

a review of the 30 American Brahmans achieving the elite status of

Vanguard

By Brandon and Rachel Cutrer



Vanguard – The forefront of any movement, field or activity.

To many, this word may be an unfamiliar term, but to Brahman breeders, it holds an elite distinction in recognizing some of the most productive and successful animals in the breed. *The American Brahman Review*[™] takes a look at these significant animals and their contributions to the breed.

WHAT IS A VANGUARD?

You may ask, “What is a Vanguard?” By definition, Vanguard is the leader of any movement, activity or field. In Brahman terms, Vanguard is simply the designation given to a cow that has achieved both Maternal Merit and Register of Renown status; or a bull that has achieved both Maternal Performance Sire and Register of Renown status in the American Brahman Breeders Association (ABBA).

Instead of having both the “=” for Maternal Merit and the “+” for Register of Renown preceding the animals name on their pedigree, the Vanguard is signified by a “\$” for females and a “(+)” sign for males. Breeders may be unaware of this designation due to the fact that it is such a rare accomplishment. So rare in fact, that only **TWELVE** cows and **EIGHTEEN** bulls within the entire Brahman breed carry this distinction. This rarity may be attributed to the difficulty in which it takes to have an animal reach Maternal Merit/Maternal

Performance Sire status or Register of Renown status, much less both.

The history of the Vanguard is somewhat limited in ABBA records, according to Chris Shivers, executive director of the ABBA. In 2000, after the creation of the Maternal Performance Sire program, a question arose as how to properly identify the growing number of cows and bulls that achieved Register of Renown and the maternal awards.

“The ABBA board of directors approved the “\$” as the Vanguard designation symbol at the winter board meeting in Denver in January 2001,” Shivers recalls.

There is some discrepancy over who actually coined the phrase “Vanguard,” according to Brahman folklore and ABBA records. Board

minutes from the 2001 winter board meeting show that the ABBA performance committee created and recommended that “both bulls and cows attaining the Maternal Merit / Maternal Performance Sire and Register of Renown statuses will be called ‘Vanguards.’”

Attribution of who created the name can be narrowed down to two prominent Brahman breeders of that time, Dr. Don Eckvall and Johnny Jefcoat. Eckvall was chairman of the ABBA’s performance committee at that time, and Jefcoat was the breeder with the greatest number of cows qualified for the award. Though no official record exists, consensus is that these two men collaborated on the term, which was recommended by the performance committee and later approved by the ABBA board of directors in 2001. “The first written record of the term used in print was in 2003 in the Jefcoat dispersal sale catalog,” reports Shivers.

Meet the Vanguard Cows...

JEFCOAT BREEDS 5 OF THE 12 VANGUARD COWS

Johnny Jefcoat, a retired Brahman breeder from Scott, Louisiana, often referred to his operation as “the herd bull factory,” however he holds the distinction of having half of the Vanguards in the entire ABBA registry.

“People knew us for our bulls, because we just didn’t sell our females,” Jefcoat explained while attending the recent J-S Smith Brahman sale in his home state. “J. Carter Thomas gave me the advice years ago to keep your females, so you can concentrate on good cow families.”

By keeping his cow herd exclusively for his own use, Jefcoat studied and bred his cattle for maternal efficiency. Looking back at the number of “JJ” females in the Vanguard program, one can safely say he achieved that goal.

\$JJ Ms Tippu Manso 185 is the oldest cow in this group of females, having been born in 1974. She was sired by AJM King Harris Marso 745/4 and out of a G.L. Paret cow. During her lifetime she produced fourteen registered calves.

You may have seen the \$ symbol on Brahman pedigrees before, and wondered what it meant.

\$JJ Miss Poncrata 304 was born in 1978. Out of two Register of Renown parents, her sire was +Sugarlands Poncrata 100 52/7 and her dam was +JJ's Ms Donut Emperor. This female is no doubt one of Jefcoat's pride and joys during his involvement in the Brahman breed. She produced +JJ Didor Crata 389, 1983 national champion and 1984 reserve international champion bull. In addition, she produced \$JJ Ms Mont Crata 610, who is also a Vanguard cow.

\$JJ Ms Mont Crata 610 was born in 1985, sired by the Indu-Brazil bull, +CMT Tupelo 92/6 "Montana," and as previously mentioned, out of the Vanguard \$JJ Miss Concrete 304. Two of her most notable offspring include the 1996 international champion bull, JJ Ring Crata 688/1, and JJ Didor Crata 814, a herd sire for Russell Adam.

"Between these two females, you can see generations of excellence in the pasture and in the show ring," Jefcoat stated.

\$JJ Miss Dos Didor 543, another Double J Vanguard cow was calved in 1984. Her sire is +JJ Didor Crata 389 and her dam is a daughter of +JTW Didor Fern Manso 449/1. She produced two herd sires for Double J Ranch, JJ Ring Didor 753 and JJ Suva Didor 955.

\$JJ Ms Suva Didor 7 is the youngest Jefcoat cow of the group, having been born in 1989. She is sired by the #1 bull in the Register of Renown, +WR Mr. Suva 203 and out of a +JJ Didor Crata 389 daughter. She is currently owned by Cannon Creek Ranch and Legacy Cattle Service. This cow has had 24 calves registered, and interestingly enough, most of them are sired by +BB Mr. Stingray 10/0.

BARTHLE'S COMMITMENT TO MATERNAL ABILITY

Barthle Brothers, a long-time Brahman operation in Florida,

owns two of the twelve Vanguard females: \$BB Ms Manso 87 and \$BB Empress Berch 286.

"It is an honor knowing we have two of the twelve cows that have qualified for this award," says Larry Barthle, an ABBA member from Florida.

"Florida breeders don't brag about their award-winning females," Barthle adds, "but at Barthle Brothers, the cattle have to pay their way to stay around the ranch."

"Our family makes its living from our cow/calf herd which contains approximately 1,000 mama cows," Barthle says. "We have a three-breed rotational program with Brahman as the hub. We also breed between 50 to 75 registered Brahman females each year."

Barthle attributes their success in the Vanguard program to their continued commitment to the U.S. beef industry, and the role that Brahmans play.

"These two cows are good examples of what we have been doing over the long haul," he explains, "Balanced traits are important to the U.S. beef industry. We as a breed need to develop cattle that are structurally correct, deep bodied, easy fleshing, thick and meaty. Add in the reproductive efficiency and moderate size of the Brahman breed, and you've got a great cow."

\$BB Ms Manso 87 is the first cow to be awarded this status in the entire state of Florida. Born in 1984, she was bred by the Barthle Brothers and owned by Ben Barthle. This cow's sire, TA Sugar Manso 993, was a bull that Barthle picked as his first choice, out of 90 other yearling bulls from fellow Florida breeder, Andy Tucker. She produced a Maternal Merit female, =BB Empress Carrie 165. 87/4 was a dark pigmented, moderate frame size five female who weighed approximately 1,100 pounds at maturity.

Barthle recalls her as being very long and deep-bodied. Most of her calves were shown by Barthle's nephew, Nick Dillard. Dillard's

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successful showing career throughout Florida helped secure 87/4's place on the Register of Renown.

Like any great female, 87/4 will be remembered by the Barthle's for producing three herd sires. Two of these sons were used at the U.S.D.A. STARS research station in Brooksville, Florida. One of her sons was used to represent the Brahman breed in the National Cattleman's Beef Association's breed carcass evaluation test. The data on both of these bulls indicated high quality carcasses with large rib eyes.

\$BB Empress Berch 286, the second of the Barthle's Vanguard females, was born in 1995 and is owned by Kayla Barthle. 286/4 is a red-tinted, frame six female who weighs approximately 1,250 pounds. Barthle reports that 286 has never missed a year calving, which is one factor that helped her achieve the Maternal Merit designation. One of her bull calves, sired by "Snowflake," helped



\$BB EMPRESS BERCH 286

take her to the Register of Renown.

"Another of 286's bull calves won the All American as a 2-year-old," reflects Barthle. "This didn't go over too well with our friends from Texas, and Louisiana, because a bull from Florida, just wasn't supposed to do this," he adds with a smile. As a coming 16-year-old, \$BB Empress Berch 286 still resides at Barthle Brothers in Florida, and is due to calve in January 2011 to a son of MDS Doc's Pride 196.

Larry Barthle reminisces that one can't describe 87/4 or 286 without mentioning their great sire, MDS Berch Manso 155, a 1988 calf. Barthle elaborates, "We needed more size in our cattle in the late 1980s so we purchased 155 from Marcus Shackelford in the spring of 1989." Berch earned the title of Premier Show Bull in Florida, in 1991, and was the only bull east of the Mississippi to beat the international champion, Bateman's 3B Mr. Suva 239, in the show ring. Today, MDS Berch Manso 155 is still a trait leader for milk EPD in the ABBA sire summary.

"Great females come from good cow lines, and both of these cows are great examples of that," Barthle summarizes. It is interesting to note that both Barthle-bred cows on the list achieved Register of Renown status having never been flushed.

COUNTRY SUE IMPACTS FLORIDA AND LOUISIANA HERDS

\$OLP MS Country Sue 239 is another Vanguard female, born on Christmas Eve in 1990, for the Partin family, then of Florida. Country Sue 239 is now owned by Sam Duplantis of D-Bar Ranch.

She is sired by MSP Country Boy 175 and is out of a +GBW Wrinkles Manso III 207/6 daughter.

With 23 calves registered with the ABBA, Country Sue has out-performed most in order to attain such high status as an elite female of the breed. She produced two extremely famous sons, Doc Holliday and Sam Duplantis's 302 bull. +LL Mr. Doc Holiday 539 was the 2000 national champion Bull and SCD Didor Esto 302 is a former ABBA show bull of the year.

THREE VANGUARDS IN HUNGERFORD, TEXAS

Hungerford, Texas, is home to three of the twelve Vanguard cows, two owned by J.D. Hudgins, Inc. and one by V8 Ranch.

\$JDH Lady Ellis Manso 178/2 is probably the most famous of the group for those breeders who focus on the show ring and study Hudgins pedigrees. Born in 1986, this red-tinged female was bred and owned by J.D. Hudgins-Locke division. She is sired by the Maternal Performance Sire, (=)JDH Armand Lane Manso 424/1. She has had twenty-three calves registered with the ABBA. It is safe to say that Ellis's influence has helped pay the bills around the Locke division for quite some time. Her most famous offspring include (=)JDH Roebuck Manso 965/2, LB Mr. Jefferson 766/3, LB Mr. Windsor 767/3, LB Mr. Derringer Manso 953/6, and of course JDH Mr. Deeds Manso 53/4 and JDH Mr. Elmo Manso 309/4. Another interesting note is that Lady Ellis has produced elite herd bulls of both red and gray color: Jefferson, Windsor and Derringer as red bulls and Mr. Deeds and Elmo as gray bulls. Actually, her very first calf was a show champion: JDH Mr. Grisholm Manso 682/2.

Both Coleman Locke and John Coleman Locke fondly reminisce about the impact Lady Ellis had on the YL herd. "She was 13 years



**\$JDH LADY ELLIS MANSO 178/2
AND HER OFFSPRING**



**JDH ELMO MANSO
309/4
2008 National Champion
Gray Bull**



**LB MR. JEFFERSON
MANSO 766/3
2008 National Champion
Red Bull**

old before she was ever flushed,” John describes. “She lived to be 21 years old.”

Lady Ellis fits the bill that Brahman cows are known for in terms of longevity and reproductive efficiency. “She had a perfect 365 day calving interval when she had her 11th calf,” John says. “At that time we decided to start flushing her and bred her to 40/2, which resulted in the national champion red bull LB Jefferson Manso 766/3 and a reserve national champion red bull LB Windsor Manso 767/3.”

Locke adds that Lady Ellis consistently bred red when mated to red bulls and gray when mated to gray bulls. “She is the only cow in history to raise a national champion red bull and gray bull.” Lady Ellis raised four grey herd sires for J.D. Hudgins and 3 red herd sires for Locke Red Brahmans along with numerous other sires that were purchased by other breeders and females that were kept as replacements.

\$JDH Lady Manso 945/8 f, a 1988 model cow, hailed from J.D. Hudgins’s Forgason division to earn Vanguard merit. She was sired by the history-making, (+)Mr. V8 202/3, and boasts 50 calves registered. Pedigree historians will recognize this female as the mother of two extremely notable herd sires for J.D. Hudgins, Copano and Winchester. (+) JDH Copano Manso 839/9, the 1995 international champion bull was classified as a Gold Maternal Performance Sire, and =JDH Winchester Manso 36/1 attained Silver Maternal Performance Sire status.

\$Miss V8 910/4 of V8 Ranch was calved in 1993, and has the greatest number of calves registered in the ABBA out of any other Vanguard, with 67 offspring. This female is a maternal half-sister to +Mr. V8 901/4, the International Champion Bull and immensely popular AI sire. “

She has the same dam as 901,” states Jim Williams. “A lot of people know this cow but don’t realize she and 901 are half sibs.” Her grandmother is also the famous +Miss 3X Mucho Grande 60, “Miss Priss,” the 1978 reserve national champion.

She first attained Maternal Merit status through natural production at V8 Ranch. As Williams noticed the quality of her calves, he put her into the ranch’s ET program, later in life. “She

was a moderate-framed cow with a beautiful underline and beautiful udder,” he recalls. Her most recognizable offspring is the 2005 International Champion Female, Miss V8 228/6.

\$Miss V8 910/4 recently died of old age at her life-long home on V8 Ranch, but her influence is still apparent in the herd today.

“Just last month, a granddaughter of 910 was named reserve grand champion at the Kickoff Classic,” Williams adds.



\$JDH LADY MANSO 945/8 F



Miss V8 137/7, a granddaughter of the Vanguard 910/4 cow, won reserve grand champion at the Kickoff in September.

BILL SANDERS'S VISION 20/20 AT THE BRAHMAN CLINIC SALE

\$Miss AT 104 is the youngest Vanguard cow, born in 1996. She was bred by JNL Registered Cattle and is owned by Dr. Bill Sanders of Vogue Farms. “I purchased this cow at a Johnny Joyce seminar and sale weekend,” Sanders fondly recalls. “Allen Thomas had her dam, and bred her to “Batman,” the youngest bull to enter the Register of Renown, according to my research at that time.”

Sanders described this female as having a dark blue color (inherited from her sire) and a beautiful top-line.

“Her first bull, by Mr. V8 789/4, won his class at the International Show and later sold to Colombia,” Sanders says, “and her next bull was VF Twenty Twenty.” He adds with pride, “Twenty Twenty had a great show career including winning national intermediate champion bull.” He and his full sister won the international champion natural produce of dam for **\$Miss AT 104**.

Sanders reports that 104 is still actively in production at Vogue Farms, in fact, “she is nursing a gorgeous VF Casino 7/11 heifer calf at this time.”

Meet the Vanguard Bulls...

There are 18 bulls in the ABBA that have earned the “(+)” distinction as Vanguard bulls, meaning they are both Register of Renown and Maternal Performance Sires.

“The collective list of male Vanguards displays some of the most significant and successful sire lines in modern American Brahman breeding,” says Shivers. Collectively these bulls have sired 7,598 head of offspring registered through the ABBA. “The Vanguard bulls are immensely popular through natural service and AI around the world,” he adds. These prominent and popular sires are prime examples of the American Brahman’s notoriety for its maternal ability.

“When you look at this list, it shows numerous bulls that became champions, but more importantly they produced cattle that have the performance and eye appeal to fit all sectors of the

For bulls, vanguard status is designated with the (+) symbol.

industry.” informs Shivers.

Among the list of Vanguard bulls, breeders will find four international champions, three national champions, and two reserve international champions. Also on the list is the great Suva, who was a Houston champion prior to the ABBA designating Houston as the International Brahman Show in 1982. In summary, ten of the 18 bulls were also champions at the biggest Brahman shows in the world, showing the breed’s ability to align showing traits with performance traits in the pasture. In summary, Shivers states, “These bulls have produced offspring that perform in the pasture and in the showing.” Additionally, seven of the bulls are trait leaders in the summer 2010 ABBA sire summary.

To describe the contributions of these bulls would literally take pages, however, the following information briefly describes each of the 18 Vanguard bulls.

J.D. HUDGINS BREEDS 12 VANGUARD BULLS

Bulls carrying the JDH prefix have claimed 12 Vanguard distinctions, ranging from bulls born in the 1970s to present day popular sires.

(+)JDH Gregory R Manso is the oldest bull of the Vanguard list, having calved in 1976. An interesting fact about this bull is that he is the original patriarch, creating four generations of Vanguard bulls. Gregory sired Atari who then sired +Mr. V8 202/3, with Mr. V8 202/3 then going on to sire Madison. Gregory has also produced four Maternal Merit daughters for JDH’s Forgason division.

(+)JDH Mr. Charley Manso 590/6, a Gregory son, as well, was born in 1980, and made tremendous impacts on the J.D. Hudgins and V8 Ranch herds. As a half-brother to Atari, Charley is known for producing superior females.



(+)JDH GREGORY R MANSO



(+)JDH MR. CHARLEY MANSO 590/6

Specifically, he has produced 14 Maternal Merit daughters, more than any other Vanguard sire. He is also the sire of the popular bull JDH Charley’s Jazz 946/1.

(+)JDH Remington Manso 784/2 is a son of +JK Sugar Crata 45, better known as Bozo, and was born in 1981. Also known as a superior maternal sire, Remington is another Gold Maternal Performance Sire, with 9 Maternal Merit daughters. When Remington was mated to the Vanguard female, \$JDH Lady Manso 945/8 f, together they produced the Forgason’s Maternal Performance Sire, (=)JDH Winchester Manso. Additionally, Remington sired three other Maternal Performance Sires: (=)JDH Mr. Manso 165/9, (=) JDH Sir Alexo Manso, and (=)MDS Colo Rem 461.

(+)JDH Atari Manso 601/1, born in 1981, is the 1984 international champion and part of the four-generation Vanguard dynasty described above. He was sired by Gregory and

was out of the Koonce-Cullers division matriarch cow, +JDH Miss Frem Manso 206. Atari has produced four Maternal Merit females and the acclaimed V8 202/3.

(+)JDH Manso Grande 412, a 1982 calf, was the 1985 reserve international champion and sired by two Register of Renown

A Vanguard Family Tree

(+)JDH Gregory R Manso

(+)JDH Atari Manso 601/1,

(+)JDH Mr. Charley Manso 590/6,

(+)Mr. V8 202/3

(+)JDH Mr. Manso 449/1

(+)JDH Mr. Crat Manso 651/2

\$JDH Lady Manso 945/8 f

(+)JDH Madison de Manso 737/4

(+)JDH Copano Manso 839/9

8 of the 30 vanguards stem from (+)JDH Gregory R Manso



(+)JDH REMINGTON MANSO 784/2



(+)JDH MANSO GRANDE 412



(+)JDH DAKOTA MANSO 599



(+)JDH MADISON DE MANSO 737/4



(+)JDH COPANO MANSO 839/9



(+)JDH MR. MANSO 449/1

parents: +Mr. V8 347/2 and +JDH Lady Coro de Manso. Manso Grande was bred by Leslie “Bubba” Hudgins and later sold to Gabriel Camargo of Colombia. He has produced five Maternal Merit daughters.

(+)JDH Mr. Crat Manso 651/2, better known as “Snowflake” is owned by a group consisting of J.D. Hudgins-Locke Division, Bar-M-Plus Cattle, George Shove, Gilbert Farms, and HK Cattle. Born in 1988, 651/2 was sired by the Vanguard bull, (+)Mr. V8 202/3 and out of a Register of Renown female. “Snowflake” has produced three Maternal Merit females.

(+)JDH Dakota Manso 599 is a bull that was born in 1990 and bred by Bubba Hudgins. He was shown on a limited basis when he was younger, winning reserve calf champion at the National Brahman Show. While on the JDH showstring, he was sold to Gabriel Camargo and exported to Colombia. Among his 332 offspring registered in the ABBA, Dakota is best known as the sire of JDH Karu Manso 800, the 1996 International Champion Bull. The 1995 National Champion Cow, JDH Lady Manso 82/1, was also sired by Dakota.

(+)JDH Madison de Manso 737/4, born in 1990, is known as one of Bob Hudgins’ all time favorite herd bulls. The top side of his pedigree features three generations of Vanguard sires: V8 202/3, Atari, and Gregory. On the bottom side of his pedigree, you’ll find the stunning Remington daughter, +JDH Lady Rem J Manso 2, whose Register of Renown certificate hangs in the living room of Hudgins’ home. Madison is the 1993 international champion and has recorded 710 offspring with the ABBA. He is a trait leader for weaning weight and yearling weight in the summer 2010 ABBA sire summary. One of his most famous sons, +JDH Sir Law ford



(+)JDH SIR MARRI MANSO



(+)JDH SIR MARRI MANSO

Manso, joins numerous outstanding progeny worldwide. Madison is a Gold Maternal Performance Sire, producing nine Maternal Merit daughters. He ranks 22nd in the Register of Renown.

(+)JDH Copano Manso 839/9 was the 1995 international champion bull, sired by +JDH Rem Grande Manso 560 and out of the Forgason family’s Vanguard female, \$JDH Lady Manso 945/8 f. Copano was known as a female-producer, siring nine Maternal Merit daughters. His three-generation pedigree shows him as a 1992 model bull and boasts five Vanguards: Remington, Manso Grande, Atari, 202/3, and the 945/8 female. Including his own Vanguard status, one would see six “(+)” on one ABBA pedigree, more than any other animal on this list.

(+)JDH Mr. Manso 449/1 was born in 1994, also to the J.D. Hudgins Forgason division. His sire is the Vanguard bull, (+) JDH Mr. Charley Manso 590/6. 449/1 has produced four Maternal Merit daughters and is a trait leader for four different traits on the summer 2010 sire summary: yearling weight, milking ability, carcass weight and rib eye area. According to Bob Hudgins, 449/1 was an outstanding bull who stayed on the JDH show team his entire show career.

The last two bulls raised by J.D. Hudgins are bulls that were never shown, but have made tremendous impacts on herds around the world.

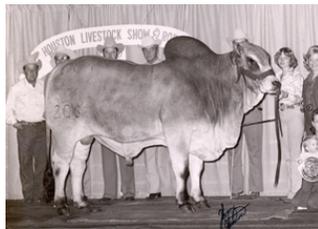
(+)JDH Sir Marri Manso was born in 1994 and owned by JDH Koonce-Cullers division. He has been used extensively in Brazil for his owners, Querenca Empresa Rural Agriculture. Marri has produced four Maternal Merit daughters. His most famous daughter, +JDH Marri Holly Manso 50/6, helped earn him the

majority of his points to enter the Register of Renown. This prize-winning daughter claimed the 2000 national championship and 2001 international senior shampionship, as a very protective cow/calf pair shown in the old Astro Arena by Bob Hudgins and J'Boone Koonce.

(+) **JDH Datapack Manso** is the youngest Hudgins bull on the list, having been born in 1995. Datapack is also known as a great female producer, siring nine Maternal Merit daughters. As a son of the national champion, +TTT Suva Crata 450, Datapack has 477 offspring registered with the ABBA.

SUVA AND HIS VANGUARD SONS

(+) **WR Mr. Suva 203**, the #1 bull in the Register of Renown, has also produced more Vanguard sons than any other bull, and a Vanguard female, as well. Bred by the Watts family, Suva was the Houston Champion in 1980. According to the American Brahman book, Suva was the modern product of the Brazilian importations of 1924 and 1925, which includes some of the best bloodlines from the Koontz Ranch of Inez, Texas. During the 1979-1980 show season Suva won the triple crown Grand Championships at Dallas, San Antonio, and Houston. In 1979, half interest in this sire sold for \$75,000.



(+) **WR MR SUVA 203**

(+) **Mr. V8 883/2**, born in 1982, was the best Suva son born at V8 Ranch, according to Jim Williams. This bull was known for producing beautiful daughters. He sired four Maternal Merit females.

(+) **Mr. V8 777/2**, better known as "Titan", was born in 1981. Also a son of Suva, he was owned by V8 Ranch. Titan was a speckled gray bull, which was undesirable at the time in the showing. According to Williams, "Titan" was a bull ahead of his time. "The unique thing about 'Titan' was that he was a breed changer," Williams says. "He was different for the time – really large framed and with a clean sheath. His color was unpopular but it worked for breeding with red cattle." Hudson Cattle Corporation, an extremely prominent red breeder during this time, built their entire herd around "Titan," who sired +Mr. HCC 740/7, the Hudson's national champion bull, and Miss HCC 747/7, the 1990 international champion female.



(+) **MR. V8 777/2 "TITAN"**

MR. V8 202/3 SIRES MORE VANGUARDS THAN ANY OTHER

(+) **Mr. V8 202/3**, a 1985 calf, has recorded 940 offspring in the ABBA. 202/3 was the 1986, 1987, and 1988 national champion bull, as well as the 1987, and 1988 international champion bull. No other bull in breed history has won this many international and national championships. Today, 202 is still a trait leader for milking ability in the 2010 sire summary. He produced seven Maternal Merit daughters and nineteen Register of Renown progeny. Additionally, 202/3 sired two of his own Vanguard sons: Madison and "Snowflake," and one Vanguard daughter, the JDH 945/8 f cow, more than any other animal in the ABBA. In 2010, Mr. V8 202/3 ranked as the #3 bull in the Register of Renown.

MAXIMO EARNS PARISH'S VANGUARD STATUS

(+) **Mr. BP 594**, known as "Maximo," was born in 1995, making him one of the youngest bulls on the list. He was crowned national champion in 1998, at Dallas. "Maximo" was sired by Mr. 3X Crown Prince 50 and out of +RLB Miss Dead Oak 45/8. "Maximo" has emerged as a leading carcass sire of the breed, currently a trait leader for fat, marbling, retail product and tenderness. One of his most famous daughters is +Lady Heritage Manso 174 or "Brandi," owned by Heritage Cattle. "Maximo" has sired three Maternal Merit daughters.

DIDOR CRATA 389 IMPACTS DOUBLE J HERD

(+) **JJ Didor Crata 389**, born in 1981, is out of the Vanguard female, \$JJ Miss Poncrata 304. He was the 1983 National Champion Bull and the 1984 Reserve International Champion Bull behind fellow Vanguard bull, Atari. With 336 offspring registered with the ABBA, 389's influence greatly impacted the Double J herd in Scott, Louisiana. He is the sire of the #2 bull in the Register or Renown, +JJ Didor Crata 500, and also produced the Vanguard female, \$JJ Miss Dos Didor 543. He boasts six Register of Renown progeny and four Maternal Merit daughters.

In reading this article, one can notice the commitment of American Brahman breeders who strive to excel in both the show ring and the pasture. These breeders realize that the true measure of success is found through reproductive efficiency and performance in their herds. *The American Brahman Review™* offers a hats off to these breeders, who have found success in the pasture first, and brought that success to the show ring, thus allowing them to obtain the wonderful validation that Brahman breeders call "Vanguard."

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(+) **MR. V8 202/3**