Kilgore, Neb. They also won the reserve grand champion female title. Both females were from the senior heifer class and sired by Tex Prime Time 18837770.


The grand champion bull award was won by the Spring Yearling Bull from Adams Brothers & Co. and C & S Farms, Kilgore, Neb. The winning bull was sired by Tex Prime Time 18837770. The reserve grand champion bull honor was won by Hudson Herefords from Harrison, Ariz. Arrow CL Dom 8072 18987782 was the sire of the reserve bull.

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