

Several speakers and programs planned for Missouri livestock symposium in Kirksville
News

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Tony Clayton of Clayton Agri-Marketing will be the keynote speaker at the free two-day Missouri Livestock Symposium, December 7th and 8th at Kirksville Middle School. Clayton, of Jefferson City, will talk about his 25-plus years of experience exporting livestock and agriculture products from the U.S. to more than 40 countries.

A trade show kicks off the two-day event at 4 p.m. and a classic tractor contest gives participants an opportunity to be featured on television station KTVO's "Good Morning Heartland" program.

Clayton will give the keynote address at 8:15 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 7, following a free 6 p.m. dinner, award presentations and musical entertainment.

On Saturday, nationally known speakers on horses, cattle, goats, stock dogs and other topics such as forage and farm estate strategies will present a variety of workshops. Topics include pinkeye, MU's Quality Beef by the Numbers program, blue-tongue, chronic wasting disease, sheep economy, hair sheep, horse nutrition and genetics, and meat goats. There will also be workshops on flower arrangement and nutrition in the home. At noon there will be a free "governor's style luncheon" sponsored by the Missouri Department of Agriculture and several Missouri commodity groups.

The beef cattle section will key-in on an old nemesis of cattlemen as several speakers will address various aspects of pinkeye, including the latest findings. Dr. Gary Snowder, University of Nevada-Reno (UNR), will be on hand to discuss "Genetic Factors Influencing Pinkeye Susceptibility." Dr. Snowder is an internationally renowned researcher on the subject and prior to his position at UNR, he did work at USDA's Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Nebraska as well as leading research at the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station in Dubois, Idaho. Dr. Snowder will also speak in the sheep section at the Symposium.

Also addressing cattle pinkeye will be Dr. Bruce Addison of Fayette, Missouri. Addison Laboratories is a leading producer and innovator of pinkeye vaccines and Dr. Addison is a sought after speakers on the subject nationally. Dr. Addison will share his latest findings on pinkeye and recommendations to prevent this costly problem. In addition to the two individual talks listed above, University of Missouri Extension Veterinarian Dr. Craig Payne will join Dr. Snowder and Dr. Addison on a panel to answer questions about pinkeye that producers may want to ask. Dr. Payne will also provide cattle updates on bull infertility related to pour-ons, EHD and Blue-tongue.

The beef section program also features Dr. Ron Gill of Texas A & M. Dr. Gill will talk on "Cattle Behavior and Handling". He will also be a featured speaker in the equine section where he will address the topic of "Feeding Horses Simplified."

Also on the docket is a talk on the University of Missouri's new Quality Beef Program. Mike Kasten, Director of the Quality Beef Program, along with Scott Brown of the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI) and Dr. Dave Patterson, University of Missouri, will be on hand to describe the benefits of the program and answer questions producers may have. The Quality Beef Program grew out of the popular Show-Me Select heifer Program and aims to do the same with high quality steers.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium will also feature an agriculturally related trade show, a free beef meal on Friday evening at 6 p.m., and a free lunch on Saturday at noon, coordinated by the Missouri Department of Agriculture and sponsored by many of Missouri's fine commodity groups and the Missouri Livestock Symposium planning committee.

Forage production and utilization are key components to profitability in many livestock operations. According to Garry L. Mathes, chair of the 2012 Missouri Livestock Symposium, producers have had to deal with these and more this year. As a result, our planning committee wanted to address the drought and climate impact, feed costs, and economic outlook for livestock and feed. In order to accomplish this objective, a panel of experts will be on hand to address these topics and answer questions.

The livestock and forages panel will consist of Dr. Pat Guinan, state climatologist, who is also with the Missouri Commercial Ag Program; Dr. Justin Sexten, state beef cattle feeding specialist; Dr. Ron Plain, livestock economist; and Dr. David Davis, Forage Systems Research Center at Linneus. All are with the University of Missouri.

Mathes also said the committee wanted to address another hot topic of interest to producers—cover crops and soil health. As such, a second panel in the forages section will take a “Practiced Look at Cover Crops and Soil Health.” Moderating the panel will be J. R. Flores, state conservationist for Natural Resources Conservation Service. On the panel will be Harry Cope, a producer from Truxton, MO; Dr. Kelly Nelson, research agronomist at the Greenley Research Center; David Otte of Green Valley Seed, Inc.; and Doug Peterson, USDA grassland conservationist. Otte will also talk on “Getting Set for Growth” and Nelson will share “Cover Crop findings at the Greenley Research Center” to round out the forages section at the Symposium.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium has announced their Sheep and Meat Goat Section Speakers and Topics for 2012. The program will be held December 7-8 with all of the sheep and meat goat programs held on December 8th. The Missouri Livestock Symposium is held in Kirksville, Missouri at the Kirksville Middle School. The event also features an agriculture-related trade show, a classic tractor display, a free beef dinner on Friday night at 6:00 p.m. and a free Governor’s Style Luncheon on Saturday at noon.

There is no pre-registration or registration required and there is no cost to attend. Nationally known speakers on equine, beef cattle, forages, stock dogs and more are also a part of the Symposium and program details may be found at missourilivestock.com or by calling Garry Mathes at 660-341-6625 or the Adair County Extension Center at 660-665-9866. You can also email Bruce Lane at lanen@missouri.edu (and put MLS in the subject line).

According to Garry L. Mathes, Chair of the Missouri Livestock Symposium Planning Committee, the 2012 Sheep and Meat Goat programs on Saturday, December 8th include the following: Dr. Gary Snowden from the University of Nevada at Reno will speak on “Can Selection Reduce Disease?”; Dr. Brian Faris of Kansas State will give two talks—one on “Selecting Ewes that Reduce Labor” and a second on “Why Hairsheep are Becoming Popular”; Stan Potratz of Washington, Iowa, will address “The Sheep Economy,” while Dr. Dan Morriscal of Iowa State University talks on “Nutrients that Effect Baby Lamb Survival” and “Thinking Outside the Flock.”

In the Meat Goat section, producer John Kirchoff from Missouri speaks on “Raising Meat Goats: A Producer’s Perspective.” Veterinarian John Middleton will talk about “Thin Goat Syndrome” and identifying the culprits while Dr. Brian Vander Ley, also from Missouri’s School of Veterinary Medicine will address “Urinary Tract Problems, Treatment and Prevention” in goats. Dr. Brian Faris will talk about the “Profit Potential Through Crossbreeding” and Dr. Dan Morriscal rounds out the goat program when he discusses “Feeding Meat Goats.”

Hours for the 2012 Missouri Livestock Symposium are 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm on Friday, December 7th and from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Saturday, December 8th. In addition to the free beef dinner at 6:00 pm on Friday night and the free trade show, Tony Clayton of Clayton Agri-Marketing, will be the keynote speaker when he talks on “Livestock Exports and the Effect on U.S. Agriculture.” Mathes also points out that other talks of interest to both sheep and meat goat producers can be found in the Forages and Stock Dog Sections of the Symposium. Bob Johnson of Tingley, Iowa, gives

three talks on working dogs including "Getting the Right Start," "Basics of Training," and "Advanced Training."

Go to www.missourilivestock.com for the full program lineup or to get additional information on all of the speakers.

Mathes notes that there will be a lot more of interest in addition to the forages program. There is a full lineup of nationally acclaimed speakers on beef cattle, sheep, meat goats, stock dogs, farm succession, backyard poultry and short and long term weather outlook. The Symposium also features a free trade show and two free meals—a beef supper on Friday evening at 6 p.m. and a Governor's Style Luncheon on Saturday at noon.

The Symposium will run from 4-10 p.m. on Friday, December 7 and from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Saturday, December 8. The event will be held at the Kirksville Middle School, 1515 S. Cottage Grove in Kirksville, MO. No pre-registration is needed and there is no cost to attend. Mathes notes, "if there is a better deal anywhere he wants to know about it!"

Additional details about speakers, topics, lodging, meals, trade show, and more, can be found at the Missouri Livestock Symposium website at www.missourilivestock.com or call Garry Mathes at 660-341-6625 or the Adair County Extension Center at 660-665-9866. You can also email Bruce Lane at lanen@missouri.edu. Please put MLS in the subject line.