

2016 State Tours in Review

California-Nevada Hereford Field Day and Tour

The 4th Annual California-Nevada Hereford Field Day and Tour was hosted April 23, in LaGrange, Calif.

Attendees toured Sierra Ranches' purebred Hereford herd led by ranch manager Dan DeMeyer. Jeffrey Stott, professor of pathology, microbiology and immunology at the University of California, Davis, is the leading expert on the study and development of the vaccine for foothill abortion and presented on the ongoing study.

Certified Hereford Beef (CHB®) hamburgers were served for lunch and following the meal, CHB LLC Supply Chain Manager Trey Befort shared about the benefits of CHB.

Following a caravan to historic Oakdale, Calif., attendees boarded the Sierra Railroad Dinner Train for a ride through the countryside, while enjoying a social and dinner.



Jeffrey Stott and Myrna Blanchard from the pathology, microbiology and immunology department at the University of California, Davis, were keynote speakers.



Dan and Carol DeMeyer, along with their daughter Tori, helped with the event.

Iowa Hereford Tour

Hereford enthusiasts from Iowa, Illinois and Indiana enjoyed a day of food, fellowship and good cattle in eastern Iowa as they gathered Sept. 4, for the annual Iowa Hereford Tour. Stops included Deppe Bros., Maquoketa; Petersen Herefords, DeWitt; and R&R Cattle, Wilton.

Approximately 50-75 people were at each stop. The tour concluded with annual meeting hosted at Tappa's Steak House in Davenport and featuring a CHB steak dinner.



Before cooking for the group, Cliff Tappa (above), owner of Tappa's Steak House in Davenport, shared his philosophy on what makes a good steak and why he uses CHB exclusively.



Deppe Bros., Maquoketa, made additions to their property and facilities since they hosted the tour in 2008. Visitors enjoyed viewing and judging cattle in spacious adjoining pens and sheds.



Both Deppes and Petersens offered guests a chance to test their judging skills. One class at Petersen Herefords was this group of heifers.

Illinois Hereford Tour

The 2016 Illinois Hereford Tour was hosted in western Illinois on Aug. 27-28.

Hosting tours were Sayre Hereford Farm, Arenzville; University of Illinois Orr Beef Research Center, Baylis; McCaskill Farms, Randy and Matt McCaskill and Ronnie McCaskill families, Clayton; Middle Creek Ranch, Tom Laffey Family, Carthage; Carthage Livestock Auction; Lowderman Cattle Co., Macomb; Torrance Polled Herefords, Media; and Knott Farms, Ellisville.

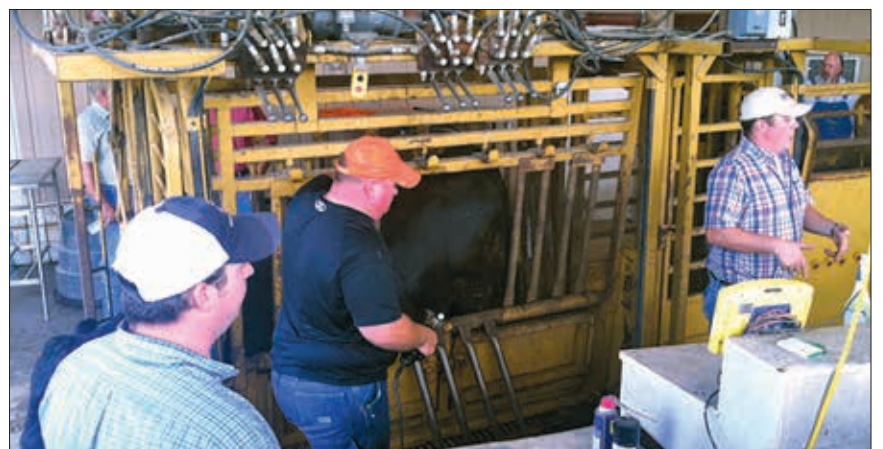
In addition to the cattle displays, two stops featured educational experiences. Carthage Livestock Auction is host to the annual Greater Midwest Certified Hereford Feeder Calf Sale in January. John Meents, American Hereford Association (AHA) field representative, explained to attendees how the sale has grown over the last nine years.



Knotts Farm, Robert Knott and family hosted lunch for the tour on Sunday.



Middle Creek Farm, Tom and Barbra Laffey, welcomed attendees for a dinner Saturday evening.



University of Illinois Beef Research Unit hosted a freeze branding demonstration.

Minnesota Hereford Breeders Tour

The Minnesota Hereford Breeder's Tour was hosted Sept. 24. The well-attended tour offered a number of quality cattle to view along with informative speakers on grazing alternatives.

The first stop on the tour was Neil Farms, Northfield. On display at this stop were cattle from Doug Lind & Family and Neilyne Genetics.

The second stop was GVF Herefords, Dennison, who gave an overview of their family's rich history with Hereford cattle.

Lunch was served at the Sibley County Fairgrounds and Justin Fruechte with Millborn Seeds gave a presentation on grazing options and cover crops.

Dose Family Herefords, Arlington, hosted attendees in the afternoon. April Sullivan and John Zinn of the National Resource Conservation Service presented about EQIP and how it is working for the Dose Family.

Concluding the tour was a tour of Jones Farms, LeSueur.

Missouri Hereford Field Day

The Missouri Hereford Field day was hosted Sept. 10 at Doss Hereford Farms in Smithville, Mo.

More than 70 Hereford breeders and enthusiasts attended for the day's events which kicked off with Glenn Klippenstein reflecting on changes in the breed and industry from the 1980s to present day.

Attendees heard from Jonathon Renfro, Renfro Veterinary Services, who presented on the Veterinary Feed Directive. Shane Bedwell, AHA director of breed improvement, shared about current programs at the Association. Trans Ova Genetics representative, Samantha Graves, presented on embryology.

Following a CHB tri-tip lunch, participants heard from Glen Waters of the Missouri Beef Council. A panel discussion on backgrounding calves and marketing opportunities concluded the day.

Cattle on display were from Doss Hereford Farms, 4B Livestock, Thompson Herefords, Tri-L Polled Herefords, Waters Farms and Phillips-Renner Farms.

Juniors attending enjoyed a fitting and clipping demonstration and a skill-a-thon.



More than 70 Hereford breeders and enthusiasts attended the Missouri Hereford Field Day.



Participants heard from numerous breeders and industry leaders.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF RURAL ROUTE CREATIONS

Nebraska Hereford Tour

The Nebraska Hereford Association hosted the Nebraska Hereford Tour Sept. 10-11 in central Nebraska.

Saturday's tour stops included Linton Polled Herefords, Miller; Zero Hereford Ranch, Miller; Kucera's Beaver Creek Ranch, Litchfield; Cain Land & Livestock, Broken Bow; Estergard Ranch, Callaway; and Ridder Hereford Ranch, Callaway. Participants also heard from AHA Director of Commercial Programs Trey Befort. Saturday's events concluded with a steak dinner at Ridder Hereford Ranch along with a barn dance featuring South Loup Sunrise Band.

Sunday's tour stops were hosted by TK Cattle Co., Burwell; Nelson Herefords, Burwell; Boothill Herefords, Burwell; Morgan Ranch Inc., Burwell; and Upstream Ranch, Taylor.

A judging contest was also hosted for tour participants.



Participants enjoyed touring Hereford ranches in central Nebraska.



Don Cain of Cain Land & Livestock in Broken Bow welcomed the tour to his ranch.

Montana Hereford Tour

Montana Hereford Association members and guests gathered for the Montana Hereford Tour Sept. 23-24.

More than 130 attended from 13 states, Canada and Australia.

The tour was based out of Belgrade, Mont., and showcased Montana's hospitality and great Hereford cattle. Day 1 included stops at Storey Hereford Ranch, Bozeman; Feddes Herefords, Manhattan; Churchill Cattle Co., Manhattan, with a display from L-W Cattle Co.; and Line One Hereford cattle at Cooper Hereford Ranch, Willow Creek, with a display from Holden Herefords.

Day 2 included stops at Ehlke Herefords, Townsend, with a display from Anchor Polled Herefords, a stop at the historic Grant-Kohrs Ranch, and concluded with Thomas Herefords, Gold Creek, with displays from Bar Star, Lucky U Cattle Co., Garrison, Dutton Hereford Ranch and Rafter & Tomlinson. **HW**



Cattle were on display at Feddes Herefords in Manhattan.



Pictured are Montana Hereford Tour organizers Bruce Thomas (l) and Tom Sparks (r).



Participants took a pasture tour on a horse-drawn wagon.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL, DEVIN MURKIN