



- May 19—Alfalfa Hay Production Demo, Newton
- May 21—MS/LA Beef and Forage Field Day, Tylertown
- May 21—Beef Unit Field Day, MSU
- May 26—BQA, Simpson County Livestock Pavilion, Mendenhall
- June 14-17— BIF Conference, Manhattan, KS
- August 1— Homeplace Feeder Calf Board Sale—Hattiesburg
- August 3-4—Deep South Stocker Conference—Carrolton, GA
- October 13-15—MSUES Artificial Insemination School, MSU
- November 10—BCIA Bull and Heifer Sale, Raymond

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M I S S I S S I P P I

BCIA

BEEF CATTLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

Plan to Attend the Beef Unit Field Day

Beef producers from across the state will hear reports of Mississippi State University's research efforts related to a variety of beef cattle management and health considerations at a May 21 field day.

The free program will begin at 9 a.m. at the MSU Beef Unit, located south of the main campus in the Henry H. Leveck Animal Research Center.

MSU Extension Service specialists and Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station researchers will provide updates on research related to reproduction, eye pigmentation, and stocker cattle health and management. Beef unit herdsmen will provide updates on the university's purebred and crossbred programs.

Producers are encouraged to make reservations for lunch by calling 662-325-3516 or emailing m.quinn@msstate.edu.

Participants may tour the beef, horse and dairy units after lunch.

Alumni events also have been planned to coincide with the field day, and alumni are invited to spend the day on campus. Alumni of the Block and Bridle Club and the livestock judging teams also will meet after lunch for their annual meetings. One member will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at this meeting. An alumni tent will be set up in center field during the 5 p.m. MSU baseball game against Arkansas.

In addition, the Mississippi Beef Council will be celebrating "Beef Day at the Ball Park" with a tent in right field serving samples of beef to attendees. We hope you join us for a fun filled day!

Brenda Karich



Beef and forage field day set for May 21 in Tylertown

Cattle producers in Louisiana and Mississippi can learn about animal handling and health issues during the Mississippi/Louisiana Beef and Forage Field Day, May 21. The event begins with registration at 8:45 a.m. at the Livestock Producers Sale Barn on Highway 98 East in Tylertown, Mississippi.

Experts with the Mississippi State University Extension Service and Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station will join industry professionals to discuss low-stress animal handling and new vaccination regulations.

Featured speakers include Dr. Carla Huston of the MSU College of Veterinary

Medicine and Heze Early of Merrill pharmaceutical company.

Participants can also view the top-performing bulls from the South Mississippi Gain on Forage Bull Test. These bulls are for sale and can be purchased before, during or after the field day.

A sponsored lunch will be provided, but preregistration is required.

To preregister or for more information, contact Walthall County Extension agent Richard Hay at 601-876-4021 or c.r.hay@msstate.edu; or Lincoln County Extension agent Mark Mowdy at 601-835-3460 or m.mowdy@msstate.edu.

BIF Announces June Program

Beef Improvement Federation will host ‘Progress on the Prairie’ June 14-17 in Manhattan, Kan.

Preparations are being finalized for the 2016 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Annual Meeting and Research Symposium themed “Progress on the Prairie.” The annual event will be hosted June 14-17 in Manhattan, Kan., and headquartered at the new Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center.

The BIF conference routinely draws a large group of leading seedstock and commercial beef producers, academics and allied industry partners. The attendance list is a “who’s who” of the beef value chain, offering great networking opportunities and conversations about the issues of the day. Program topics focus on how the beef industry can enhance value through genetic improvement across a range of attributes that affect the value chain.

The event features two and a half days of educational programming and a full day of tours visiting regional seedstock and commercial producers.

The first morning’s general session is titled “Opportunities for the Beef Value Chain: Can we become more coordinated and more profitable?” Headlining the event are industry thought leaders including Ted Schroeder and Glynn Tonsor, Kansas State University (K-State); John Stika, Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB); Brad Morgan, Performance Food Group; and Keith Belk, Colorado State University (CSU). The second day’s general session is titled “Protecting producer profit for the future” and features nationally recognized speakers including David Lalman, Oklahoma State University; Chip Ramsay, Rex Ranch; Mark Enns, CSU; and Clay Mathis, King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management.

Afternoons are filled with breakout sessions focusing on a range of beef-production and genetic-improvement topics. The conference also features a Young Producer Symposium designed to network and equip young cattle producers with essential knowledge as they grow their role in the business. With the program’s depth and breadth, there is something for everyone.

For more conference details, including lodging information, full conference program and registration please see: <http://beefimprovement.org/library/registration-info> or contact K-State hosts Bob Weaber, bweaber@ksu.edu, 785-532-1460; or Lois Schreiner, lschrein@ksu.edu, 785-532-1267.



Symposium Schedule

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

1–4:30 p.m.: Young Producers Symposium & Reception
6:30 p.m.: Opening Reception/Welcome, K-state Campus-Weber Arena

Wednesday, June 15, 2016

8:00 a.m. Opening comments, KS Welcome
8:15 a.m. General Session I: Opportunities for the beef value chain: Can we become more coordinated and more profitable?
11:45a.m -1:30 p.m.: Awards Luncheon
2:00-5:30 p.m. Break-out Sessions
6:30 p.m. Evening dinner at Stanley Stout Marketing Center, K-State Campus

Thursday, June 16, 2016

8:00 a.m. General Session II: Protecting producer profit for the future
Noon-1:30 p.m. Awards Luncheon: What you heard, charge — Kent Andersen, Zoetis Awards Lunch
2:00-5:30 p.m. Break-Out Sessions
6:30 p.m. Evening reception and tours of Discovery Center, etc.

Friday, June 17, 2016

7:30 a.m. Depart for Kansas Beef Industry Tours, featuring regional seedstock and commercial producers

We still have room on the van to BIF in Manhattan, Kansas! Contact Cobie to reserve your spot!

USDA Raises Estimation of 2016 U.S. Beef Production

By: Ron Plain and Scott Brown, University of Missouri Extension

USDA has raised their estimate of 2016 U.S. beef production to 24.825 billion pounds. That is up 1.2% from their previous estimate and up 4.8% compared to last year's production. They expect 2016 slaughter steers prices to average somewhere around \$134/cwt of live weight. That is \$3.50 lower than their previous forecast and \$14 lower than the 2015 average.

More beef and lower prices should be positive for U.S. international trade. USDA looks for U.S. beef exports to increase 8% in 2016 and is predicting a 14% decrease in U.S. beef imports. The U.S. was the fourth largest beef exporter in 2015 after Australia, India, and Brazil.

China has been steadily increasing their beef imports and USDA expects them to pass Japan this year to become the world's number two beef importing country, behind the U.S. The average steer dressed weight for the week ending on April 2 was 884 pounds, down 3 pounds from the week before, but up 15 pounds from a year ago. This was the 94th consecutive week with steer weights above the year-ago level.

Year-to-date cattle slaughter is up 0.7% and, because of heavier weights, beef production is up 2.5%.

Accessed from AgWeb.com, May 9, 2016.

Deep South Stocker Conference



Aug. 3rd and 4th, 2016
Carroll County Ag Center, Carrollton, GA

This year's conference will address issues affecting:

- Stocker operators
- Backgrounder and Pre-conditioning yards
- Cow-Calf Producers

Additionally, tours will be provided to visit stocker operations in the area

Tradeshow During Breaks and Meals

For more information on registration or sponsorship, visit our website (www.DeepSouthStocker.com), or contact your local Extension office (1-800-ASK UGA-1)



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION

May 2016 – Management Calendar

GENERAL

Fertilize warm-season pastures (bermudagrass, bahiagrass, etc.) according to soil test recommendations. Stay on top of weed control. Sprig hybrid bermudagrass before moisture becomes limiting. Plant summer annual forages. Graze sodseeded ryegrass pastures to prevent shading of warm-season forages. Manage pastures to graze young growth and harvest excess for hay. Check hay equipment to make sure it is ready for operation. Record hay yields, forage test each cutting, and develop a hay storage program that will minimize storage losses and allow matching of forage test results with individual lots of hay for use in hay feeding and supplementation decisions. Provide proper free-choice minerals and fresh water at all times. Make sure adequate shade is available for cattle going into the summer months. Watch for flies, and implement a fly control program when needed. Maintain a complete herd health program in consultation with a veterinarian including internal and external parasite control, calthood (Bangs) vaccinations for heifer calves four to eight months of age, and blackleg (7-way) vaccinations for all calves over three months of age if not done earlier. Keep good production and financial records.

SPRING CALVING—January, February, March

Calving should be done. Complete management practices for late calves, and castrate and dehorn any calves missed

at birth. Implant calves that will not be retained as breeding stock. Read implant product labels to determine when calves that were implanted at birth may be re-implanted. Monitor condition of bulls during the breeding season, and hand feed if necessary. Be ready to remove bulls from heifers after a 45-60 day breeding season. Observe breeding herds to make sure that cows are settling. Maintain good breeding records including heat detection records, artificial insemination dates, dates bulls turned in and out, identification of herd females and breeding groups, dates bred, returns to heat, and expected calving dates.

FALL CALVING—October, November, December

Maintain bulls in small pasture traps and provide a nutritional program designed for starting the next breeding season in good condition. To precondition calves, vaccinate for respiratory diseases (IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV, and others upon veterinary advise), and wean for at least 45 days before shipment. Implement weaning strategies, such as fenceline weaning, that minimize calf stress. Train calves to eat from a bunk and drink from a water trough during the preconditioning period. Pregnancy check herd females about 60 days after the end of the breeding season. Cull cows based on pregnancy status, soundness (eyes, udders, feet, legs, teeth), and performance records. Develop plans for marketing cull cows based on market conditions and cow body condition.

Contact Information:

MISSISSIPPI Box 9815 | Mississippi State, MS 39762
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BEEF CATTLE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION Fax: 662-325-8873

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 www.youtube.com/user/MSUBeefCattle

 www.facebook.com/MSStateExtBeef



MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY™
EXTENSION

We are an equal opportunity employer, and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(Check one) Seedstock: Commercial:

Cattle breed(s): _____

Completed applications and \$5 annual dues or \$100 lifetime dues payable to Mississippi BCIA should be mailed to:

*Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association
 Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762*