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Beef Cattle Program at 2007 Missouri Livestock Symposium Features Mark Gardiner, Temple Grandin, and More

Mark Gardiner of Gardiner Angus Ranch is just one of many nationally known cattle experts who will be sharing their knowledge and insight at the 2007 Missouri Livestock Symposium.

The Gardiner family arrived in a caravan of covered wagons to Ashland, Kansas in the spring of 1885. The original Gardiner homesteaders lived in a dugout for nine years on their 160 acre spread. In 1920, Ralph Gardiner began putting together the present Gardiner Ranch. The ranch is now operated by Henry and Nan Gardiner, their three sons, Greg, Mark, and Garth, and their wives. Mark Gardiner will address the topic of "How Commercial Cattle Producers Can Turn the Information Available to them Today into Profits". He will give two talks at the Missouri Livestock Symposium in this year's Beef Section on Saturday, December 1.

The Beef Section of the Missouri Livestock Symposium also features internationally acclaimed animal behavior scientist Dr. Temple Grandin of Colorado State University. Dr. Grandin is slated to speak on cattle handling facilities and she will also speak in the Horse Section on "Horse Handling and Behavior". According to Garry Mathes, Chair of the Missouri Livestock Symposium planning committee, "if you are a horse or beef cattle enthusiast you will not want to miss the opportunity to hear Dr. Grandin in person!"

"The Latest on BVD" will be the topic addressed by Dr. Julia Ridpath, a researcher at USDA's National Veterinary Services Laboratory, Ames Iowa. Dr. Dee Cross, Clemson University, and Dr. Dave Davis, University of Missouri Forage Systems Research Center, will team up to tackle the topic of "Enhancing Cattle Performance on Fescue Pastures".

In addition to the beef cattle program the Missouri Livestock Symposium features a full lineup of speakers on horses, forages, sheep and meat goats, stock dogs and more. The full lineup can be viewed on the Web at <http://missourilivestock.com> or a program can be mailed to you by calling 669-665-9866.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium hours are Friday, November 30, from 4 pm until 10 pm, and Saturday, December 1, from 8 am to 10 pm. The Symposium includes a sold-out agriculturally related trade show, a Friday evening beef supper, a Governor's Style Luncheon on Saturday, a Classic Tractor Contest (view the Missouri livestock website for details), and featured speaker Max Armstrong on Friday night.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium concludes with a concert by the Bellamy Brothers on Saturday night, December 1, at 7:30 pm. Tickets for the concert are \$10 each and must be purchased in advance. Call 660-665-9866 for ticket information or email millerva@missouri.edu and put MLS tickets in the subject line.

Except for concert tickets there are no costs associated with attending the Symposium. Complete 2007 Missouri Livestock Symposium details are found at <http://missourilivestock.com> or call 660-665-9866. The location for the Missouri Livestock Symposium is the Kirksville Middle School Complex, 1515 South Cottage Grove, Kirksville, Missouri.