

A Family Tradition- **Hutto Cattle Farm**



Cattlemen Ricky Hutto and his son, Aaron, left, are second- and third-generation customers of Alabama Ag Credit.

Credit. “I saw where they were now doing cattle loans, and they’ve treated us so well over the years that I knew they would do right by my son and grandson,” said Mrs. Hutto. “We’ve been with the association ever since we first borrowed money. They went with us through all of our problems, thank the Lord. Then we eventually paid it off... that was a good day!”

“My favorite memory growing up was when my dad first got into cattle,” remembers Ricky. “He had this old, beat-up Army Jeep, and the first thing he told me to do was get in and go set up a fence for the cattle. So that’s what I did, I fenced in 40 acres. It was quite a job, but that fence is still standing!”

The fence is still standing, just like the Huttos’ relationship with Alabama Ag Credit and the family’s love of cattle.

One day Ricky would like to move out here and build a house out by the pond. His son Aaron has even bigger dreams: he would like to keep up the cattle farm and have it for his kids one day, and then pass it on to their kids.

“I thought all Alabama Ag Credit did was land loans,” said Ricky. “If y’all didn’t decide to start doing cattle loans I don’t think any of this would have been possible. We appreciate y’all helping us out. We really do.”

Charles “Ricky” Hutto knows cows. He knows what time they will come to feed, what route they’ll take to get there, and which cow will be leading the herd. He’s been working with cows on this land since he was born, and he knew someday he would play a bigger role.

“I’ve watched my mom and dad work on this land for years and years and now it’s time for them to sit back and enjoy it all,” said Ricky Hutto. “If I didn’t take over the cattle operation, who would? They wanted to get out of the cattle business, but they wanted to keep it in the family.”

So Ricky spoke with his son, Aaron, about the possibility of purchasing his parents’ 67 head of cattle and continu-

ing the family tradition. Aaron immediately rose to the challenge. “It’s an interest I have. I’ve grown up watching granddaddy do this. Even my favorite memories of being here are from feeding the cattle and fishing in the pond,” Aaron said.

Ricky then approached his mother about the idea. “She told me to go down to Dothan and see Lee Hughes with Alabama Ag Credit; she said he would treat me right. She had her first loan with them 30 years ago when my parents purchased 166 acres of land, and then another loan when they got started in the poultry business.”

Ricky’s mother, Joyce Hutto, had just seen an ad in the newspaper announcing the name change and the new loan programs offered by Alabama Ag