



JOURNEY'S END RANCH Mike & Tara LeBlanc Roblin

COMMERCIAL LIMOUSIN BREEDER OF THE YEAR

Journey's End Ranch is an establishment located east of Roblin and is a model of dedication to the cattle and agricultural industry and true stewards of the Limousin breed. Born in 1994 Journey's End Ranch began with the purchase of one quarter section of land which soon grew in 1995 as a developing vision shared by two remarkable individuals. Mike and Tara's meager beginnings are the resembling story of so many of us within the cattle industry. In 1995 with the assistance of Tara's father and hard work their quarter of land grew to include a herd of 12 purebred Limousin bred females, 7 commercial bred females and 5 commercial Limousin heifers. In 1996 they continued their steady progression through the purchase of and additional 20 head of commercial Limousin influence and purebred Limousin females. The following year spawned the development of an 800 head backgrounder custom feeding facility. It was through loyal employment to WD Livestock, and intelligent thought process that Mike made the Eastern Canadian business relations that enabled this progression. Soon after Mike and Tara began Journey's End Feedlot and for numerous years to follow were consistent suppliers of continental influence cattle into the eastern feeding system. With the use of Limousin bulls purchased from Jaymarandy Limousin and Brian & Kathy Jurke, the Leblancs have grown to a 250 head strictly commercial program. This growth has been enabled through replacement selection out of their own program along with extreme diligence in the purchase of replacement females. The Leblancs currently purchase their bulls from the Jaymarandy Limousin program and have a marvelous herd of Limousin influence females.

Not untouched by the perils of the beef cattle industry the Leblancs and their 3 children in addition to an already overloaded bovine operation feed and butcher 4000 chickens annually. This and the custom butchering of 8000 custom chickens and turkey allows the Leblancs to stay rural, stay operational and be close to home to nurture the development of their young family.

The ranch has now grown into a fifteen-quarter operation in a matter of 15 short years; the Leblancs have now grown their once small operation and large vision into a very enviable, diversified agricultural leader. Truly an achievement and marvelous accomplishment for this young couple.

MANITOBA LIMOUSIN