

MU South Farm Hosts Beef Day, Sept. 18

Field Day Will Feature Technology To Boost Efficiency In Beef Production

COLUMBIA, MO.

Technology that boosts efficiency in beef production will be highlighted at the University of Missouri South Farm's third annual beef field day, Sept. 18, at the farm's Beef Research and Teaching Center.

"First thing in the morning we will present research behind feed efficiency, and then later we will show the technology," said Justin Sexten, MU Extension beef nutritionist.

To increase attendance this year, organizers moved the field day from a football Saturday to a Thursday, Sexten said.

Producers will be able to go on a pasture walk, see vertical-mixer demonstrations and see bio-fuel coproduct feed storage and handling.

Other applied technology demonstrations are "Selecting and Using Growth Implants," "Choosing Feed Additives," "Sire Selection for Feed Efficiency" and "Keys to Reproductive Program Success."

Industry vendors will open their exhibits at 8:30 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m.

The first talk, at 9:15 a.m., brings Gene Felton from West Virginia University to talk about "Effects of Residual Feed Intake." Sexten said the topic offers insights into genetic selection for improved feed efficiency from cow herd to the meat case.

Monty Kerley, MU beef nutritionist, will show how he uses an MU research barn equipped with feeders that automatically measure individual animal feed intake on a computer. The GrowSafe feeders, which measure feed efficiency, are used in research at the MU Agricultural Experiment Station farms at Columbia and Mount Vernon, Mo.

John Lawrence of the Iowa Beef Center at Iowa State University will tell of "Economic Impacts of Pharmaceutical Technologies." Sexten said the talk illustrates the economics of wormers, implants, ionophores and antibiotics.

During a free lunch, MU faculty will speak and there will be drawings for door prizes from the vendors. During the day, MU graduate students will display posters of their research in progress.

Registration is free; however, RSVP for lunch by calling Angie Gallatin at 573-882-2829. Agribusinesses interested in exhibiting at the field day can call Phillip Brooks at the same number.

"The beef farm is located behind the KOMU-TV tower on Highway 63 south of Columbia," Sexten said. "Turn east on Old Millers Road just south of the radar dome at the station. The farm sign and entrance are just behind the tower."

For more information, see <http://animalsciences.missouri.edu/research/brtf/>. Δ