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Eight scholarships and Pioneer Award announced at East Central/Select Sires Annual Meeting

WAUPUN, Aug. 29, 2018 – East Central/Select Sires, based in Waupun and serving southern Wisconsin, held their 2018 annual meeting on Wednesday, Aug. 22, at the Sheraton Madison Hotel, Madison.

Jerome Meyer, East Central/Select Sires general manager, talked with delegates about the results of the partnership between Accelerated Genetics and Select Sires, Inc., since last summer. "At East Central/Select Sires, the 2017-2018 fiscal year featured an 18 percent increase in unit sales; a 67 percent uptick in diversified product sales, especially from the Accelerated Genetics brand; and an almost 30 percent increase in overall total revenue," said Meyer. "We also added 33 talented employees from the Accelerated Genetics partnership."

Select Sires, Inc., acquired the Westby, Wis., bull-housing-and-collection facilities with the Accelerated Genetics partnership last summer. Dr. David Brown, Select Sires Inc., was the keynote speaker at the meeting and updated the delegates on the extensive number of upgrades and construction projects at that facility within the last 12 months.

East Central/Select Sires presented eight, \$1,000 scholarships to college students pursuing education in agricultural-related fields. Scholarship recipients included Brady Butzler, Rockland, Wis., University of Wisconsin-Madison; Rachel McCullough, Juda, Wis., University of Wisconsin-Madison Farm and Industry Short Course; Whitney Brown, Belleville, Wis., University of Wisconsin-River Falls; Ben Bruss, Markesan, Wis., University of Wisconsin-Platteville; Kailyn Ripp, Dane, Wis., University of Wisconsin-Platteville; Jessica Steger, Prairie du Chien, Wis., University of Wisconsin-River Falls; Lindsey Sarbacker, Edgerton, Wis., University of Wisconsin-Madison; and Levi Kindschi, Loganville, Wis., Southwest Wisconsin Technical College.

The highest honor of the day went to Dave Hahn, Fond du Lac, retired East Central/Select Sires A.I. technician. He was awarded the prestigious Pioneer Award for his dedicated service to the patron customers of East Central/Select Sires.

Three districts in East Central/Select Sires' territory held elections, and all three incumbents were elected back onto the East Central/Select Sires Board of Directors: district two, Roger Weiland; district four, Dorothy Harms; and district six, Larry Voigts.

East Central/Select Sires is a professional-, artificial-breeding cooperative serving dairy and livestock producers in southern Wisconsin. As a member owner of Select Sires located near Plain City, Ohio, East Central/Select Sires helps make up the largest A.I. cooperative in the world. They provide highly fertile semen as well as excellence in service and programs to achieve the basic objective of supplying livestock breeders with America's best genetics at a reasonable price.

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Picture 1: East Central/Select Sires presented eight, \$1,000 scholarships to college students pursuing education in agricultural-related fields. Back row, left to right: Brady Butzler, Rockland; Ben Bruss, Markesan; Whitney Brown, Belleville; and Levi Kindschi, Loganville. Front row, left to right: Kailyn Ripp, Dane; Rachel McCullough, Juda; Jessica Steger, Prairie du Chien; and Lindsey Sarbacker, Edgerton.

Picture 2: Dave Hahn, Fond du Lac, center, was honored with the prestigious Pioneer Award for his dedicated service to the patron customers of East Central/Select Sires. He is pictured with this family.