



# Senepol Cattle Breeders Association

**P.O. Box 429 • O'Fallon, IL 62269 • 1-800-SENEPOL • FAX (240) 233-0020**

August 29, 2008

Dear Senepol Breeders and Friends,

I thought we had a very successful 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Senepol Convention in Pascagoula, Mississippi June 26 -27, 2008 thanks to the work of Office Manager Lisa Vorce, John & Lucretia DeGroot and the family of Earl King.

There were Senepol Breeders attending from South Africa, Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, Panama, Dominican Republic, St. Croix and at least eight U.S. States, providing the feeling of a very International convention.

Congratulations to Mr. Jerry White (North Carolina), Sr. Sebastiao F. De Aguiar (Florida & Brazil), Mr. Curtis Ludlum (North Carolina) and Sr. Pedro A. Restrepo (Colombia) on their election to the SCBA Board of Directors for the next three year term. I also want to congratulate Mr. Jerry White as the recipient of the Mario Gasperi Award as Senepol Breeder of the Year.

We were honored to visit King Farms where we were educated on hip height measurements and semen collection along with a fantastic meal including Senepol beef hamburgers. Many thanks go out to Earl and Ruby King for their kind hospitality.

The next farm tour was at Oak Lane Ranch, one of SCBA's larger breeders where we had a chance to view all the excellent heifers for our National sale, tour the ranch and enjoy a delicious home cooked Creole meal. Thank you to John and Lucretia for all your hard work in putting the convention together and hosting us at your ranch and home.

While at the Convention I was honored to sign, on behalf of SCBA, a contract with Angus Genetics, Inc. (AGI), represented by Mr. Bill Bowman, for AGI to provide EPDs for the SCBA Senepol breeders. Mr. Bowman then gave a power point presentation about their updated system of providing EPDs and the possibility of multi-breed genetic evaluation in the future. We look forward to this working relationship with AGI. SCBA also signed a renewed 2 year contract with Mrs. Lisa Vorce for her continuation as Office Manager and are in the process of signing a renewed 2 year contract with Mr. Reid Wilson for his continuation as the SCBA Programmer. We certainly appreciate the hard work Lisa and Reid have provided over the past two years and look forward to a harmonious work relationship in the future.

At the Convention we also had an excellent presentation from Mr. Calvin Gunter of Bovigen LLC, now an affiliate of Pfizer Animal Health, about the work they are doing with DNA testing to identify more markers for feed efficiency, tenderness, and quality grades.

Dr. Allan Williams, of Tall Grass Beef, then gave a presentation about his work with the Senepol breed, crossing with other breeds, and using ultrasound to find the best combination for lean, tender, grass fed beef. His presentation was well received by the convention attendees. He had many favorable things to report on the Senepol breed in the grass fed beef market. His company is also a viable option for some breeders to sell their Senepol cattle.

Dr. Steven Lukefahr of Texas A & M University was the Key Note Speaker at the closing banquet and had many positive things to say regarding his work with the Senepol Breed.

The SCBA Board members look forward to the next Board meeting scheduled for Nov. 6 & 7<sup>th</sup> at the Angus Genetics headquarters in St. Joseph, MO. At this meeting we will have an opportunity to meet their staff and learn more about how we may utilize their services. We will also be discussing WHR and how we can recruit more Senepol breeders to be members of SCBA.

The next Senepol Annual Convention will be held on St. Croix, Virgin Islands in June, 2009. Please start making your plans to attend. This may be your last opportunity to visit the ranches where the Senepol breed originated. As a small beautiful tropical island, that was once agricultural, but now with more tourist and golf courses, it is difficult to continue to be a Senepol breeder.

A new cattle book was recently released called Breeds of Cattle (updated and revised, 2<sup>nd</sup> addition) featuring 38 breeds of beef cattle with an excellent chapter on Senepol. For more information see [www.BreedsOfCattle.net](http://www.BreedsOfCattle.net).

The Senepol breed is spreading around the world and if you want to be part of the action I suggest you enroll your Senepol cattle in SCBA Whole Herd Reporting (WHR) and advertise in the Senepol World magazine, which will begin to include articles translated into Spanish.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Hans Lawaetz", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Hans Lawaetz