

Third Annual Mid-South Stocker Conference Set For February 12-13

LEBANON, TENN.

The 2008 Mid-South Conference will be held February 12-13, in Lebanon, Tennessee. The conference is a cooperative educational program by the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension and University of Tennessee Extension.

Bayer Animal Health will again serve as "partner" for the conference.

The theme of the conference is "Plan for Success." The conference will offer practical information that will aid stocker operators in planning and managing their operations to maximize profit.

Pre-registration for the conference is \$95.00 and must be made by February 5, 2008. Registration the day of the conference will be \$145.00.

Stocker production is the sector of beef production between weaning and the feedlot. The market currently has greater demand for heavier, healthier feeder cattle. Both Kentucky and Tennessee, as well as the Mid-South area, produce thousands of cattle that would increase in market value by stockering them.

The conference gets underway at 1:00 PM on February 12 with a tour of stocker operations and other stops of interest to conference attendees. The tour will conclude with a reception and Certified Angus Beef steak meal at Horn Springs Angus Farms, hosted by Quinton Smith. Mr. Mark McCauley of Certified Angus

Beef will make a presentation to wrap up the tour. The reception and steak dinner is sponsored by Bayer Animal Health.

The tour will also provide an opportunity for stocker operators to interact with each other and the program presenters in an informal environment.

The program of February 13 will include topics related to "successful" stocker operations presented by nationally recognized experts in the stocker industry. Topics include health and management of stocker cattle, risk management, the outlook for the stocker industry, using byproducts from ethanol production in stocker cattle rations.

The day will conclude with a panel discussion by successful stocker operators from the Mid-South area who will share what they do to be successful with their operations.

For additional information, contact Dr. Jim Neel, University of Tennessee Extension Beef Cattle Specialist at 865-974-7294 or jneel@utk.edu or Mr. John Bartee, County Director, University of Tennessee Extension, Montgomery County Tennessee at 931-648-5725 or jbartee1@utk.edu. In Kentucky contact Dr. John T. Johns University of Kentucky Beef Cattle Specialist at 859-257-2853 or jtjohns@uky.edu. For more information, visit the following web site: <http://www.midsouth-stocker.org/>

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