

Ray Armbruster - 2015 Carl Block Award Recipient

(Ottawa, Ontario) November 25, 2015 – The Canadian Animal Health Coalition (CAHC) is honoured to name Mr. Ray Armbruster of Rossburn, Manitoba as this year’s recipient of the Carl Block Award. Ray presents similar qualities as Carl Block in his dedication to beef cattle production, animal health and welfare issues in the sector, love for the land, the environment and strong family roots. Ray, like Carl, embodies the true cowboy spirit that epitomizes the beef cattle industry in western Canada.

Ray and his wife, Susan, raise commercial cattle and purebred Shorthorn cattle on a multi-generational ranch along the south-western border of Riding Mountain National Park. Along with support from Susan, his son, daughter and son-in-law, Ray runs a large operation, yet still finds the time to give back to his industry and his community through his volunteer activities. He was and is a steward of the land, producing beef in an environmentally sound fashion.

Ray has sacrificed his time for the last 17 years in the pursuit of eradicating bovine Tuberculosis disease within both livestock and wildlife in the Riding Mountain Eradication Area in Manitoba. His tireless dedication has not only protected Manitoba’s cattle industry, but also the larger Canadian industry through a diligent focus on protecting animal health and export markets. Ray served on the Manitoba Cattle Producers Association (MCPA) from 2007 on and became president of the Manitoba Beef Producers (formerly MCPA) in 2012.

The Carl Block Award is named in honour of the late Carl Block, a cattleman whose dedication to Canadian agriculture and commitment to animal health will long be remembered. Carl was the first chair of the Canadian Cattle Identification Agency as well as a Director of the Canadian Cattlemen’s Association, the inaugural Chair of CAHC, and former President of the Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association.

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