

Lawrence Kallal



Lawrence Kallal was born September 18, 1933 at Tofield, Alberta to parents Charles and Frances Kallal. In the early days, the cattle operation focused on grass cattle and feeders, but by 1940, the focus had shifted to a commercial cow herd and a registered Hereford herd. Some of the first registered cows were purchased from the Dukes at Halkirk. The “K” prefix has been synonymous with excellent cattle and the Kallal family ever since. After graduation from Tofield high school in 1951, Charles turned over the management of the purebred Hereford herd to Lawrence, who was the youngest of nine children! Lawrence and his brother Ken farmed together until Ken’s retirement in 1996, with Ken maintaining the responsibility for farming and equipment while Lawrence managed the cowherd. Lawrence and his wife, Terry, had six children, and are proud grandparents of five.

Lawrence never hesitates to help out in the community. The Kallal ranch has been host to many 4-H weigh days and judging competitions. He is also a sought after judge for many 4-H and other livestock shows, including Agribition, Farmfair, and the Calgary Bull Sale. Lawrence is a founding member of the Tofield Agricultural Society, and served on the Beef Committee for the Edmonton Exhibition Association. Lawrence served on the Alberta Hereford Association’s Board of Directors, and is a Northern Alberta Hereford club past president. He

supports many area Hereford clubs in their fundraising efforts, has donated semen to the CJHA Semen Donation project, and has sponsored classes at Bonanza and Farmfair.

He has partnered with Ducks Unlimited on a number of occasions, and was honoured with a conservation award from Alberta Fish and Wildlife. Lawrence’s love and respect of nature has led him to preserve the Ranch’s riparian areas through the use of a number of solar pasture water systems. The Kallal ranch has also hosted numerous Riparian Health Assessment workshops to teach the value of preserving natural landscapes to other agriculturalists. Flood irrigation was initiated to preserve the feed supply through drier years without overly impacting the native environment.

Lawrence’s show career began early with Grand Champion Hereford steer at the Edmonton Spring Show & Sale in 1945. He took cattle by train to the Royal Agriculture Winter Fair in Toronto, where Kallal Hereford Ranch brought home the premier breeder and exhibitor awards from 1957 to 1959. This was the first time these awards had been won by the same breeder for 3 consecutive years at the Royal. Kallal bulls have had a great track record at the Calgary Bull Sale, taking home Grand Champion honours in 1962. Lawrence has also exhibited seven Reserve Grand Champions at Calgary, with the most recent in 2005. A special memory for

Lawrence is the Premier Breeder honour at the Hereford Centennial Show in 1960.

Although Kallal Hereford Ranch has never held a production sale, Lawrence was one of the largest suppliers of superior Hereford genetics in Alberta through private treaty sales. Approximately 50 bulls and 50 females were sold each year to both purebred and commercial herds. Of special note is the sale of 1200 bulls to IX Ranch in Montana – this is a tribute not only to the exceptional cattle Lawrence raised, but also his professional business manner, and the respect he has earned in the cattle business.

Kallal cattle have been sold across Canada, and genetics have been exported to the United States, Great Britain, Ireland, Russia, Australia, and New Zealand. Lawrence has hosted many international visitors and tours over the years. With the recent sale of the breeding herd, the operation has changed to custom grazing and hay production.

It is with great pleasure that the Canadian Hereford Association inducts Lawrence Kallal into its Honour Roll.