

## Nebraska Cattlemen Industry Service Award Winners Honored

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Roger Mandigo and Irv Omtvedt were honored during the Nebraska Cattlemen's 2009 Annual Convention as recipients of the Nebraska Cattlemen Industry Service Award presented for exemplary commitment and contributions to Nebraska and U.S. beef cattle industries.



**ROGER MANDIGO** pioneered research and teaching in the field of meat processing during his four-decade tenure as Professor of Animal Science and Food Science and Technology at the University of Nebraska. Dr. Mandigo's contributions toward the advancement of meat processing, utilization and formulation technology are internationally renowned and widely sought. His work, including the improvement of the function and value of connective tissue in lower quality beef trimmings and the advancement of cooking technology to maximize beef tenderness, has contributed to the development of many consistent, value-added products. Born in Los Angeles, Dr. Mandigo graduated from California Polytechnic University in 1961, earned his master's degree from New Mexico State University in 1963, and his Ph.D. in Meat Science from Oklahoma State University in 1966. He joined faculty at UNL in 1966 and was promoted to professor in 1974. Dr. Mandigo continues his professorship and provides meat science and technology counsel to processors from small entrepreneurs to the largest commercial meat processors in the world.



**IRV OMTVEDT** is revered for his contributions to Nebraska agriculture throughout his 25 years at the University of Nebraska. Until his retirement in June 2000, Dr. Omtvedt was vice chancellor for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR) for 12 years. He also served as vice president of agriculture and natural resources from 1992, vice chancellor for extended education from 1997 to 1999, dean of the Agricultural Research Division from 1982 to 1988, and head of the Animal Science Department from 1975 to 1982. During Dr. Omtvedt's tenure, NU's research and extension effectiveness was significantly enhanced with campus facilities such as the George W. Beadle Center for Genetics and Biomaterials Research, the Animal Science Complex, and the Food Industry Complex expansion as well as remote centers, including the Agricultural Research and Development Center, the Gudmundsen Sandhills Laboratory, and facilities at the Research and Extension Centers at Concord, Cay Center, Norfolk and North Platte. Dr. Omtvedt's leadership and guidance established Nebraska as the foundation for leading-edge beef research.