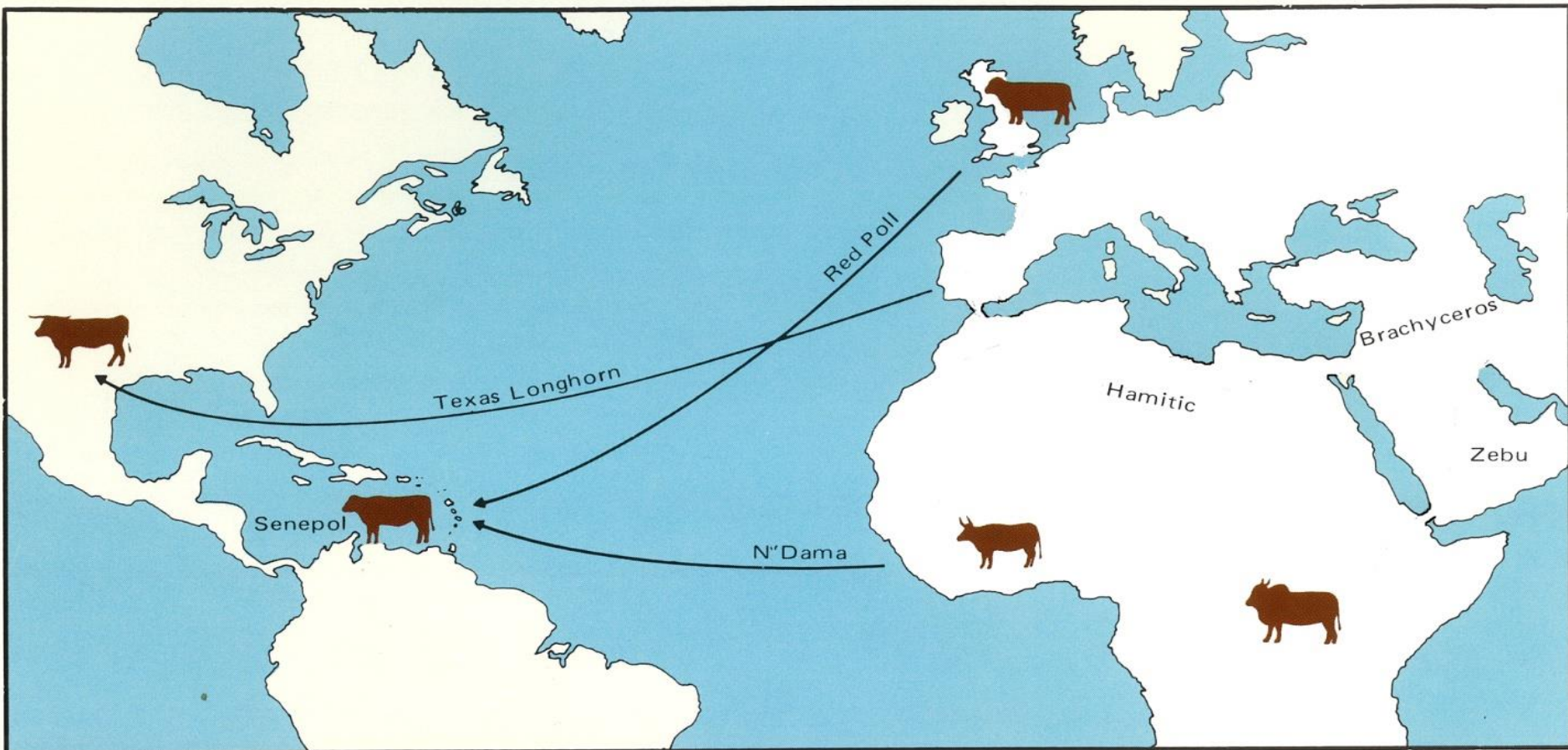
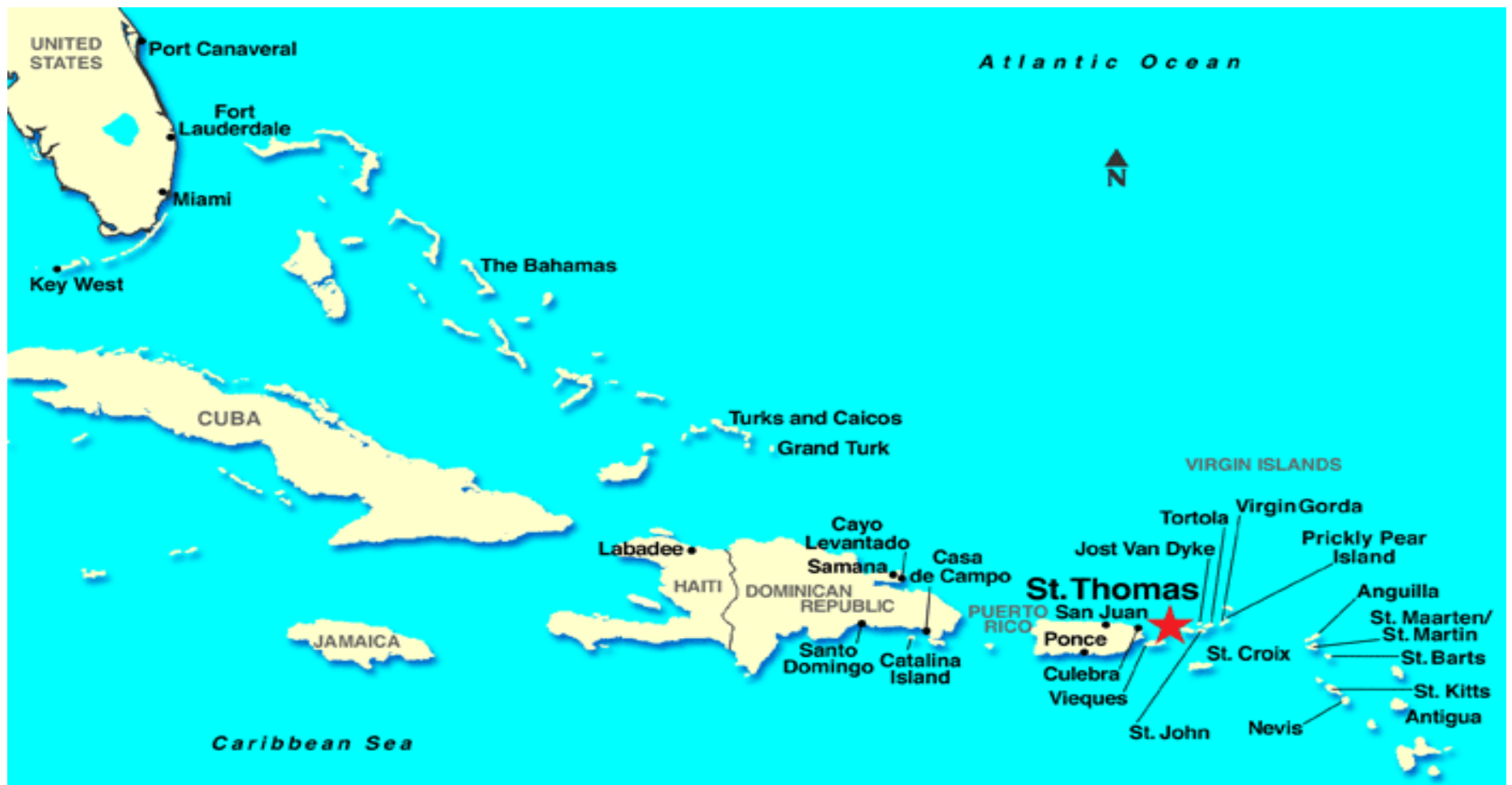


Origination of the Senepol Breed of Cattle on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands



Migration of the Ancestors of the Senepol Cattle



Islands of the Caribbean

St. Croix – Home of the Senepol Breed of Cattle



St. Croix, US Virgin Islands is located 17° N. latitude in the Caribbean Sea, 1,100 miles Southeast of Miami, 500 miles North of Venezuela and 25 miles East of Puerto Rico. St. Croix was discovered by Christopher Columbus on his 2nd voyage in 1493. The island has been under seven flags with Denmark owning the island from 1733 until 1917 when the island was purchased by the United States (US). St. Croix is only 84 square miles, but was considered the “bread basket” of the Caribbean in the 1800’s, producing brown sugar from sugar cane for shipment to Europe and the by product molasses for making Cruzan Rum, still in the market today.

History

- In the 1800's N'Dama Cattle were imported to the Caribbean Islands of St. Croix from Senegal, West Africa.
- The N'Dama were suited for the Caribbean because of its heat tolerance, insect and disease resistance, and its ability to thrive on poor quality of forage.
- By 1889, Henry C. Nelthropp of Granard Estates was one of the last N'Dama breeders with over 250 head, which he maintained as purebreds. Nelthropp's son, Bromley wanted to develop cattle that would combine the traits needed for the superior levels of milk and beef production in the Virgin Islands tropical environment. Attempts to import higher producing cattle from temperature regions had failed; the Red Poll genetics were introduced to the Nelthropp's N'Dama stock in 1918 to improve milking ability, fertility, and make them polled. This blending genetics proved quite successful, and formed the foundation of the Senepol breed.

- The St. Croix cattle breeders called the African cattle Senegalese because they came from Senegal, West Africa and with the Red Poll cross the name Senepol was trade marked in 1954.
- It was not until 1973 when Mr. John E. Rouse from Colorado visited St. Croix and later wrote his book “World Cattle III, Cattle of North America” with a chapter on Senepol that he identified the African breed as N’Dama.
- As more Red Poll influence was added, strict selection pressure was applied for:
 1. Red color, good conformation and early maturity
 2. No horns, good milk producers
 3. Gentle disposition
 4. Definite heat tolerance

- Since 1949 when the Nelthropp herd was dispersed to local breeders, the development of the Senepol breed on St. Croix was continued by four primary breeders. From their beginnings, the island herds maintained genetic records which grew into the Senepol breed registry. On-farm performance testing began in the mid-1970s with the establishment of the Virgin Islands Beef Cattle Improvement Association (BCIA).
- In 1977 a plane carrying 22 Senepols left for the U.S. mainland and 35 years later the Senepol Cattle Breeders Association (SCBA) recognizes breeders from many countries and more than 60,000 animals in its database. Today Senepols can be found thriving in 8 states in the United States and around the world in such countries as Australia, Brazil, Paraguay, Columbia, Argentina, Panama, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Puerto Rico, Venezuela, Mexico, Costa Rica, Phillipines, South Africa, Zimbabwe, and wherever tropically adapted production is needed.



BORN IN DENMARK 4/10/1829 HENRY CHRISTIAN NELTHROPP DIED ON STX 4/24/1895

Henry C. Nelthropp
Born in Denmark 4/10/1829
Died on St. Croix 4/24/1895



BORN ON STX 4/16/1874 ALBERT VICTOR NELTHROPP DIED ON STX 6/4/1940

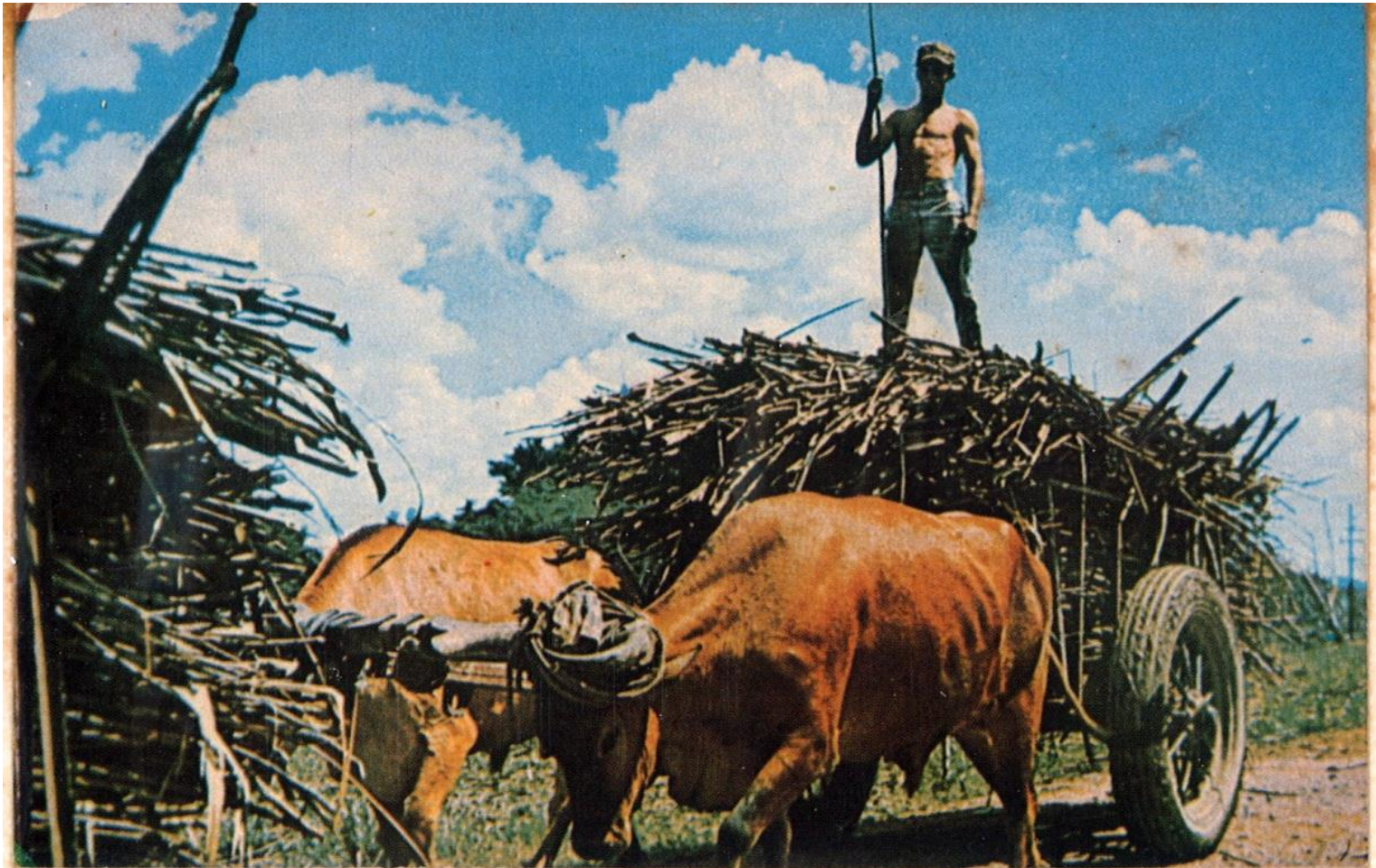
Albert V. Nelthropp
Born in St. Croix 4/16/1874
Died on St. Croix 6/4/1940



Bromley Nelthropp
4/19/1872 – 4/24/1951
Started Senepol Breed in
1917.



Ward M. Canaday
1885- 2/27/1976
Owner of Annaly Farms
1938 – 1976



N'Dama oxen hauling sugar cane on St. Croix in the 1800's.



FREDERIKSTED, ST. CROIX D W. I. CARTING SUGAR CANES



Early N'Dama base
stock on St. Croix.

Breeds of Cattle

Updated & Revised 2nd Edition



Herman R. Purdy

R. John Dawes

Dr. Robert Hough



Red Poll Bull



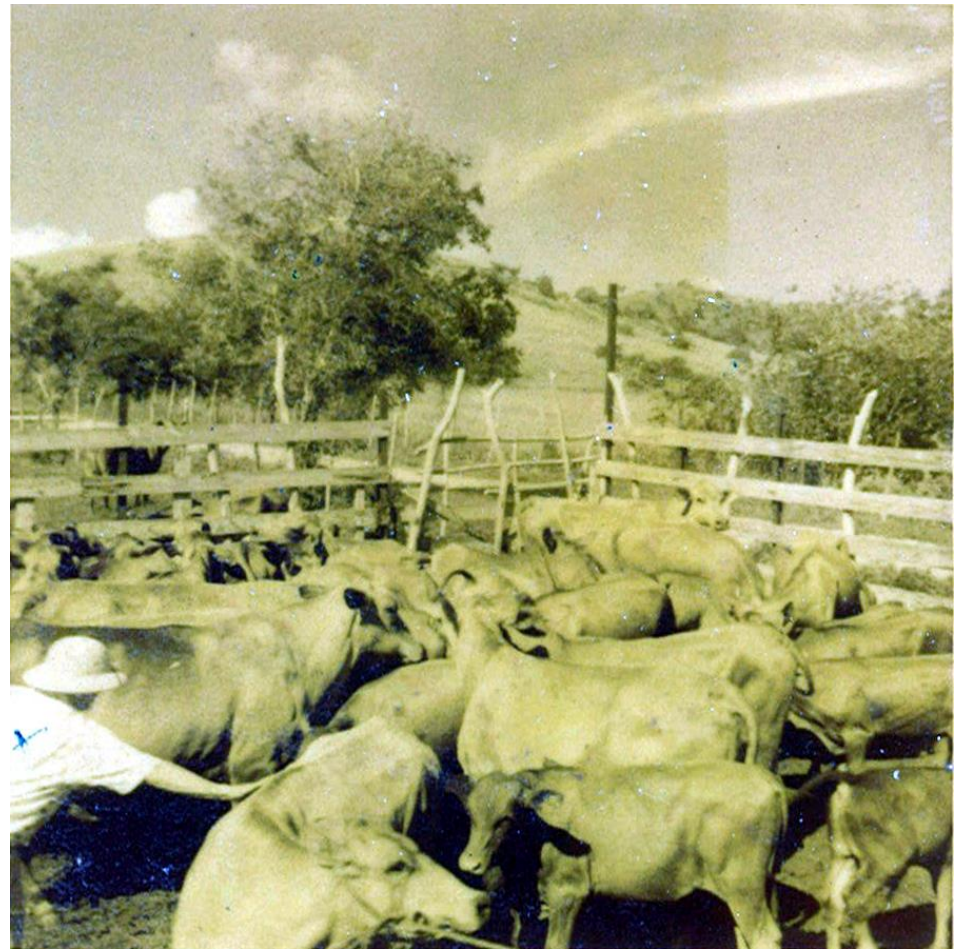
Red Poll Cow



Senepol Bull



Senepol Cow



Nucleus of Nelthropp herd purchased by
Annaly Farms in 1949.



Cutting the last Sugar Cane
on St. Croix in 1966.



Loading the last sugar cane on
St. Croix in 1966.



Senator Frits E. Lawaetz giving his blessing to 24 years of working with sugar cane.



Hans and daughter Amy after two years saying goodbye to the Sugar Cane industry and hello to grassland for Senepol Cattle.



Senator Frits E. Lawaetz, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands
October 5, 1907 – June 16, 2005

Senator Lawaetz was hired to manage Annaly Farms in 1940.
He was a senator of the Virgin Islands for 20 years,
but lost his left leg in 1959.



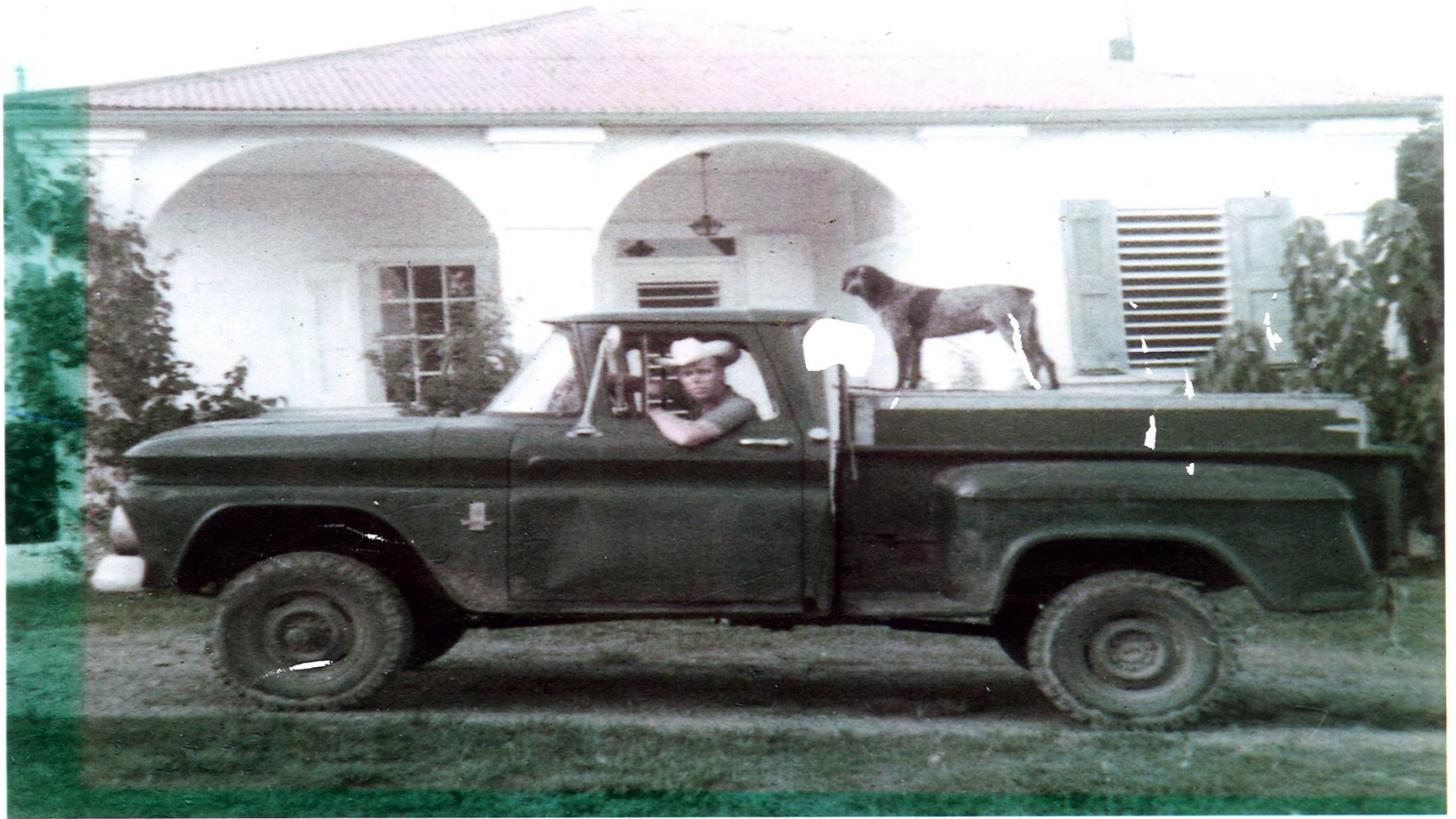
Frits E. Lawaetz giving instructions.



Brothers Frits and Hans



Which calf is hers?



The start of delivering Senepol beef
to grocery stores in 1968.



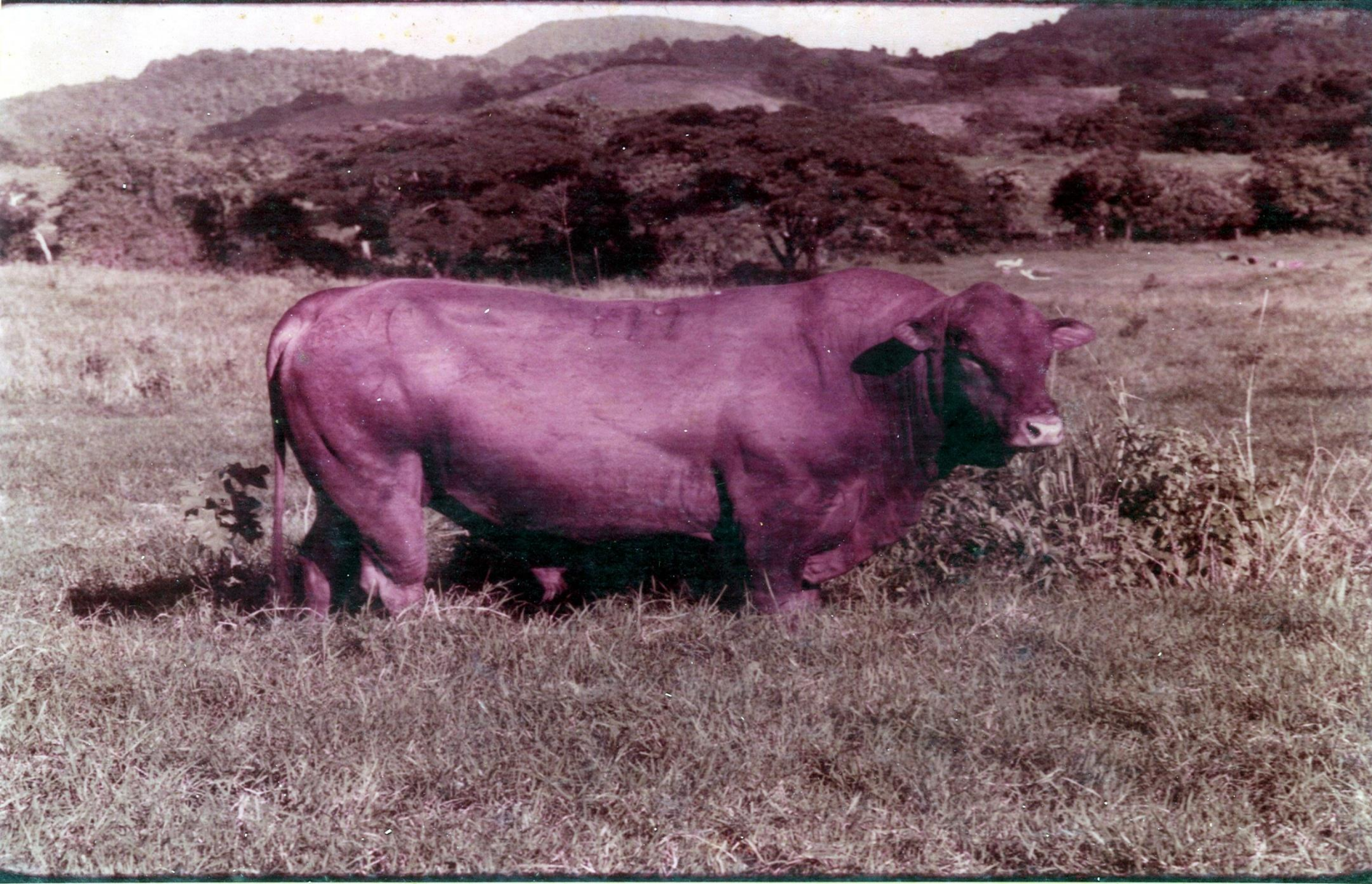
Senepol meat market built in 1974.



View from home of Senepol Cattle



View from home of Senepol Cattle



One of first Senepol sires shipped to the U.S.
in 1977.



Senepol Bull from the 1960's.



Tagging and branding 500- 550 calves each year in the 1960's – 1980's.



Dipping and branding cattle in the 1970's.





Dipping Senepol Cattle every three weeks .





Founders, Virgin Islands Senepol Association, St. Croix, October 12, 1976

Founders of the Senepol Association in 1977 from left – Mr. Don Vaniman, Caroline & Mario Gasperi, Henry Nelthropp, Comm. Oscar E. Henry, Hans Lawaetz, Dr. Darshan S. Padda, and Dr. A. L. “Ike” Eller. Missing in the picture was Senator Frits E. Lawaetz.



Mario Gasperi was born in Italy, studied in the United States, and married Caroline Wall, whose father Howard Wall owned Castle Nugent (CN) Farm on St. Croix. In 1963, they moved to St. Croix and took over management of Castle Nugent Farm.



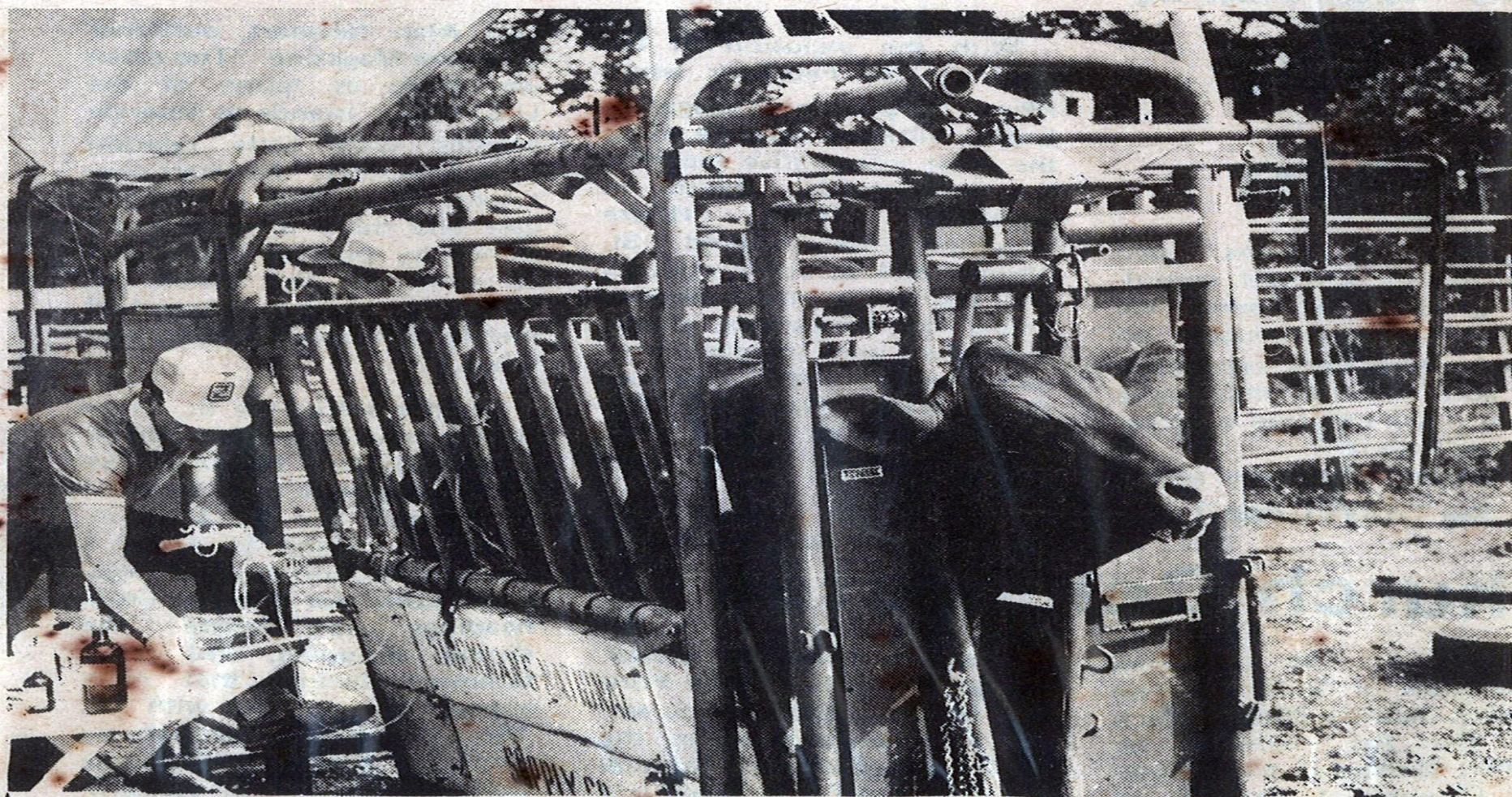
First load exported in 1977
using airline food truck as a
loading ramp



Hans and Frits Jr.
loading in the 80's



Exporting 100 head of Senepol Cattle to Venezuela
in the following years : 2001, 2002, 2003 & 2004.



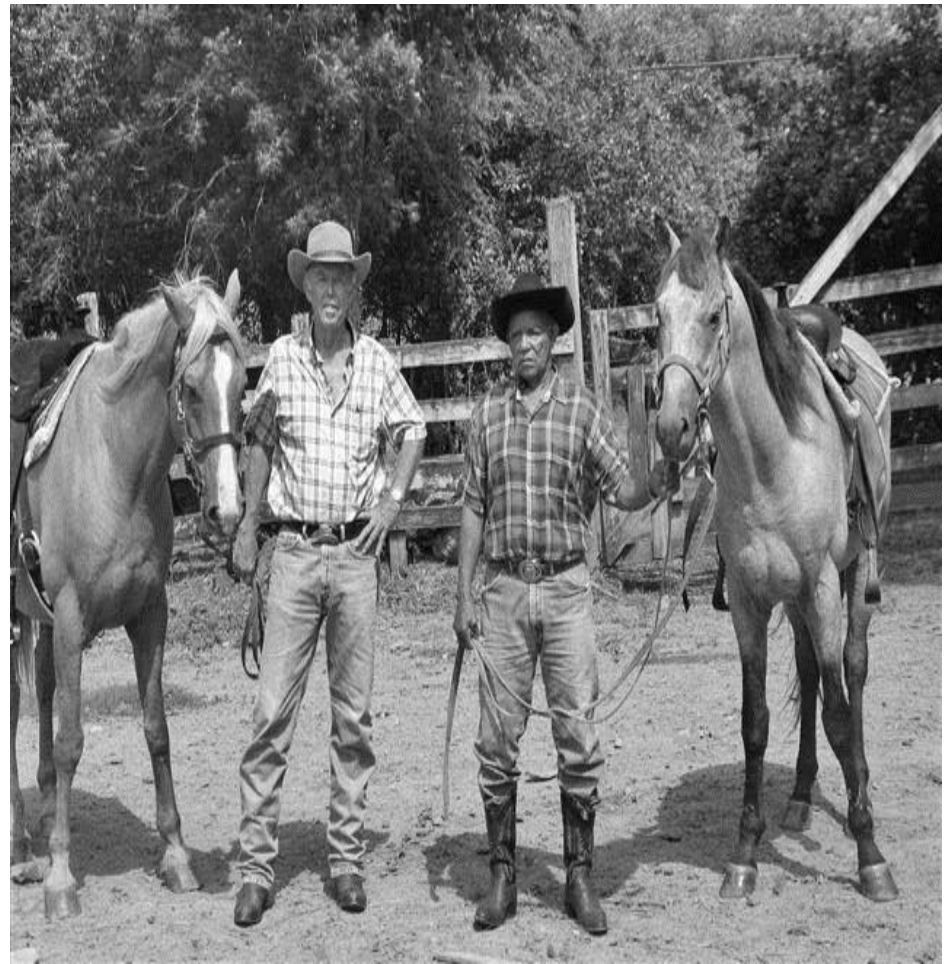
EDWIN ROBERTSON, D.V.M. in the process of removing embryos from a Senepol cow. The procedure was performed on St. Croix for the first time earlier this week at Annaly Farms. (AVIS photo by Suzanne Floyd)

1/86

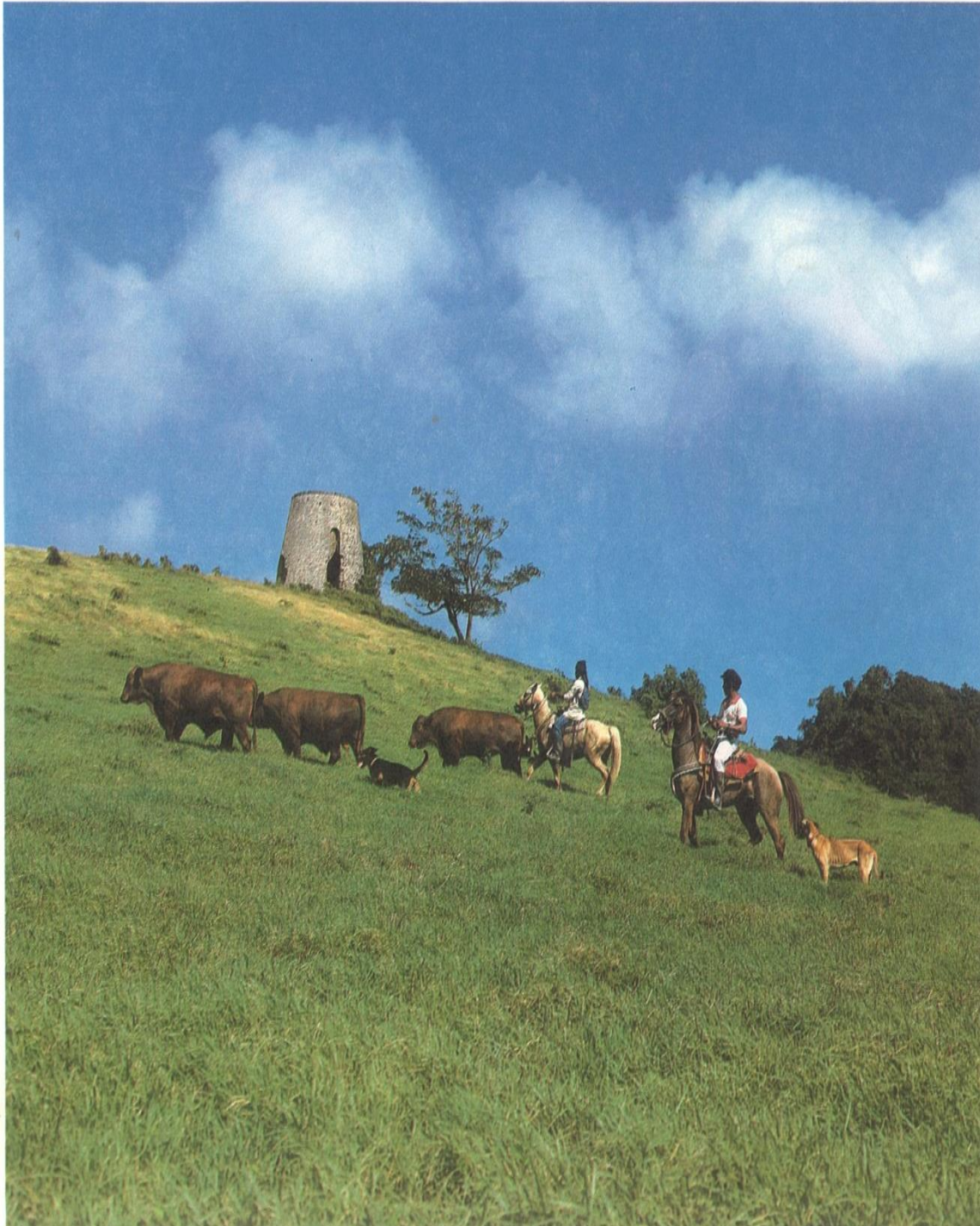
Collecting embryos on St. Croix in January of 1986.



Alfonso "Guison" Correa started working at Annaly Farms as a 15 year old cowboy in 1949 and is still on the payroll checking cattle.



Hans Lawaetz and Guison working with Senepol Cattle
1964 - 2015



Herding
Senepols
below wind
mill built in
1795 for
processing
sugar cane.

WC - 754
in quarantine
DOB 5/25/1991



WC - 701 A
DOB 1/16/1991

WC 701A



Senepol Sire sold to Venezuela in 2000



Senepol Dam & Sire on St. Croix in 2001



Senepol Sire on St. Croix born 1983



Senepol Heifer sold to Venezuela in 1999



Sold to Caribbean Senepol, Australia in 2002



Branding Senepol today with propane



Branding Senepol cattle



Weighing Senepol cattle



SCBA Board of Directors & staff Lisa Vorce at Carambola Hotel on St. Croix in 2009.

Missing in picture was President Mr. Carl Parker from Alabama.