

# Bill Slagle



Walnut Meadows Tree Farm, owned and operated by Bill Slagle, has been in his family for more than 200 years. His parents made their living from the unique and diversified forest products found and produced in their forest. His multiple-use activities have been guided by a forest management plan developed in the 1960's in cooperation with the state Forestry Division.

Mr. Slagle also operates Windy Acres Limousin Ranch, a 650-acre cattle farm. In 1974, he imported the first Limousin bull to West Virginia from Ireland and developed a purebred Limousin herd. By working with an embryo transplant technician from Ontario, Canada, and West Virginia University's Animal Science Program, embryo transfer was accomplished at his farm in 1979. Nine months later, using a nonsurgical procedure, the first embryo transplant live calf was delivered. In the February 1991 issue of the Market Bulletin, 37% of cattle sales were of the Limousin breed, compared to zero when Mr. Slagle introduced Limousin to the state.

Mr. Slagle's vision in life is to never accept the status quo. Instead, he constantly strives for new ways to improve and inspire. As a result, he has pioneered new concepts in several different areas. His vision is both futuristic and rational. He is a man of integrity. He sets a high personal standard by which he strives to live in all aspects of his life.

1978 Purebred Livestock Producer  
West Virginia Young Farmers' Association

1979 Purebred Beef Producer  
West Virginia Outstanding Farm Family

1988 Appreciation Award for Outstanding Craftsmanship  
West Virginia FFA-FHA Foundation

1989-1990 Statewide Outstanding Tree Farmer

1990 Southern Tree Farmer of the Year  
(One of four finalists in 16-state Southern Region)

1979 Teacher of the Year  
Preston County Vo-Tech School student body

1987 Second Place State Vocational Construction Teachers Contest