

**For more information please contact:**

**Bruce Lane, University of Missouri Extension Livestock Specialist**  
[lanen@missouri.edu](mailto:lanen@missouri.edu)

## **Great Meat Goat Topics and Speakers Featured at the 2008 Missouri Livestock Symposium**

The Missouri Livestock Symposium has once again put together a stellar lineup of talent and topics for the December 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, 2008 program held in Kirksville, Missouri. Last year's program drew producers from throughout the United States and this year should be no exception, according to Garry L. Mathes, chair of Missouri Livestock Symposium planning committee, which works year-round to implement the event.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium not only features speakers and topics for meat goat producers, but also has producer oriented programs for those interested in horses, beef cattle, sheep, forages, stock dogs, and even renewable energies. According to Mathes, "meat goat producers should find talks in some of these other sections applicable to meat goat production as well."

The meat goat section lineup for this year's Missouri Livestock Symposium includes Fred Homeyer, a producer from Texas, giving two talks related to meat goat evaluation and selection. Homeyer has judged meat goats and put on clinics world-wide. Dr. An Peischel of Tennessee State University will speak on "Production of Meat Goats" and "Managing for Healthy Goats and Disease Prevention". Dr. T.A. Yazwinski, University of Arkansas, will provide some very interesting results learned from de-worming research and will address the issue with a talk titled "The Worms are Winning". Dr. Beth Walker, Missouri State University, speaks on "Meat Goats-Why What's on the Inside is as Important as What's on the Outside".

In addition, there are numerous other speakers and topics that will provide useful and interesting information in "crossover" sections of the Symposium—e.g. the forages, stock dog, and sheep sections of the Symposium.

This year's Missouri Livestock Symposium features speakers from 16 states and Canada. In addition to practical talks for producers, the Symposium also features a sold out ag-related trade show, country music entertainer John Anderson, and even some free meals! All of this, coupled with the fact there is no pre-registration or registration costs, makes this one of the best buys and offerings anywhere in the industry. The only cost associated with the Missouri Livestock Symposium is for John Anderson tickets. Tickets are sold on a first-come first-serve basis.

For additional details about the Missouri Livestock Symposium go to <http://missourilivestock.com> or call Bruce Lane (660-665-9866) or Garry Mathes (660-341-6625); or email [lanen@missouri.edu](mailto:lanen@missouri.edu) and put MLS in the subject line.



Missouri Livestock Symposium hours are Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Trent Loos (Loostales.com) is a featured speaker on Friday night and John Anderson performs Saturday night.

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