

2012 State Tours in Review

Hereford breeders host tours and field days.

On the following pages are highlights of 2012 field days and tours that were reported to *Hereford World* staff. We apologize to state associations with events not reported.

California/Nevada Tour

Approximately 75 Hereford enthusiasts attended the California/Nevada Polled Hereford Association Tour and Field Day May 5 in Sonora, Calif.

Stops on the tour included Santos Hereford Ranch, Hilmar; Lander Vet Clinic, Turlock; Rocha's Valley Enterprises, Oakdale; and Rosasco Ranch, Jamestown. The day ended with dinner at Sonora Fairgrounds and a panel discussion about embryo transfer.



Nathan Rosasco, Rosasco Ranch, Jamestown, Calif., explained how his family has been using Hereford genetics for many years and how they especially like the disposition and mothering ability of the whiteface cows.



Mason-Dixon/Pennsylvania Hereford Association Field Day

The Annual Field Day/Membership Meeting of the Mason-Dixon Hereford Association was June 2 at L&D Polled Herefords, Vanderbilt, Pa. Combined with the Pennsylvania Hereford Association (PHA), more than 60 members and guests attended.

Highlights of the morning included a yearling heifer judging contest and a presentation about L&D's cost-sharing project and recent upgrading of the farm's environmental stream bank fencing/crossing and water access.

After lunch Dr. Don Tummons gave an update on infectious bovine keratoconjunctivitis (pinkeye). He told attendees 2012 was a "bumper year" for pinkeye because of a warm winter, wet spring and early summer weather.

Dustin Heeter, Westmoreland County Extension agent and PHA vice president, gave a presentation on marketing.



More than 60 Hereford enthusiasts enjoyed the field day hosted by L&D Polled Herefords.

Tennessee Hereford Field Day

The Tennessee Polled Hereford Association hosted its field day June 23 at the Bedford County Fair Grounds in Shelbyville.

The morning program was packed with information to help producers be more efficient and better promote and market their products. Ryan Goodman led off the program with a presentation on how to use social media to promote your products and the agricultural way of life. Ryan has his own blog "Agriculture Proud" and is a regular with CNN representing farmers' and ranchers' views.

Kevin Ferguson, University of Tennessee area specialist for farm and financial management, led a discussion about the present production level of farms and ranches compared to the past and the production needs of the future to feed the world.

Ryan Betzelberger, Tennessee Ag Enhancement Program livestock improvement coordinator, gave an informative talk concerning the guidelines for cost-share programs available for livestock producers in Tennessee.

Following lunch was the junior preview show.



Ryan Goodman discussed how to use social media.

Kansas Hereford Tour

The Kansas Hereford Tour was hosted in southwest Kansas Aug. 3-4. More than 100 Hereford enthusiasts attended the event, which featured seven stops.

The first stop Friday afternoon was Fairleigh Feedyard near Scott City, followed by H Bar Ranch also near Scott City. Saturday stops included Umberger Polled Herefords, Rozel; Leon Steffen, Burdett; Sandhill Farms, Haviland; Fast Horned Herefords, Haviland; and Deewall Family Herefords, Coldwater.



The lunch stop on Saturday was Sandhill Farms near Haviland.

North Carolina Field Day

The North Carolina Hereford Association hosted its annual field day at the North Carolina State University (NCSU) Beef Unit on Aug. 11. Todd See, department head, and Rick Kern, unit manager welcomed the group.

Kern gave a presentation about the university's "Amazing Grazing" program. He brought attention to the improved profitability, herd health and environmental advantages of controlled grazing as he discussed the different grazing systems being studied by NCSU.

Michael Jensen followed with a demonstration of how he actually moved the cattle as needed. He also discussed the advantages of quality equipment as he moved the cows from paddock to paddock.

NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Systems) employee Steve Woodruff presented a very interesting water runoff demonstration as he explained the value of soil microbes.

Following lunch, Brian Blinson gave an update from the North Carolina Cattlemen's Association. He challenged everyone to become an active advocate for agriculture and livestock farming.



Michael Jensen demonstrated how to move cattle through a grazing system including equipment needed.

Buckeye Hereford Field Day

The Helsinger family of Germantown, Ohio, hosted the 2012 Buckeye Hereford Association Field Day on Aug. 25.

Attendees enjoyed lunch followed by Dr. Tim Osborn, Vigortone beef tech service manager, who talked about fetal programming.



Iowa Hereford Breeders Tour

A perfect fall day in northeast Iowa greeted attendees of the 2012 Iowa Hereford Tour on Saturday, Aug. 25.

The tour featured three stops including Lenth Herefords, Postville; McFarland Hereford Farms, Fredericksburg; and Bar S Farms, Sumner.

The Lenths had their cattle organized into various lots both at the house and across the road, making for a picturesque setting. Visitors were also challenged to guess the weight of the heaviest cow in the herd.

The lunch stop was McFarland Hereford Farms. Dan had cattle on display, as did his grandson, Jon Macken.

Modern facilities and an impressive array of embryo transplant cows were featured at the final stop, Mike and Sue Kirchhoff's Bar S Farms.



The Lenths had their cattle organized into various lots both at the house and across the road, making for a picturesque setting.

Illinois Hereford Tour

More than 100 participants attended the Illinois Hereford Tour during Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1-2, in northern Illinois.

On Saturday the tour visited DeLHawk Cattle Co., Earlville; Milligan Herefords, Kings; Valley Creek Farm, Stillman Valley, and ended the day at Perks Ranch, Rockford, for a Certified Hereford Beef (CHB®) dinner co-sponsored by Perks Ranch and the Fall Friday Celebration Sale consignors: Rustic Oak Farms, River Ridge Ranch and C&L Hereford Farm.

On Sunday the tour headed to Mud Creek Farm, German Valley; Thousand Hills Herefords, Stockton; and Bickelhaupt Herefords, Mt. Carroll.



Saturday evening attendees enjoyed viewing cattle and being treated to a CHB dinner at Perks Ranch.

South Carolina Field Day

The historic Fowken Farm near Jonesville was the site of the 2012 South Carolina Hereford Association Field Day on Sept. 22. Owners Norris and Ann Fowler and their family welcomed a large crowd of local cattlemen and seedstock producers from the region.

Brian Beer, area beef specialist, leading a discussion about "Being Prepared for Calving Season, kicked off the morning program." Brian's talk was informative as to the equipment and knowledge needed for a successful calving season.

John Nicely and his son George gave a very interesting presentation on "Stress Free Cattle Handling." John demonstrated the natural instincts and the reactions of cattle to a person's demeanor and movements.

The afternoon program included nationally recognized Border Collie breeder Wayne West of Flint Hill Farm, Spartanburg, S.C. He gave a working dog demonstration with one of his dogs.

Steve Meadows, Clemson University, concluded the program as he discussed "How Herefords Fit the Needs of Southern Cattlemen" and what he looks for in cattle to fulfill this need. His presentation was centered on problem-free cattle suited for a Southern forage-based program.



Steve Meadows discussed how Herefords work in the Southern-based forage systems.

Missouri Hereford Field Day

A large crowd of Missouri Hereford Association (MHA) members and guests enjoyed the Missouri Field Day held at Roth Hereford Farm outside of Windsor on Sept. 4. The breeders of district 4 were the hosts of the gathering.

During the program, Missouri State Veterinarian Dr. Linda Hickam spoke about the incidents and control of trichomoniasis. Missouri Senator Mike Parsons gave updates on the Humane Society of the U.S.'s (HSUS) program to influence and restrict animal agriculture, and Sue Day shared how producers can be advocates for their own products through the Masters of Beef Advocacy program sponsored by the Missouri Beef Industry Council and the "Speaking of Beef" program through the Beef Council. In addition, Mick Welch, Certified Hereford Beef (CHB) LLC vice president of sales, gave a CHB update.



Mick Welch gave an update about the CHB program.



Attendees participated in a judging contest.



John Nicely demonstrated stress-free handling techniques.

Wisconsin Hereford Tour

Hereford breeders from Wisconsin's southwest district hosted the 2012 Wisconsin Hereford Association Tour Sept. 22-23.

More than 100 cattle enthusiasts from Wisconsin, Illinois and Iowa enjoyed tour stops at Wildcat Cattle Co.,

Darlington; Plum River Ranch, Monroe; Thousand Hills Herefords, Stockton, Ill.; Sand Rock Ranch, Benton; and Owego Stock Farm, Argyle.



Idaho Hereford Breeders Tour

Idaho Hereford breeders visited two ranches and a feedlot on Sept. 22. Approximately 30 attendees visited JBB/AL Herefords, Gooding; Colyer Herefords, Bruneau; and Simplot Land and Livestock Feedlot, Grandview.

At the Simplot stop, Will Kayser led a tour of Simplot's 150,000-head feedlot. Attendees also had a chance to view some of Shaw Cattle Co.'s bulls on the GrowSafe test and some of Simplot's Hereford-sired artificial insemination (AI) calves. **HW**

