

James F. Selph

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Is willing to judge: Market and breeding classes for beef cattle and showmanship.

Occupation: Extension Agent IV, CED, Livestock, Forages, Wildlife

Personal Information:

From 1979 to present he has served as County Extension Director, DeSoto County, which includes the administrative management of the overall extension programs for DeSoto County, consisting of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H and Youth Development, and Family and Consumer Sciences. Primary areas of specialization include Beef Cattle Production, Pasture and Forage Management & Wildlife. He has written numerous articles, publications and was a co-author of the Florida Cow-Calf Management Handbook and Bobwhite Quail in Florida: Ecology and Management both published by the University of Florida. Other extension and related interests include: All Extension Horticulture activities for DeSoto County Extension except for Citrus, Extension Wildlife activities for Quail, Turkey, Deer and Dove Management, Member of the South Florida Beef/Forage Program since 1983 and Chairman 1987, 1988, and 2000. For 21 years, Jim has served as Chairman of the Reproductive Management School of the South Florida Beef/Forage Management Program. Since 1979, he has been a member of the Florida and National Association of County Agricultural Agents. He served as Southern Region Director for NACAA in 2000-2001. In 1997-1998 he served as President of the Florida Association and was a Distinguished Service Award winner from Florida with the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in 1998. In 1995-1996 he was the Chairman of the Florida Cattlemen's Institute and Allied Trade Show. He is an active member of the DeSoto County Cattlemen's and Florida Cattlemen's Associations. From 1993-2003, he has served as Co-Chairman for Tournament Operations, Florida 4-H Foundation Annual Golf Tournament. In 2003-2004, Jim served as Chairman of the UF/IFAS Faculty Advisory Committee. He has served two terms on the UF/IFAS Faculty Advisory Committee and was elected in the spring of 2005 to the UF Faculty Senate. Jim was born and raised in Frostproof, Fl and resided there until graduating from High School. He is married to the former Lucinda Moseley. They have 2 sons, James and John Selph. Cindy is a 1st grade teacher at West Elementary. James is a Medical Doctor at Vanderbilt University doing residency in Neurology and John is a USDA APHIS Officer at the Brandon USDA Office. Both sons showed a total of 49 steers and at least 150 heifers and bulls during their years in 4-H. Jim as a member of the Frostproof High School FFA showed Angus Heifers in the early 1960's.

Judging Experience:

- Began teaching livestock judging teams in 1973 as a Vocational FFA Instructor at Bartow High School.
- In 1979 as a livestock extension agent began coaching 4-H livestock judging teams.
- Began judging Showmanship in about 1982.

- I have judged many livestock shows throughout Florida over the past 25 years (an average of 7-8 per year). Many county fairs, North Florida Fair, Florida State Fair, the Southwest Florida Fair just to name a few.
- Beginning with this year, and anticipating retirement from Extension, I currently plan to judge as many as 15-20 or more if called upon.

Judging Philosophy:

I enjoy judging junior and open shows and I try to talk to each exhibitor as I am evaluating his/her animal. In the ring, it is the youth exhibitor that is most important. I want to judge in a manner that improves the child's belief in his/her self-worth, self-confidence and increases their knowledge and understanding of the beef cattle business. Hopefully every child will leave the ring feeling good about the experience. A personal belief is that though all cannot be the grand champion all youth should consider it a winning situation to be in the show ring. I believe that it is of utmost importance to be fair, unbiased and impartial when judging the show animal and the child when it comes to showmanship.

Education:

Master of Agriculture Degree, 1975, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

Bachelor of Arts Degree 1969, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida