

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 1st—Beef Producers Seminar, Community Building, Maryville
- November 14th—Gentry County Cattlemen's Association Meeting
- November 22nd-23rd—Extension Offices Closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 6-8th—Missouri Cattle Industry Convention and Trade Show, Springfield

Make Plans to Attend the 2007 Beef Producers Seminar

Our annual Beef Producers Seminar will be held on Thursday, November 1st, 2007 at the Nodaway County Community Building in Maryville (2 miles West of Maryville on Hwy 46 to Hawk Road, then North 1/2 mile past the airport). The meeting begins at 4:30 p.m.

Speakers and their topics include Dr. Joe Powell, Nodaway Vet Clinic, "Animal Health Management and Realizer Demonstration"; Dr. Larry Hollis, Kansas State University Extension Beef Veterinarian, "Proper Cattle Handling and Injection Techniques and Realizer Demonstration"; and Dr. Justin Sexten, UM Extension Beef Nutrition Specialist, "Creative Cattle Nutrition". In case you are wondering what a realizer is...it is an animal that fails to respond to treatment. They can also be called chronics, or railers.

Cost to attend is \$10.00 per person and includes a beef supper. Pre-registration is requested by October 26th.

2007-2008 Missouri Steer Feedout

The Missouri Steer Feedout is an educational program for cattle producers designed to do five main things: 1) Evaluate the genetics and management of your calves as they influence feedlot performance and carcass characteristics. 2) See if your cattle can hit the 70-70-0 target. Seventy percent low choice or better, 70% yield grade 1's and 2's, and 0 outs (heavy or light carcasses, dark cutters, etc.). 3) Gain experience feeding cattle and retaining ownership without the investment and risk of feeding an entire pen of cattle. 4) Improve the quality and reputation of Missouri feeder cattle. 5) Explore alternatives for marketing cattle.

The entry deadline for spring born 2007 calves is October 10th. A minimum of five head is required and there are certain health and weaning requirements that must also be met. A \$20 per head non-refundable reservation fee is also required at entry. This is one of the most educational programs we have to offer and one that we wish more producers would take advantage of.

Forage Testing is Always a Good Idea, but Maybe More so This Year

While we always advocate forage testing, this year it might even be a better idea than usual. Across our area we have seen a great deal of CRP hay that has been baled. From the forage analyses that we have seen come across our desks, the quality of this hay is tending to be very low (even more so than expected). If you are planning on using this as your winter feed supply, take a sample and have it analyzed so you can begin working out a supplementation strategy now. Thanks to a grant we received two years ago, every extension office in the NW Region has a forage probe that you can borrow in order to make sampling easier and more accurate.



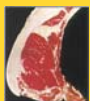
We recently had a FFA Field Day where information was presented on Beef Quality Assurance. The section we taught included genetics, quality grading and yield grading. Most of the students were somewhat familiar with quality grading, but did not understand yield grading. Yield grade is the prediction of the percentage of boneless, closely trimmed retail cuts from the round, loin, rib and chuck of the beef carcass. They range from 1 to 5 (1 being the trimmest) and are influenced by fat thickness, ribeye area, KPH fat (kidney, pelvic, and heart fat), and hot carcass weight.



Yield Grade 1
52.3% or < yield



Yield Grade 2
52.3-50% yield



Yield Grade 3
50– 47.7% yield



Yield Grade 4
47.7-45.4% yield



Yield Grade 5
45.5% or > yield

Campus Corner:

Welcome to Mizzou!

**Dr. Justin Sexten, MU Extension Beef Nutrition Specialist
(573)-882-8154, sextenj@missouri.edu**

We are very fortunate to welcome our new State Extension Beef Nutrition Specialist on board. Dr. Justin Sexten was raised on a diversified livestock and row crop farm in Southwest Ohio. Prior to completing his B.S. degree in Agriculture from the University of Kentucky (1998) Justin worked in the commercial cow-calf, seedstock, stocker and feedlot phases of the beef industry. He completed his M.S. (2001) and PhD (2004) in Animal Science while at the University of Illinois conducting research focused on nutritional management of replacement heifers. Justin joined the Animal Science Faculty at the University of Missouri-Columbia (UMC) in July of 2007 as part of the Commercial Agriculture Program. Prior to joining UMC Justin worked as an Animal Systems / Beef Specialist with University of Illinois Extension. Justin's Outreach and Extension program focuses in the area of beef cattle nutrition with emphasis on feeding management, grazing systems and co-product utilization.

Dr. Sexten is scheduled to speak on the program at the 2007 Beef Producers Seminar on November 1st in Maryville. This would be a good opportunity to hear him speak and meet him in person.

??Question of the Week??

I am getting ready to wean my calves. I am planning on keeping them after weaning and feeding them for 60 days. How much bunk space do I need to allow for them?

The Midwest Plan Service book suggests that 400 to 800 pound feeder calves need 18 to 22 inches of bunk space per head if you are going to do once-a-day feeding. If you are planning on doing twice-a-day feeding the space recommended is 9 to 10 inches per head.

One thing that we sometimes overlook is the height of the bunks. Make sure that they are not too high for small calves to eat out of.

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

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

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