

# *Bob Kimm*

Kimm Suffloks was established in 1972. In 1975 Bob purchased seventeen bred registered Suffolks from a pair of Idaho breeders (Burton/Howland) who were having a dispersal sale in Des Moines, IA during a January blizzard. This acquisition would serve to be the main foundation for Bob's flock. The most influential sire ever used was a Bob Lewis bred ram from the Iowa Ram Test purchased by Richard Roe and later sold to Kimm Suffloks. This ram would go on to sire seven lamb crops for Bob, capturing numerous National Lamb Show champions.

Bob initiated his first annual production sale in 1988. This sale is held the first Saturday evening in May where over one hundred females and seventy rams are sold with an additional thirty rams being sold private treaty during the summer. Bob's breeding program is based on selection criteria that incorporate production records, NSIP epds and carcass scan data. Then he ties these performance traits into an attractive package with impeccable soundness. The goal is to merchandise Suffolks which look the best when slick shorn and free standing. Bob takes great pride in offering Suffolks that work for the commercial sheep industry. It is his passion to assist youth who want to engage in the Suffolk breed by offering a Jr. Sale Credit Program.

Bob's philosophy on the type of Suffolk he has strived to offer for the past forty plus years is heavily influenced by his educational involvement in the beef industry. Moderation has been the key to allow the beef producers to generate an efficient end product and it is the theme for Kimm Suffolks, the HOME OF BALANCED GENETICS. Bob has chosen not to show his Suffolks except for the National Lamb Show (a performance/carcass event) where he captured six progeny pens of five championships plus numerous individual champions during the seventies and eighties. Bob has exported Suffolks to Canada, Brazil, Mexico and the United Arab Emirates in the Middle East.

Bob retired from Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo, IA in 2000, where he served as beef and sheep specialist since 1969. Bob also managed the college's sheep flock which consisted of 50 registered Suffolk ewes. He received both his BS and MS degrees from Iowa State University where he also was a member of the livestock, meat animal evaluation and wool judging teams. Prior to his career in education, Bob spent three years with Ralston Purina as a district sales rep along with serving in the US Army Reserves. While at Hawkeye he strived to develop extra-curricular activities, which allowed students the opportunity to develop leadership skills first hand. Aside from teaching in the Animal Science Dept., he coached the livestock judging team, coordinated an adult lamb and wool program, worked with students in organizing annual livestock shows, sales, judging contests, breed exhibits and supervised tests for the Iowa Ram Test Association, the Iowa 4-H Lamb Performance Classic and the National Lamb Show Central Test. Bob has judged all the major market lamb shows in the US and served as a speaker for numerous state sheep symposiums. His international work with sheep includes serving as a speaker, consultant and judge in Mexico and Brazil.

Bob lost his wife Barb of forty-seven years in 2013. Their family consists of son Ted, daughter Flo and three grandchildren. The home flock is located on an acreage near Dysart, IA. Bob has three satellite flocks: Brookings, SD – Tipton, IA – Iowa City, IA. Genetically drawing from a flock of over 220 females.

Bob has served on numerous boards and committees; United Suffolk Sheep Association, past president of the Iowa Suffolk Sheep Association, past president of the Iowa Sheep Industry Association, Iowa State Univ. Animal Science Adv. Committee, Iowa Sheep and Wool Promotion Board, Iowa Farm Bureau Sheep Commodity Committee, National Lamb Show Committee, and past president of the American Sheep Industry – Seedstock Committee. Bob initiated the Iowa Jr. Suffolk Sheep Association in the early eighties along with establishing a Jr. Breeding Sheep Show for the youth of Iowa.