

The Brown Family from Region I

by Cassandra Bennett

Griffin Brown, a 17 year old member of the Texas High School Rodeo Association, and his family have been named Region I McCoy's Farm and Ranch Family!

The Brown family consist of Rob A. and Talley Brown and their children, Amy, R.A., Griffin, Myles, Lydia, Amanda and Ike. This large and rodeo-passionate family have owned the Rob A. Brown Ranch located in Stinnett, Texas since 1984. Located in Hutchinson County, this family owned and operated ranch raises Commercial Angus Cows, Stocker Cattle and American Quarter Horses, and sells the very top end of Bull Calves as Commercial Angus Bulls. As a sideline, the family also sells Liquid Supplemental Feed and Custom Range Mineral.

Their family business is true in all senses of the word, as they employ no outside or full time employees. The responsibilities are divided up among family members. From the daily chores of feeding horses and caring for and roping cattle to calving heifers, from weaning and branding to marketing of animals, all the way down to the simple but often time-consuming office work, each family member



has a job. "Our children are the major labor force in our family business. The boys check and care for cattle after school, keeping the fences up, doing repairs and maintenance. The girls tend to the office work,

The folks at McCoy's Building Supply understand that it takes a lot of hard work and the whole family pitching in to get things done on a farm or ranch. That's why we'd like to take some time out to salute Texas High School Rodeo Association families who are farmers and ranchers. In our monthly Farm & Ranch Family Spotlight, we'll feature one family, sharing their story of how they work together as a family to make their farm or ranch successful. The spotlight will run for 10 months; each month will feature a different region. One of the spotlighted families will be selected to participate in a McCoy's Building Supply Farm & Ranch photo shoot in San Marcos, Texas. Each Regional McCoy's Farm and Ranch Family will receive a \$100 McCoy's Gift Card. The McCoy's Farm and Ranch Family of the Year will be receive a \$500 McCoy's Gift Card and will be announced at the 2009 THSRA State Finals.

making out invoices and billing out feed sales, and are always ready to assist their dad with cowgirl work, as well!" says Talley Brown, mother of the hardworking children. "Rob A. and I have never wanted to do anything else other than rear our children to be stewards of God's animals and of His land. We are so blessed to live in "the" country and in a "free" country!"

After 25 years of marriage, Talley credits the Lord for providing bountiful blessings that have been integral in helping her family be able to buy and own their own ranch. Previously, they had leased other peoples' land to run their operation, but currently run 15,000 acres of owned and leased land with 350 Angus and Angus Cross Cows, 450 yearlings, 10 Broodmares and 1 Quarter Horse Stallion. As a small family business, it is extremely difficult to compete with the large corporate interests, and in the ranching industry, they work on very small margins. But, as the Brown family tries to compete by keeping costs down and raising and selling high quality animals at a premium.

And with so many high quality animals, what better excuse and motivation but to practice for upcoming rodeos! When all of their children were younger, Jr. Rodeos played a big part in their lives. When their youngest son, Ike, came along in 2005, Rob A. purchased a pre-owned Freightliner Semi-truck and renovated it to accommodate nine passengers! "We made many great memories traveling down the road!" Their oldest daughter even suggested that the family write a

comical book of all of their family outings and travels. Many of these outings included pulling a 10 horse trailer behind them as they headed off to rodeos to compete in Tie-Down, Breakaway, Team Roping, Chute Dogging, Saddle Bronc, Pole Bending, Goat Tying, Barrel Racing and Cutting. This year, the Brown's brought home with them ribbons and recognitions after those long road trips! R.A. was named 2008 Region 1 All-Around Cowboy; Griffin was the 2008 State Qualifier in Tie-Down; and Myles was named 2008 Region 1 Wrangler Junior High Tie-Down Champion.

Congratulations Brown Family for being named the Region 1 McCoy's Farm and Ranch Family!

