

2010 Active Master Breeder

As presented by Charlie McEvoy

This year's Active Master Breeder has been a part of my family's life for most of his life. We have helped each other get cows ready for a show and we have competed against one another in the show ring. We have transported cattle for each other and have worked side by side for our local Holstein Club. But most of all, we have always been friends. Friends are irreplaceable and I surely cherish this man's friendship.

Our Master Breeder has a dairy of 480 mature Registered Holsteins and 500 young stock. He maintains a herd average of 30,000 lbs. of milk with 1100 lbs. of fat and 967 lbs. of protein. He has been in the top five herds in the county for the past three years. His herd's BAA is 107.1 which ranks him the highest in the United States for herds over 300 cows. He has 48 Excellent cows and a Breeder's Choice classification was done recently which resulted in 16 new Excellents and several Very Good 2-year-olds. He has also received numerous All-New York Awards, All-American Awards and nominations in both competitions, including 14 award winners in the 2009 All-New York Contest. His Junior Best Three Females were again nominated All-American in 2009, as were four animals carrying his prefix. His Junior Best Three Females placed first at this past November's Royal Winter Fair in Toronto.

For 15 consecutive years, our Master Breeder has won the Dairy of Distinction Award and he has 10 years of Quality Milk Awards. He has been the Outstanding Member of his county Holstein Club and his proudest recognition came when he was named the 2002 National Young Farmer of the Year. His list of recognitions goes on and on.

Along with his dedication to farming and the Registered Holstein cow, he has found time to judge many cattle shows in the Northeast including the New York State Fair and Eastern States. He remains active in his local Holstein Club. He is a board member and treasurer of his local milk co-op. He knows that being a good dairyman includes being an active community member and giving back whenever and whatever he can.

This person has always had a strong support system from his wife and his parents. They have truly supported him and been by his side in all the avenues he has taken on the road to excellence.

I am proud to present to you this year's Active Master Breeder, Brad Cates of Co-Vale Holsteins in Preble.



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Brad and Sarah Cates