

Date Change For U of I Extension Beef Cattle Demonstration

MT. VERNON, ILL.

The Illinois Heifer Development Program Pre-Breeding Processing Demonstration originally set for March 15 has been rescheduled for Wednesday, March 19, at the Stan and Lisa Buzzard Farm, Beecher City, Illinois. Start time is 10:30 a.m.

There's no charge to attend the program, but advance registration is needed by March 17 for the complimentary lunch provided by Effingham Animal Health Center. To register, call University of Illinois Extension, Fayette County, 618-283-2753. Or, email your name, postal address and phone number to fayette_co@extension.uiuc.edu.

"This program will explain what the IHDP is, what producers need to do to participate in the program, and how IHDP participation results in added value for beef cattle," explains Tom Saxe, retired U of I Extension educator and IHDP coordinator. "Heifers in this program typically bring a premium of \$200 to \$500 at the IHDP sale."

Frank Rincker, American Breeders Association, will offer his advice on Proper Selection of Bulls, Use of Artificial Insemination, and Estrous Synchronization Methods. Kathy Faber from Intervet will discuss and illustrate Health Management Procedures, and Saxe will demonstrate Pelvic Measurements. Approximately 40 heifers will be processed that day.

"Heifers enrolled in the IHDP must meet strict health and reproductive requirements, but it's not difficult," says Saxe. "The Buzzard operation shows how these requirements can be met from a practical standpoint so that producers can improve their profits."

The Buzzard Farm is a commercial cow herd operation that makes major use of artificial insemination. For more details, contact Saxe at 618-627-2243.

Directions: From Beecher City, take Route 33 West to Route 128, turn south. Proceed to first crossroads (3050 N and 2400 E). Turn west. Go approximately 1.7 miles. The farm is on the left.

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