

FROM THE DESK OF: Bruce Lane, University of Missouri Extension Livestock Specialist

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2005 MISSOURI LIVESTOCK SYMPOSIUM LINEUP ANNOUNCED

The December 2-3, 2005 Missouri Livestock Symposium looks as impressive as ever according to Garry Mathes, Missouri Livestock Symposium chairperson. Mathes said his 23 member planning committee has worked hard to put together a program that should appeal to anyone with an interest in livestock, agriculture, or agriculturally related enterprises. "We take great pride in putting on a program driven by producers, for producers," said Mathes.

Highlights of the 2005 Missouri Livestock Symposium include Orion Samuelson, an award winning farm broadcaster, is back by popular demand on Friday evening. Orion will also be on the program Saturday morning when he moderates a panel on estate planning.

Dr. Ron Plain and Dr. Jerry Taylor, both from the University of Missouri will be keynote speakers Friday evening. Dr. Plain will address the topic of "Farm Real Estate Prices – What You Need to Consider." Dr. Taylor, an internationally acclaimed animal geneticist, will talk about what new discoveries in livestock genetics mean to the typical livestock producers.

Saturday evening let the voice of YAHOO! entertain you. Internationally recognized western music star, Wylie and the Wild West, perform at 7:30 p.m. For more information go to <http://www.wyliewww.com>. Wylie will also speak in the Horse Section of the Symposium program during the day. Tickets for the Wylie and the Wild West Show are \$10 each and go on sale October 15, 2005. Seating is limited and tickets are sold on a first come first served basis. For tickets or ticket information call 660-665-9866 or e-mail adairco@missouri.edu and put Wylie Tickets in the subject line.

Speaker lineup on Saturday of the 2005 Missouri Livestock Symposium has been announced as follows:

Horse Section Speakers:

Wylie Gustafson of Dusty, Washington will address "Starting the Working Horse." Wylie is also the lead singer of Wylie and the Wild West.

Mark Kennedy, USDA/NRCS, will speak on what you need to know about horse pastures.

Gene Ovnick - regularly featured on RFD-TV, Gene will address hoof care and lameness issues in horses. He is an internationally recognized farrier who has spoke all over the USA and in several foreign countries.

Dr. Brian Nielsen - an equine specialist from Michigan State University and a recognized equine nutrition specialist, he also has been seen on television's "Ripley's Believe It or Not." And believe it or not, he holds the world speed record for cow racing!

Martin Bergin – one of the great saddlemakers of our time. Learn from one of the best ever what you need to know about saddles, boots, or other leather products. Martin is also known for his talents nationwide as a cowboy poet and storyteller.

Beef Cattle Speakers:

Dr. Roy Ax, University of Arizona – will discuss some new tools available to beef cattle producers that can improve the reproductive success in their herds. A chance to hear about some exciting, new technological advances that are practical!

Dr. Peter Sutovsky, University of Missouri – both Peter and Dr. Ax will address why “All Bulls Are Not Created Equal!” Dr. Sutovsky recently was recognized by the “National Institute of Health” for his cutting-edge research and discoveries in reproduction.

Keith Gilleon, is owner-operator of Rocking G Kennels in Ethel, Louisiana. He is an inductee of the Stock Dog Handlers Hall of Fame. Keith will tell you what you need to know about making your stock dog a valued employee in your cattle operation. He also speaks in the Stock and Guard Dog Section of the Symposium.

Dr. Jerry Taylor, University of Missouri – an internationally recognized expert in the field of livestock genetics. Dr. Taylor will tell you what he and his team of researchers have recently discovered about economically important beef cattle genes and markers. All beef cattle producers should hear this presentation.

Martin Jorgensen, South Dakota – Jorgensen Land and Livestock is a highly successful beef cattle and crops operation. They are widely recognized as a practical and producer oriented operation. Learn from Martin what you should know about both raising or buying bulls that are commercially viable and profitable.

Stock Dogs, Guard Dogs, and Predators Speakers:

Dr. Jeff Green, Colorado – Dr. Green did all of the cutting-edge research on guard dogs while he was at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station in Dubois, Idaho. He will discuss guard animals in general as well as unveil some new predator control research he has been working on since his days at USSSES. He is now with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Colorado.

Keith Gilleon, Louisiana – Keith's main business is the production and training of stock dogs. The bulk of his business is with cattle dogs. Keith will give several talks you won't want to miss if having a top stock dog is one of your goals!

Dr. Maurice Shelton, Texas – Interested in predators and predator control? Dr. Shelton will provide you with a good overview of the scope of predators and predator control tools presently available for livestock producers.

Forages Section Speakers:

Dr. Garry Lacefield, Kentucky – Dr. Lacefield has been one of the real popular speakers at past Symposiums. We have lured him back once again! This year he will address the increasingly popular topic of baleage, haylage, and related topics. Dr. Lacefield has been a featured speaker world-wide and has authored or co-authored numerous books and publications on forages.

Harry Cope – Missouri Livestock Symposium continually tell us they enjoy hearing and learning from other producers. Harry Cope is an innovative forages producer from central Missouri who will surely capture your interest and attention. Harry will provide you with “food for thought” for your farm.

Dr. Charles Brummer, Iowa State University – a leading researcher of forage varieties suitable for the midwest. He will provide you a forages varieties update and also talk about how producers can best use forages to improve the sustainability of their farm or ranch.

Mark Kennedy, USDA/NRCS will speak on grazing management.

Around the Home Speakers:

Dr. Max Bell, Florida and Alaska – known as the “Sod Father”, Dr. Bell is recently retired and now splits his time enjoying life in Alaska and Florida. When it comes to house or garden plants you will both enjoy and be amazed at the breadth and depth of Dr. Bell’s knowledge.

Jennifer Barnes-Schutter, Missouri – back by popular demand. Those attending this session will be able to make their own “take-home” floral arrangement – just in time for the holiday season.

Dr. Joe Cordray - Iowa State University was recently recognized for its outstanding meats program. Learn first hand why when this meats expert discusses and demonstrates what you need to know about preparing the perfect holiday ham or turkey or becoming an informed consumer when shopping for processed meat products.

Sheep and Meat Goat Section Speakers:

Dr. Frank Craddock, Texas A&M – managing and feeding sheep are critical to the well-being of the sheep flock and the profitability of the producer. Get tips from one of the best as Dr. Frank Craddock shares some of his tips for success.

Dr. Maurice Shelton, Texas A&M (emeritus) – Truly an icon in the sheep industry, and has appropriately been decorated as such over the years. This is an opportunity to learn from Dr. Shelton first hand as he speaks on both sheep genetics and the predator challenge sheep producers have in the United States.

Paul and Kathy Lewis – these commercial producers from the Oregon will share some practical things they have learned and implemented over the last few decades that will have real-life application no matter where you raise sheep.

Dr. Micheal Salisbury, Angelo State University – Poor or average reproductive rates in the sheep flock represent a real problem from a profitability perspective. Do your sheep or meat goats measure up reproductively? If so, why? If not, why not? Get some insight in this informative session.

Susan Schoenian, University of Maryland – Susan will provide you with what you, as producers, need to know about getting answers to your questions about sheep and meat goats. An extension specialist, Susan is also a producer and has deep ties to the sheep and meat goat industries.

Dr. Joan Burke, Arkansas – Want the latest information on sheep or meat goat internal parasite control? Here’s your chance to hear the latest from one of our country’s leading researchers.

Preston Faris, Sonora, Texas – a leading meat goat producer talks about common sense production of meat goats. As meat goats continue to be increasingly popular, learn what it will take for you to make meat goats a viable crop on your farm or ranch.

Dr. Michael Thonney, Cornell University, New York – Get the latest research update. Emphasis will be on new and practical research to help the profit-minded producer.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium will also feature talks on corn, soybeans, livestock and crop price forecasts, and estate planning. Go to <http://missourilivestock.com> to view program details about the 2005 Missouri Livestock Symposium. If you are not connected to the internet or web savvy, get more information by calling 660-665-9866 or 660-665-7049.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium opens its doors at 4 p.m. on Friday, December 2. Doors open 8 a.m. on Saturday, December 3. No pre-registration or registration costs are involved. An agriculturally related trade show is also

featured as part of the Missouri Livestock Symposium. Those interested in trade show details may call Garry Mathes at 660-665-7049 home or 660-341-6625 cell.

The Missouri Livestock Symposium is held at the Kirksville Middle School at 1515 S. Cottage Grove, Kirksville Missouri. Those attending the Symposium can get a special room rate at the Missouri Livestock Symposium headquarters motel, the DAYS INN, by indicating you are with the Livestock Symposium. The Days Inn phone number is 660-665-8244.