

Brought to you by your  
livestock specialists.....



Shawn Deering, Gentry  
(660)-726-5610  
deerings@missouri.edu



Amie Schleicher, Atchison  
(660)-744-6231  
schleichera@missouri.edu



Jim Humphrey, Andrew  
(816)-324-3147  
humphreyjr@missouri.edu

## DATES TO

### REMEMBER:

- November 2nd—Fall Beef Seminar, Maryville
- November 23rd-24th—Extension Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
- November 27th-29th—A.I. School—Thompson Farm, Spickard
- November 30th—Missouri Fence Laws Meeting, Albany
- December 1st-2nd—Missouri Livestock Symposium, Kirksville
- December 2nd—North Central/Northwest Missouri Show-Me-Select Heifer Sale, Green City

## Beef Cattle Artificial Insemination School

Our colleague to the East, Chris Zumbrunnen, is once again holding an A.I. school at the Thompson Farm near Spickard. The classes will be held from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. on the evenings of November 27th, 28th, and 29th. The school includes classroom instruction as well as hands-on practice. Cost to attend is \$200.00. If you are interested, call Chris at (660)-265-4541 as class size is limited and they usually fill up quickly.

## North Central/Northwest Missouri Show-Me-Select Heifer Sale

The North Central/Northwest Missouri Show-Me-Select Heifer Sale will be held Saturday, December 2nd, at the Green City Livestock Market Inc. in Green City, Missouri. The sale will begin at 1:00 p.m. and will feature 200 head of crossbred and purebred heifers. All of the heifers have made it through the strict requirements and many are synchronized and A.I. bred. For more information visit the sale website at <http://www.cattlesalepage.com/missourishowme/> or call Jim at the Andrew County Extension Office (816)-324-3147. Catalogs should be available soon.

## Missouri Fence Laws Meeting


Do Missouri's fence laws confuse you? If so, you are not alone. We are very fortunate to have an Extension Ag Business Specialist, Joe Koenen, who understands the laws as well as anyone in the state. We will hold a meeting at the Hundley-Whaley Center in Albany on the evening of November 30th beginning at 7:00 p.m. to help explain Missouri's fence laws. Joe will be presenting the program via ITV. This will be a good chance to demonstrate this technology and all of the improvements that are being made at the H-W Center. There is no charge to attend, but we do request that you RSVP to the Gentry County Extension Office at (660)-726-5610 in order to assist us with meeting room and hand-out preparation.

## Kansas Feedlot Performance and Feed Cost Summary

Kansas State University Extension just released their September 2006 closeout information in their latest Focus on Feedlots report which includes data from nine different Kansas feedlots. The 20,561 steers averaged 1,328 pounds, 156 days on feed, 3.44 average daily gain, 5.83 feed/gain dry basis, 0.89% death loss and \$53.62 average cost of gain. The 20,615 heifers averaged 1,202 pounds, 151 days on feed, 3.02 average daily gain, 6.24 feed/gain dry basis, 0.86% death loss, and \$58.72 average cost of gain.

## Do the Math Before Making Changes in Your Feeding Program

With the recent spike in corn prices, we have had lots of calls about switching to some of the by-product feeds. While this may be the thing to do in some cases, depending on the level of corn you are feeding there may not be as much economical advantage as you might think. Keep the following in mind: availability, price delivered, and facilities/equipment needed to handle the feedstuff.



Missouri  
**Show-Me-Select**  
Replacement  
Heifers

Show-Me-Select Heifers must meet very strict program requirements in order to be tagged and qualify for a sale. Enrollment and ownership deadlines must be met. Pre-breeding examinations and vaccination programs are required. Pregnancy examinations must be performed within 90 days of the start of the breeding season. In order to sell, all heifers must be treated for internal/external parasites, be free of blemishes (rat-tails, bob-tails, pinkeye scars, etc.), weigh a minimum of 800 pounds and receive a body condition score of 5 through 8. They also must be graded by a certified USDA grader for frame and muscle. Last but not least, service sires must meet birthweight criteria.

**Campus Corner**

**How Can You Make the Best Seedstock Purchase?**

**Dr. Bob Weaber, State Extension Beef Genetics Specialist (573)-882-5479, weaberr@missouri.edu**

As the fall bull-buying season begins, producers should do their home work to help ensure their purchases meet their needs. Before you crack open the sale catalogs, there are few resources and skills you should possess. Make sure you understand the use of Expected Progeny Differences (EPD) and selection indexes. While EPDs are not the only selection information you should consider, EPDs are the most effective tools available to describe the genetic differences between animals within and across herds. Not all EPDs are the same, so make sure you know the appropriate information for the breed of cattle you are purchasing. Obtain the breed average EPDs and a percentile rank table available from the most current genetic evaluation for the breed of interest. These tools will enable you to compare the relative genetic merit of individual animals to other animals in the breed. Make sure you know what traits you would like to improve in your herd? If you are using a crossbreeding system make sure the breed you selected fits your objectives. Other factors to consider are: keeping replacement heifers and endpoints for marketing. Assessment of these factors will help point you to the best breed for your needs and the combinations of maternal/growth/carcass traits that best fit your operation. Set a realistic budget for bull purchases. Like most things in life, price is driven by quality. Evaluation of prior year sale averages will give you an idea of what to expect in purchase costs. Once you receive the sale catalog make a short list of bulls (6 to 12 head) that fit your specifications. Arrive at the sale site early to inspect the bulls on your short list. Shorten this list of candidates based on conformation and updated data. Sticking to your plan will help you to avoid impulse purchases. Remember: Failure to plan is planning to fail.

**??Question of the Week??**

***I have a few acres of corn that are not going to yield much (~ 50 bu/acre). Could I still chop it up for silage?***

We sometimes add water to silage in order to get the percent moisture to the desired levels. In this case the whole plant moisture would be so low that a great deal of water would need to be added. While it is possible that this might work, a concern would be that there probably is not enough sugar left in the plant and therefore proper fermentation would not take place. You would basically run a very good chance of ending up with a large compost pile! A better option might be grazing it.

**Northwest Region Extension Agriculture and Natural Resource Contacts**

**Agronomy**

Wayne Flanary  
(660)-446-3724  
flanaryw@missouri.edu

Vacant  
Harrison County  
(660)-425-6434

**Ag & Natural Resources**

Jim Crawford  
(660)-744-6231  
crawfordj@missouri.edu

Vacant

**Ag Business**

Kevin Hansen  
(660)-646-0811  
hansenk@missouri.edu

Bob Kelly  
(816)-279-1691  
kellyr@missouri.edu

**Horticulture**

Tom Fowler  
(816)-279-1691  
fowlert@missouri.edu

Tim Baker  
(660)-663-3232  
bakert@missouri.edu

“Equal opportunity is and shall be provided to all participants in Extension programs and activities, and for all employees and applicants for employment on the basis of their demonstrated ability and competence without discrimination on the basis of their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability or status as a Vietnam-era veteran. This policy shall not be interpreted in such a manner as to violate the legal rights of religious organizations or military organizations associated with the armed forces of the United States of America.”