

# A rare breed at 93

by Kory Glover  
AgriNews Staff Writer

**WINCHESTER**  
— WALKING INTO ALLISON FAWCETT'S HOUSE OF FAWCETDALE FARMS, YOUR EYES WILL IMMEDIATELY CATCH THE PLAQUES HANGING ON THE WALL, SHOWING WHAT MASTER CATTLE BREEDERS THE FAMILY HAS PRODUCED.

Master Breeder Shields line the wall from side to side but the real accomplishment is right smack in the centre, over the cherished memory of Allison's late wife Jean is the Century of Holsteins' certificate for the Fawcett family's long running membership.

"This is only the second time they've awarded one of

these certificates in Eastern Ontario," Allison said. "We're also the only family, my father, myself and my son; the only three generation family to ever win a Master Breeder Shield. We're the only family in Canada where a father and son have received them at the same time."

While Fawcett himself took a membership out in 1950, continuing to act as a member 69 years later at the age of 93, the certificate reads that the legacy started with Andrew Fawcett back in 1919.

"We got our start a century ago," he said. "My grandfather took out a membership in 1919 and was a member until 1940, until he retired."

Fawcett continued,

"After that, my father took out a membership in 1923 until his death in 1957. My son, David, has also been a member since 1979, for a total of 40 years."

While hard work and dedication can be attributed to Fawcett's long-running success, he knows that the ones closest to him have played a big part in that as well.

"The participation of my family and my wife, I think, has been one of the biggest reasons behind [my success]," he said.

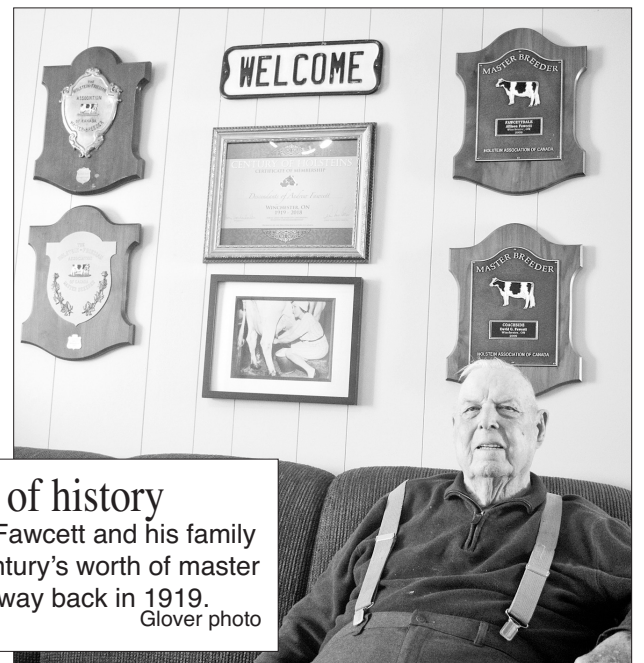
When breeding Holsteins, Fawcett always wanted to breed the truest type as he possibly could.

"The type of cattle I've always been interested in is the Holstein cow and what they could contribute to the welfare of the people," he said. "Conformation is very

important, she's got to be right under the legs and have the right amount of dairy. Stature and correctness are very important qualities."

Fawcett said, anyone looking to join the breeding profession needs to have a very clear goal in mind.

"You have to work at setting a goal and then work even harder at achieving it," he said. "There has to be a lot of careful decisions."



**A century's worth of history**  
At the age of 93, Allison Fawcett and his family have accomplished a century's worth of master breeding, starting all the way back in 1919.  
Glover photo

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