

Scott Foote: Producer in the Spotlight

Brothers, Scott and Brad Foote, managers and owners of Hoxie Feedyard and Imperial Beef have a deep history in the cattle industry. Their father, Bob Foote began the family venture in the cattle business in 1985 with order buying cattle, running grass and feeder cattle, and feeding cattle at custom feedyards in Kansas and Nebraska. Today, Bob and sons Scott, Brad, and Greg work together in the family business.

In 1997, the family venture in the cattle industry grew with the purchase of Hoxie Feedyard. When the Footes purchased the yard it was an 8,000 head facility. Today the yard holds 40,000. Scott is the manager of Hoxie Feedyard. Scott graduated from Kansas State University in 1997 with a B.S. in Agricultural Economics and in 1999 with a Masters' degree in Agricultural Business.

In 2007, the Footes purchased Imperial Beef and expanded it to a 40,000 head capacity. When purchased, it was at 32,000 head capacity. Brad is the manager at Imperial Beef. He graduated with a degree in Animal Science in 1999 from Kansas State University.

"We work very closely together and manage the feedyards each in our own way – but focusing on the same goals," stated Scott.

Hoxie Feedyard and Imperial Beef are really not any different from other yards out there; however having the entire family involved in every aspect of the business helps the Foote's do a good job of running the business. When asked about today's issues that the beef industry faces Scott stated, "I believe that our industry is made up of nearly 100 percent good people. We are an industry built on trust and honesty. I think that we should be open and honest as when communicating within our industry, as well as to those outside of the cattle business. The cattle industry can prove to others that we care for our animals and for the people that consume beef."

Scott and Brad both realize that the well-being of the cattle in their feedyards determines their profit or loss. It is important to them both to practice good animal handling techniques and avoid any practices that would harm the cattle they raise in any way.

"Every part of our operation, from transportation of livestock to feeding to vaccinating, uses techniques and common sense that would be considered good animal welfare practices," stated Scott.



The Foote Family

The BCI is dedicated to providing you with the latest information in the beef cattle industry and wants to ensure the most current and relevant news possible. But we can't do it alone ... We need your help!

Is there something we are missing? Something you would like to see in a future issue of *The Informer*? Let us know! Send your ideas to wpacheco@vet.k-state.edu.

As an organization that is dedicated to the promotion of animal welfare, the Beef Cattle Institute is proud to recognize producers that are working toward the betterment of the treatment of animals.

Because of this, in every issue of *The Informer* we would like to spotlight a producer that is committed to this cause. If you know such a producer, or have a personal story, please let us know!