

# Dr. Larry Benyshek

Kansas State University  
Animal Sciences & Industry  
*Distinguished Alumnus Award 2017*



Dr. Larry Benyshek was raised on a general livestock farm in Republic County, KS, near Agenda. He received his B.S. degree from K-State in 1969 and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Animal Breeding at Virginia Tech. He then joined the North American Limousin Foundation staff and in 1974 moved to a faculty position at Fort Hays State College. In 1976, he accepted a research and teaching appointment at the University of Georgia. His vision for the beef cattle industry led to a team of scientists that provided research and genetic evaluation for several major breeds of beef cattle in the U.S., Canada and South America. In 1993, Dr. Benyshek became the University of Georgia Animal and Dairy Science Department head. He retired from academia in 2002. On retiring, Dr. Benyshek continued to serve on industry committees and eventually created Benyshek and Hough Consulting Services where he serves as president. He has presented research results in most states and in several countries. He is widely known for spreading the “Expected Progeny Difference” concept. Dr. Benyshek received BIF’s Continuing Service Award in 1986 and the Pioneer Award in 2001. The American Society of Animal Science presented him with the Animal Breeding and Genetics award in 1994. Larry and his wife, Isabella, have five children and two grandchildren.