ABSTRACTS * Author Presenting Paper

10 The contributions of **A. E. Freeman.** R. E. Pearson*1, 1 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg.

Dr. Albert Eugene (Gene) Freeman, completed his B. S. and M. S. degrees at University of West Virginia in 1952, and 1954, and his Ph.D. at Cornell University in 1957. In 1957, he started his professional career at Iowa State University and since 1978 has served as Charles F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor of Agriculture in the Animal Science Department. His major contributions during his highly productive career have been in three areas: training of M. S. and Ph.D. candidates; publication of research results; and interpreting research finding to the dairy cattle improvement industry and producers. One of his greatest attributes has been his ability to attract researchers from diverse areas to collaborate with him and his students on innovative research that covers virtually all aspects of dairy cattle breeding. Dr. Freeman has guided more than 40 Ph.D. and 30 M.S. students. These students came from the U.S. and many other parts of the world and a number are now in positions of leadership in their respective countries. They are primarily employed on university faculties, in various aspects of the genetic improvement industry, and as dairy producers. Dr. Freeman's research has covered a vast range of topics and has involved a number of experimental approaches from designed experiments and field studies to simulation and analysis of field data. His research has formed the basis of major improvements in dairy cattle breeding practices. He has provided leadership to the animal breeding group at Ames, the long term regional breeding projects conducted across the U.S., the American $\,$ Dairy Science Association, and the World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production. In recognition of his many accomplishments, he has received numerous major awards from a variety of organizations. Dr. Freeman has made a significant impact on the genetic improvement of food producing animals world wide through his research and through the students he has trained.

Key Words: Animal Breeding, Research, Graduate Training