

# FLORIDA CRACKER CATTLE ASSOCIATION

610 Hallelujah Lane  
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Phone: 850-510-5419

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## Producers of Florida Cracker Cattle

Updated July 30, 2020 by Stephen Monroe

Stephen has served as Executive Director of the Florida Cracker Cattle Association since it's founding in 1988. He was responsible for the management of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services herds from 1985 - 2020. He is a founder and Charter Member of the Association and also the manager of the FCCA Annual Sale.

**This list is from the working notes of Stephen Monroe and is in no way represented as being a complete list of all breeders of Cracker Cattle. It is intended as a starting point for persons wanting to contact Cracker Cattle Producers.** Note that inclusion on this list does not constitute an endorsement of any producers breeding or selection program - there are significant differences in the way that "producers" have managed their stock. Care must be taken to ensure that buyers obtain registration papers with the animals; not all breeders have kept registrations current and it is burdensome to attempt to register cattle without proper documentation. Stephen Monroe will discuss this further with you if needed; he can be reached at 850-510-5419. .. The list is alphabetical by the producers' last name...

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**Stormi Apostolopoulos** ~ Palm City, Florida ~ 772-260-5794

**Sarah Bailey** ~ Jacksonville, Florida ~ 904-287-1763

Clark Bailey is her son and helps to manage her herd.

Approximately 30 head of primarily Payne's Prairie and Withlacoochee State Forest Origin.

**Jarod Figley** ~ Okeechobee, Florida ~ 863-801-1607

A herd of Cracker cattle, primarily of Durrance origin. Jarrod is the Grandson of the late Elwyn Bass and great-great grandson of James Durrance. He still has the Durrance bloodlines and has added cattle from PSP and FDACS which are also descendants of the Durrance line.

**J.C. Bass** ~ Okeechobee, Florida ~ 863-634-0844

About 30 head of Cracker cattle, primarily of Durrance origin. J.C. is a grandson of James Durrance. He still has the Durrance bloodlines and has added cattle from PSP and FDACS which are also descendants of the Durrance line.

**Jeff and Teresa Bass ~ HY Ranch** ~ Bassinger, Florida 863-634-9365

Jeff is a great grandson of James Durrance and he continues to raise Durrance bloodline FC cattle. They rebuilt their herd from cattle purchased at FCCA Sales and have consigned some to the Sales.

**Frank Batey** ~ Archer, Florida ~ 352-214-1359

Bought FC cows from Kevin Sheffield and Jack Gillen. Breeds some as purebred and some to Brahman bulls to use the F1 Females as commercial broodcows. Markets some finished calves as local beef. Has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**J. Dale and Dale A. Black ~ Black Diamond Ranch** ~ Milton, FL (850) 768-1569

**Mike Burt** ~ St. Augustine, Florida 904-669-6049

Herd started from cattle purchased at FCCA Sales and he has consigned some to the Sales.

**Crescent J Ranch ~ Dr. William Broussard** ~ 407-892-5010 ~ Kenansville, Florida

A large herd of Cracker cattle. Started in 1980 with cattle from PSP and added cattle from state herds through FCCA Sales over the years. He uses a Multi-sire breeding program. Has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**Keifer & Sandy Calkins** ~ 352-214-1027 ~ Gainesville, FL

Have consigned cattle to the FCCA Sales for several years.

**Scott Crossman ~ Stafford Prairie Ranch** ~ 407-422-2556 ~ Williston, Florida

A large herd of Florida Cracker cattle of strains including the Dave Randall herd. All cattle are registered. This is a multi-sire herd since several bulls run with the cow herd.

**Bob Daye** ~ Sunny Daye Acres – Heritage Livestock Company

154 Shoupe Rd. Bainbridge, Georgia 39819

**Svend & Becky Dieffenbach** ~ White Springs, FL ~ (386) 234-1701 or (386) 234-0817.

Approximately 30 head of cattle. Purchased heifers from John Lipe and Terrel Howell in 2011.

**Christy Duane ~ Six D Ranch** ~ Indiantown, Florida ~ 772-597-4819. . .

Herd started with cattle purchased through FCCA Sales and has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**Aaron Gavronsky ~ Two Son Farm** - St. Augustine, Fl 904-759-1858

Herd started from cattle purchased from the FCCA sale. Cattle origin from Withlacoochee, Paynes Prairie, Lake Kissimmee, Tallahassee, and other producers. Approximately 30 head of registered FC Cattle. Also, breeds registered Cracker bulls to commercial cows for natural, grass fed beef.

**Jack Gillen** ~ Micanopy, Florida ~352-466-0744

Over 40 head of cattle of Payne's Prairie origin. Jack managed the PSP State Herd for many years. He purchased cattle which were sold from PSP herds to start his herd. Has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**Betty Grady** ~ Arcadia, Florida ~ 863-494-3147

This family has had FC cattle since the 1980s. They added some cattle purchased from John Lipe and maybe others. Randy Smith, herdsman, 941-737-3833.

**Varley Grantham** ~ New Smyrna Beach, Florida 407-448-8529

Built a herd from private treaty sales and the FCCA Sales.

**Read Hayes** ~ Double H Bar - Gainesville, Florida ~ 321-303-6193

Started herd from cattle purchased at FCCA Sale. Has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**Robert Harrison** ~ Branford, FL ~ 386-292-4675

**Nathan T. Hollinger** - Clark's Hill Ranch 864-361-4614 Clark's Hill, SC

Herd started in 2015 from cattle bought at FCCA Sales. Also raises Rare Spanish Goats.

**Trent Hurlbert** ~ Lithia, Florida 813-967-1584

Started herd from cattle purchased at FCCA Sales and by private treaty.

**Dale Judy** ~ Clermont, Florida – 352- 267-5858

Started herd from cattle purchased at FCCA Sale and by private treaty.

**Mike and Kim Jones** ~ Jones Heritage Livestock - Minneola, FL ~ 407-421-8798

Started herd from cattle purchased at FCCA Sales. Has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**John Lipe** ~ res 863-494-2068 cell 352-214-8276 Arcadia, Florida

Cracker cattle of Payne's Prairie, Withlacoochee State Forest, Barnes, and other origins. Has consigned some to the FCCA Sales. Uses purebred Cracker Cows bred to other "beef type" bulls for commercial market calves. Developed a commercial herd of F1 Florida Cracker X Angus.

**Alan & Karen Lewis** Res: 620-725-3016 Sudan, Kansas

Moved a nucleolus herd of FC stock from Okeechobee Florida to Kansas in 2005. These were their "best of the best" selected from their herd which was FC evaluated in 1990. Origin was cattle from Norman Stokes which were Durrance Line cattle. They have purchased additional animals from the FCCA sales in 2007, 2009, 2011 and 2014 to add to the herd in Kansas.

**MacArthur Research Center, Buck Island Ranch** – Lake Placid, FL

Gene Lollis - o: 863-699-0242, r: 863-441-0097

Purchased 70 cows in February 2011. Buck Island Ranch is a model research facility for the Florida Cattle Industry and has been surprised by the high productivity of Cracker cattle.

**Celina Murray** ~ Hahira, Georgia 229-560-3035

Started herd from cattle purchased at FCCA Sale and by private treaty.

**Michael Martin** ~Slocomb, AL & Graceville Florida. Cell (334) 714-1205, h: (334) 677-3577

Purchased Cracker cattle of Barnes and Durrance lines from Mrs. Melba Oliver, Mr. John Lipe and FDACS. Used bulls from the Lipe, Sikes and FDACS herds. Building a commercial herd of F1 Florida Cracker X Angus.

**Gary New** ~ Chrysalis Crackers, Osteen, Florida ~ h 407- 322-3880 o 352-504-6918

Started herd from cattle purchased at FCCA Sale and by private treaty.

**Dr. Tim Olson** ~ Alachua, Florida ~ 386-418-4386

About 20 head of Cracker cattle of Payne's Prairie and other origins . . . He served as Registrar for the FCCA Association and has been responsible for the genetic selection of PSP herds as well as assisted FDACS and many private herds with selection process.... He has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**Glynn Owen**, Wilderness Ranch 941-350-5992 ~ Myakka City, Florida .....  
Ranch Manager, Jeff Scarborough 941-737-5182.  
About 50 head of Cracker cattle, primarily of Payne's Prairie and Withlacoochee State Forest origin. He has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**Pat Patterson** ~ High Springs, Florida~ 205-616-8235  
Herd of mostly Payne's Prairie strain. He purchased cattle from Dr. Olson in 2010.

**Liesa Priddy** ~ JB Ranch ~ Immokalee, FL ~ 239-289-0065  
Started herd from cattle purchased at FCCA Sale. Has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**Duane Rawls** ~ (941) 737-3381 Arcadia, Florida  
Has purchased cattle by private treaty and from the FCCA sales.

**Allan Roberts ~ First Coast Cattle LLC** ~ St. Augustine, Florida 904-825-8918  
Cracker cattle of primarily Barnes origin and has some stored semen from Barnes Bulls. The Roberts family is a pioneer Florida cattle family – been in the cattle business for many generations. Raises FC Cattle and Red Angus crossbreds to mature, forage finished steers. He has showcased Florida Cracker Cattle Florida Ranch Rodeo Finals and Heritage Festival.

**Larry Rooks**.. 352-726-8133 ... Inverness, Florida .....  
Pioneer Cracker Cattle Family . . . Owns some has purebred Cracker Cattle . . Most of his are crossbred for commercial use. His brother Gene Rooks also has some ...

**Sam Sikes** . 352-796-8077 ... Brooksville, Florida .....  
Pioneer Cracker Cattle Family . . . Cracker cattle purchased through the FCCA sales. Has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**Darlene Skidmore ~ Cracker Farm & Cattle** ~ Gainesville, Florida (352) 316-6851

**Renee Strickland** 941-748-8208 Myakka City, Florida  
Durrance and other lines of FC cattle purchased from Elwyn Bass in approx 2004 including lines from Bass, FDACS, PSP and maybe others.

**Jake Summers** 850-643-5660 Bristol, Florida  
About 120 head of Ezell and other bloodlines. Leases a large woods pasture from the National Forest Service in the Apalachicola National Forest.

**Stacey and Carrie Thompson** 850-768-6858 or 850-326-0609 Graceville, Florida  
Purchased heifers from Mike Duane, Jake Summers, FDACS and JB Ranch then added a bull from Two Son Farm to make a herd of approximately 30 head.

**Iris Wall** High Horse Ranch 772-597-2517 or 772-597-3777 Indiantown, Florida  
About 20 head of Ezell bloodline and cattle from FDACS herds. A pioneer ranching family for many years... re-entered the Cracker Cattle business through FCCA involvement.

**Robby Williams, Flying Air Ranch**, 352-603-0611 Bushnell, Florida  
Started with cattle from Dr. Tim Olson, Pat Patterson, Jack Gillen and State Herds.

**Ralph & Mary Wright** 386-961-9112 Lake City, Florida  
Small herd of primarily Durrance breeding. He has consigned some to the FCCA Sales.

**State Herds**: State herds have been considered the nucleus herds for the preservation of Florida Cracker Cattle. These herds have had intensive herd heritage research, selection, evaluation, blood typing and DNA testing since 1970 to insure their authenticity. All cattle present in these herds in 1989 during evaluation for the FCCA Foundation registry were approved and registered as Foundation Cattle.

### **Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**

Contact: Doyle Conner, Jr: 850-410-0956

Cattle of Durrance origin at Tallahassee Agricultural Complex and Withlacoochee State Forest. Started in 1970 with cattle from the Durrance family donated through the Florida Cattlemen's Association. The herd is maintained at approximately 50 adult cattle. The entire herd was approved as foundation animals in 1990. Progeny of these cattle are the core consignments of the FCCA Annual sales.

Agricultural Complex Herd, 3125 Conner Blvd, Tallahassee, Florida 850-410-0900

Withlacoochee State Forest Herd, 8132 Croom Rital Rd, Brooksville, Florida 850-410-0900

### **Florida Dept of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Recreation**

Cattle at Payne's Prairie State Preserve, Dudley Farm State Park and Lake Kissimmee State Park. The entire herd was approved as foundation animals in 1990. These cattle are registered as progeny of a "multi-sire" herds. Dudley Farm and LKSP may be single sire herds some years. Some are consigned to the FCCA Sales.

Payne's Prairie State Park, Micanopy, Florida 352-466-3397

Park Manager: Donald Forgione 850-519-0288

Dudley Farm State Park, Newberry, Florida 352-472-4211

Lake Kissimmee State Park, Lake Wales, Florida 863-696-1112

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**Preserving Living Links to Florida's Rich Agricultural Heritage**