

Missouri Livestock Symposium Features

Big Names in Beef Cattle Industry

The Missouri Livestock Symposium has announced its lineup of speakers for this year's Beef Cattle Section, and according to Symposium Chair Garry L. Mathes, the program includes several "big hitters". The lineup includes Lee Leachman, Leachman Cattle of Colorado, who will give two talks. In the first talk Leachman will offer "2010's Top Profit Tips"; his second talk will be on "Selecting for Feed Efficiency". The Leachman name has been familiar in the beef cattle business for over 60 years. Today, Lee Leachman operates Leachman Cattle of Colorado and markets over 1000 bulls annually. In addition, their Montana Range Meat company continues to market natural beef under new owners based in Billings, MT.

Also on the beef cattle program will be Dr. Dee Griffin, the very popular speaker who is a Production Management Veterinarian and Professor at the Great Plains Veterinarian Educational Center and University of Nebraska. Dr. Griffin will also give two talks, one on "Antibiotic Pharmacology for Folks that Dip and Wear Spurs" and the other on "Cattle Health: The Bottom Line".

Also sharing her knowledge and expertise will be the always popular Dr. Temple Grandin from Colorado. Dr. Grandin is considered a leading expert on animal behavior and livestock handling systems, has written several books on the subject, and has been seen nation-wide on numerous talk shows. Dr. Grandin is slated to talk on "Cattle Handling Strategies that are good for you and Your Cattle". She is also a featured speaker in the Equine Section.

Rounding out the Beef Section will be University of Missouri State Beef Cattle Nutrition Specialist Dr. Justin Sexten who has the assignment of helping producers keep their feed costs down without sacrificing cattle performance. Dr. Sexten's talk is titled "Taking Steps to Control Feed Costs". Missouri State Beef Cattle Geneticist Dr. Bob Weaber addresses "Managing Genetic Defects in the Beef Herd: Protecting Your Herd and Seedstock Investment." While Dr. Brad White of Kansas State University completes the program by discussing the latest on "Pre and Post weaning Calf Health – Strategies for Success".

The Missouri Livestock Symposium also touts well known speakers on forages, stock dogs, equine, sheep, meat goats, and on various subjects of interest around the home and farm. In fact, according to Mathes, the Executive Director of the Beef and Veal Culinary Center in Denver, Chef Dave Zino, will be on hand to unveil some new beef cuts and do a cooking demonstration.

All in all, the Missouri Livestock Symposium will feature speakers from 11 states. In addition the Symposium features a top notch trade show, free admission with no registration needed, a free beef meal on Friday evening and a free Governor's Style Luncheon on noon Saturday.

Doors to the 2009 Missouri Livestock Symposium open at 4 PM on Friday, December 4. The Friday evening program includes Mike Adams, host of the nationally known syndicated radio show AgriTalk and Dr. Craig Payne, University of Missouri Extension Veterinarian, who will talk about "Agriculture Under Attack". The Friday evening program also includes presentations of the Missouri Livestock Symposium's Livestock Person of the Year and the Agriculture Educators Lifetime Achievement Awards.

The Symposium also will have some winning classic tractors on display and there will be demonstrations on biodiesel production provided by the Truman State University Bulldog Biodiesel team in addition to other special attractions.

Hours for the Symposium are 4 PM to 10 PM on Friday, December 4, and 8 AM to 5 PM on Saturday, December 5. The Symposium closes out on Saturday night at 8 PM with a concert by country music artist Steve Holy (www.stev holy.com). Concert tickets may be purchased after October 15th by calling 660-665-9866 or emailing Vanessa Miller at miller@missouri.edu and putting MLS Concert Tickets in the subject line. Remember seating is limited so mark it on your calendar.

For additional information about the Missouri Livestock Symposium, call 660-665-9866. Or see Symposium details at www.missourilivestock.com. The Missouri Livestock Symposium is held at the Kirksville Middle School Complex, 1515 S Cottage Grove, Kirksville, MO.

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NOTE: Speaker and Entertainer photos are available by calling 660-665-9866 or emailing lanen@missouri.edu and putting MLS in the subject line