



## **John Ellis Moxley**

The list of recipients of the Claude-Hayes Award is richer with the addition of Dr. John Ellis Moxley, a professor and researcher in animal science and bovine genetic improvement at McGill University's Macdonald College for 40 years, from 1947 to 1987.

While he was working on his Ph.D. at Cornell University, Dr. Moxley had the opportunity to observe the set-up of a computer-oriented dairy herd improvement operation and the foresight to realize that a similar system would greatly benefit Québec dairy farmers. He wanted a system that would supply producers with the information necessary to help them make the right decisions in managing, selecting and supplying feed for each animal in their herd. In 1966, he launched the Dairy Herd Analysis Service (DHAS) which, in 2006, would become Valacta, the dairy production centre of expertise for Québec and which also services the Maritimes since 2008. During DHAS's first year, 300 producers benefited from its services. Ten years later, more than 200,000 animals were analyzed in Québec and the Maritimes. Today, there are approximately 5,500 herds and 330,000 cows enrolled at Valacta.

Dr. Moxley's service had a huge impact on the insemination industry. Indeed, it facilitated young sire testing, increased the number of sires tested, and accelerated the improvement of the Canadian bovine livestock's genetic potential. Over the years, the analysis of protein was made possible by the creation of an infra-red milk analyzer. Undeniably a precursor, the DHAS was the first laboratory in North America to offer producers somatic cell counting. An official milk recording service which was launched in 1973 to increase the number of young bulls tested at CIAQ also spurred the Young Sire Proving Program (PEP). During the mid-1980s, scientific discoveries enabled the use of data from unsupervised herds in genetic evaluations of bulls, thereby increasing the amount of data available for proofs.

We are proud to recognize the work of such a visionary. In giving Québec the tools for genetic improvement, Dr. Moxley contributed to CIAQ's evolution and the expansion of its reputation.

*Award given in Saint-Hyacinthe the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 2010.*



## Guy Charbonneau

The Second Edition of Prix Claude-Hayes wishes to acknowledge the achievements of Guy Charbonneau, Holstein Master Breeder and partner in the family farm Vachalê, located in Sainte-Anne-des-Plaines in the Laurentians. Mr. Charbonneau worked resolutely when CIAQ was experiencing boom years and changes in the insemination industry.

Guy Charbonneau played a key role in restructuring the Québec insemination industry during the 1980s. From 1982 to 1990, while President of the *Association des cercles d'amélioration du bétail du Québec* (ACABQ), the provincial council for the improvement of cattle in Québec, which later became the *Conseil provincial des CAB inc.* (CP CAB), he worked with determination and perseverance through years of turbulence as opinions clashed on the roles the CAB and the inseminators should play in the industry. In 1988, his hard work paid off as new agreements were entered into by CIAQ, the CAB and the inseminators. The new agreements clearly defined the role of each party and became the foundation of a new and stable structure dedicated to CIAQ products and services. Ten years later, the CP CAB became one of CIAQ's owners.

Passionate about genetic improvement, Guy Charbonneau continued to be involved in the industry and, from 1988 to 1993, he was member of the CIAQ Board of Directors. He was also a member of the first Boviteq inc. Board of Directors of when, in 1991, it went from a CIAQ division to a corporation and CIAQ subsidiary. At that time, research on *in vitro* fertilisation was intensifying and exporting embryos became an integral part of CIAQ activities. A passionate advocate of genetic improvement tools, Guy Charbonneau ensured that Vachalê contributed to PEP young sire testing at CIAQ. His extraordinary availability and his pragmatic views convinced Québec breeders of the need of a more cohesive and modern structure of the insemination industry in Québec. To this day, CIAQ and Québec breeders continue to benefit from his work. For these important achievements, we are pleased to recognize Guy Charbonneau's contribution to the evolution of the A.I. industry in Québec and to the reputation of CIAQ and present him with Prix Claude-Hayes.

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