

*A rare opportunity to own the*  
**"BONSMA LECTURES"**



*by Dr. Jan Bonsma*

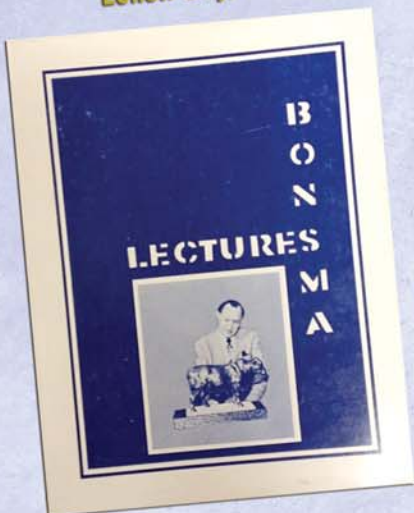
The Junior Red Angus Association (JRA)  
will host an online auction for the  
out-of-print, 1979 edition of the *Bonsma Lectures*.  
The book will be displayed at the  
Red Angus National Convention in Savannah, Ga., Sept. 10-13.

**Details on accessing the online auction and bidding on  
the "Bonsma Lectures" will be available soon.**

*Dr. Jan Bonsma of South Africa ... explained his concepts of how physiology and anatomy relate to functional efficiency. Dr. Bonsma's concepts were frequently at odds with whatever style was currently in favor in the show ring. He expressed the need for more set to the hock than often desired in the show ring, as well as a rump structure that was not perfectly square, but sloped slightly from hooks to pins. He also preached that highly fertile cattle should show pronounced secondary sex characteristics, including femininity in females and strong masculinity in males. Simple things like proper foot structure and shedding hair quickly and completely in the spring all contributed to "functional efficiency."*

*On certain subjects, Bonsma's controversial views resulted in lively debate. For example, he unequivocally opposed line breeding and inbreeding. His discussions pointed out the conflict between the selection of maximum weaning and yearling weights being sought by many cattlemen at the time, partially through newer breeds being imported, and the need for maternal efficiency. Bonsma considered the regularity and ease of calving and longevity in production imperative for efficient cowherds.*

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"The History of Red Angus"

[americanherbataurus.com](http://americanherbataurus.com)

*Professor Bonsma was an internationally known livestock ecologist who studied the relationships between visual appraisal of cattle and functional efficiency. He was known for being able to identify an animal's fertility based on just looking at them. He traveled across the world studying ecology and the productivity of cattle.*

*"The successful livestock producer is one who knows his animals and treats them with care and love." – Dr. Bonsma*

*In his research, Professor Bonsma was a big believer in "breeding animals for functional efficiency," meaning continually improving animals to produce as much beef per unit of area as possible. He stated that, "The purpose of a beef producer is to produce animals which, at the lower possible cost and expenditure of labor, give the highest possible and longest lasting returns."*

[v8branch.blogspot.com](http://v8branch.blogspot.com)

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