

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality



Upcoming events:

- February 10—Mississippi BCIA annual membership meeting, Hilton Hotel, Jackson, MS, 1:00 p.m.
- February 20—Cattlemen's Exchange meeting (Simpson/Copiah County) Mississippi alliances, Copiah County Ext office, Crystal Springs, MS, 6:30 p.m.
- February 21—Master Cattle Producer, Forage Systems session, distance education, 6:30 p.m.
- February 28—Master Cattle Producer, Beef Cattle Nutrition session, distance education, 6:30 p.m.
- March 2—Hinds Community College Bull Test Sale, Raymond, MS
- March 7—Master Cattle Producer, Optimum Genetics Selection session, distance education, 6:30 p.m.
- March 14—Master Cattle Producer, Herd Health and Handling session, distance education, 6:30 p.m.
- April 18-21, 2006—Beef Improvement Federation annual meeting, Pearl River Resort, Choctaw, MS

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Mississippi BCIA Annual Membership Meeting This Month

Beef cattle producers in Mississippi can soon attend a two-day lineup of educational programs as part of the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association annual convention and trade show on February 10-11, 2006 at the Hilton Hotel off of County Line Road in Jackson, MS. Producer education programs kick off on Friday, February 10 at 1:00 p.m. with the Mississippi BCIA session.

The BCIA session features Dr. Andy Herring, Associate Professor and Holder of the John K. Riggs '41 Beef Cattle Professorship at Texas A&M University. Dr. Herring teaches classes in beef cattle production and management. His research interests focus on areas to increase production efficiency for cow-calf producers through coordination of breeding systems, environmental resources and marketing strategies. He has researched genetic and environmental influences on milk production in beef cows, breed differences for feedlot and carcass characteristics and pasture utilization of cattle through use of GPS/GIS technology. Herring will share information with Mississippi BCIA on "Practical Genetic Selection Tools for Beef Producers." He will also speak on the "New Technologies in Beef Production" later Friday afternoon. The MBCIA annual membership meeting follows Dr. Herring's initial presentation and will include an update on Beef Improvement Federation convention plans along with the MBCIA board election.

The complete schedule of events for the 2006 MCA Convention and Trade Show is as follows:

Thursday, February 9, 2006

5:00 p.m. Legislative/ Allied Industry Reception—MCA Office

Friday, February 10, 2006

1:00 p.m. BCIA Annual Meeting
Genetic Selection Tools
BIF 2006 Update

2:00 p.m. New Technology in Beef Production—Dr. Andy Herring, Texas A&M Univ.

3:30 p.m. Trade Show opens

5:00 p.m. Trade Show closes

6:00 p.m. "A Taste of Beef" and Auction—Mississippi Ag Museum

Saturday, February 11, 2006

7:00 a.m. Executive Committee Breakfast
8:00 a.m. Foundation Board Annual Meeting
9:00 a.m. MCA Business Meeting (Directors and members invited)

10:00 a.m. Trade Show opens

10:15 a.m. Market Outlook—Troy Applehans, Cattle-Fax

12:00 p.m. MCA Awards Luncheon

Paul F. Newell Award
CattleWomen's Scholarships
Foundation Scholarships
Star Junior Cattleman Award
The Wax Company Scholarships

2:00 p.m. Marketing Panel

Roy Higdon, moderator
Burt Hankins, Cargill
Moley Herring, Lucedale Stockyard
Tommy Baxley, Laura's Lean Beef
Troy Applehans, Cattle-Fax

5:00 p.m. Trade Show closes

6:00 p.m. President's Banquet
Outstanding County Awards
Cattleman of the Year
Hall of Fame Inductions

For more information on the events scheduled as part of the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association annual convention and trade show, contact the Mississippi Cattlemen's Association at (601) 354-8951.



Pearl River Resort, Choctaw, MS
April 18-21, 2006

Final 2006 Beef Improvement Federation Convention Schedule

Tuesday, April 18, 2006

10:00 am Golf Tournament (Dancing Rabbit Golf Club, Choctaw, MS)
6:00 pm Mississippi Opening Reception
7:30 pm Symposium sponsored by the Ultrasound Guidelines Council
"Basics of Ultrasounding Beef Cattle for Genetic Improvement"
Moderator—Dr. Robert Williams, American International Charolais Association

Wednesday, April 19, 2006

6:30 am Breakfast
7:00 am Spouses Tour Departs for Meridian
8:00 am Welcome Comments
8:15 am *General Session—Where do I as a Cow-Calf Producer Fit in Retail and Consumer Targets?*
Moderator—Tommy Brown, BIF Board
8:15 am Identifying the 21st Century Beef Consumer—Kevin Murphy, Vance Publishing
9:00 am How to Satisfy the 21st Century Beef Consumer—Paul Heinrich, SYSCO Corporation
9:45 am Break
10:30 am How do I Satisfy the 21st Century Beef Consumer?
A Cattle Feeder's Perspective—Tom Brink, Five Rivers Ranch Cattle Feeding
A Cattle Marketer's Perspective—Jackie Moore, Joplin Stockyards
11:15 am 2005 National Beef Quality Audit Results—What are the Challenges for the Future of Beef Production?
—Dr. Gary Smith, Colorado State University
12:00 pm BIF Recognition Luncheon
2:00 pm Committee Meetings
Genetic Prediction
Live Animal, Carcass, and Endpoint Producer Applications
5:30 pm Spouses Tour Arrives Back at Pearl River Resort
6:30 pm Southern Style Supper and Enter-

tainment (Neshoba County Coliseum)

Thursday, April 20, 2006

7:00 am Breakfast
8:00 am *General Session—Where do I Fit with my Production Environment?*
Moderator—Joe Roybal, BEEF Magazine
8:00 am Defining Feed Efficiency—Dr. Gordon Carstens, Texas A&M University
8:30 am Genetics of Feed Efficiency in Beef Cattle—Dr. Denny Crews, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
9:00 am Development of Feed Efficiency Genetic Evaluation and Decision Support—Dr. Dorian Garrick, Colorado State University
9:30 am Break
10:00 am Matching Beef Genetics with Production Environment—Dr. Tom Jenkins, USDA MARC
10:45 am Heterosis-Ignored or Forgotten?—Dr. Dave Daley, California State University, Chico
11:30 am Annual Meeting and Director Elections
12:00 pm BIF Awards Luncheon
2:00 pm Committee Meetings
Cowherd Efficiency and Adaptability
Emerging Technology
Selection Decisions
Supper (on your own)

Friday, April 21, 2006

7:00 am Producer Tour Buses Depart
8:00 am MAFES Leveck Animal Research Center, Mississippi State, MS
11:00 am EE Ranches, Winona, MS (Lunch)
4:00 pm The Gaddis Farms, Bolton, MS
6:00 pm Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum, Jackson, MS (Supper)
Make plans to attend BIF 2006 now. The BIF 2006 early registration deadline is March 15, 2006.

"The UGC is composed of beef breed organization representatives, university personnel, representatives from industry companies and technician organizations that support the beef cattle industry through ultrasound service programs."

UGC Certified Technician List Updated for 2006

The Ultrasound Guidelines Council (UGC) 2006 certified field technician list is now available. The new list can be viewed online at www.aptcbeef.org/ or on the Mississippi BCIA website at msucare.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/. The UGC was adopted by the U.S. Beef Breeds Council to be responsible

for developing, maintaining and governing proficiency-testing protocol and standards for beef cattle ultrasound technician certification. The Tuesday night opening session of the 2006 BIF Convention will feature the latest information on the UGC and ultrasound guidelines on April 18.

Registration Form



Registration Due by March 15, 2006 for Early Registration Rate.

Name(s): _____
 Ranch/ Company/ Institution Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Preferred Name(s) for Name Tags: _____



Full Registration: includes all sessions, all meals/ receptions, and proceedings (does not include tour);
Spouse Registration: the same as the full registration with no proceedings;
Daily Registration: includes meals and sessions for that day with no proceedings.

Full Conference:
 _____ Full at \$125 per person (\$150 late/ on-site)
 _____ Spouse at \$115 per person (\$140 late/ on-site)
 _____ Student at \$75 per person (\$90 late/ on-site)

Additional Items:
 _____ Conference Proceedings at \$20 each
 _____ Tuesday Evening Reception at \$20 each
 _____ Wednesday Breakfast at \$10 each
 _____ Wednesday Lunch at \$30 each
 _____ Wednesday Supper at \$25 each
 _____ Thursday Breakfast at \$10 each
 _____ Thursday Lunch at \$30 each

Daily Registration (Wednesday):
 _____ Attendee at \$70 per person (\$85 late/ on-site)
 _____ Student at \$40 per person (\$50 late/ on-site)

Producer Tour, Friday, April 21:
 _____ Seedstock/Commercial at \$50 each

Daily Registration (Thursday):
 _____ Attendee at \$70 per person (\$85 late/ on-site)
 _____ Student at \$40 per person (\$50 late/ on-site)

Find out more about BIF 2006 online at
msucares.com/livestock/beef/bif2006.html

Golf Tournament, Tuesday, April 19,
Dancing Rabbit Golf Club:
 _____ Tuesday 10:00 am at \$85 each
 _____ Handicap (18 Hole)

For more information on BIF 2006 contact:
 Jane Parish or Blair McKinley
 Department of Animal and Dairy Sciences
 Mississippi State University
 Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762
 (662) 325-7466 or (662) 325-3691
 jparish@ads.msstate.edu
 bmckinley@ads.msstate.edu

Spouses Tour, Wednesday, April 20,
Meridian, Mississippi:
 _____ Wednesday at \$50 each

TOTAL DUE (\$US): _____

Payment Method: _____ Check (made payable to BIF 2006) _____ Mastercard _____ Visa

Expiration Date: _____ **Acct.#** _____ **Name on Card** _____

Signature _____

Make checks payable to: BIF 2006. Send registration form and payment to BIF 2006:
 Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762, phone (662) 325-7466 or (662) 325-3691, fax (662) 325-8873



Mississippi Cattlemen's Association



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Send questions or comments about this newsletter to Jane Parish, Extension Beef Specialist, Mississippi State University Extension Service

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discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation or group affiliation, age, disability, or veteran status.



Visit MBCIA online at
<http://msucares.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/>

MBCIA Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(Check one) Seedstock: Commercial:

Cattle breed(s): _____

Completed applications and \$5 annual dues payable to Mississippi BCIA should be mailed to:

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association
c/o Jane Parish, Extension Beef Specialist
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762

BCIA Management Calendar—February 2006

GENERAL

Continue winter-feeding to ensure good rebreeding and calf performance. Evaluate remainder of winter feed supply. Watch body condition, and utilize winter-feeding groups according to cattle nutritional demands and feed and forage supplies. Graze winter annual pastures maintaining at least four inches of stubble height. Limit grazing for a few hours per day is an effective method for grazing winter pastures. Pull soil samples on summer pasture and hayfields to plan spring fertilization and liming program. This is a good time to apply preemergence weed control to dormant bermudagrass. Plan to fertilize annual ryegrass and tall fescue before the flush of spring growth. Keep proper free-choice minerals available for cattle at all times, continuing feeding of high magnesium mineral supplements for cows on lush winter pastures to prevent grass tetany. Keep a close eye on water sources, particularly watering tanks that may freeze over. Maintain a complete herd health program in consultation with a veterinarian including internal and external parasite control and vaccinations. Continue to look for lice infestation, and treat as needed. Order pharmaceuticals, implants, dewormers, and insect control products for spring and summer. Make plans to service hay equipment well before hay season. Cull cow markets are typically favorable in the next few months. Market cull cows in good body condition. Continue good production and financial record keeping. Gather records for tax purposes. Secure a premises identification number for your farm from the MS Board of Animal Health. Plan to attend the Beef Improvement Federation meeting in Choctaw, Mississippi on April 18-21, 2006.

SPRING CALVING—January, February, March

Have calving supplies on hand including calving record books, ear tags, obstetric equipment, disinfectants, calf scales, and colostrum. Observe cattle closely as calving approaches, paying extra attention to heifers. Separate lactating cows, first-calf heifers, and dry cows into groups to feed more efficiently. Always maintain good calving records including calf birth weights. After calving, move pairs to clean pasture, and watch calves for scours. Tag, castrate, dehorn, and implant calves as appropriate. Schedule pre-breeding vaccinations. Take yearling measurements on bulls and replacement heifers, reporting data on seedstock cattle to breed associations. Make final heifer selection decisions based on genetics, performance information, temperament, soundness, breeding goals, and progress to target breeding weights. Determine bull power needs, and make final bull selection decisions acquiring quality herd sires with performance information from reputable sources. Schedule breeding soundness evaluations, and make certain bulls are in good condition. Trim feet and provide extra feed if needed. For artificial insemination programs, have semen and related supplies on hand and facilities ready.

FALL CALVING—October, November, December

Continue using the best hay and feeds for lactating cows now. Monitor breeding activities in herds exposed for fall calving. If a high percentage of cows return to heat after 40 days of breeding, have bulls rechecked for breeding soundness, consult with a veterinarian on possible reproductive disease problems, and re-evaluate the nutritional program. Check on bull condition during the breeding season, and provide supplemental feed as needed. Prepare to remove bulls after a controlled breeding season.