

# 2019 State Tours in Review

A summary of last year's state tours, field days and workshops hosted by Hereford breeders.

## Arkansas Hereford Field Day

Bacon Cattle and Sheep, Siloam Springs, opened their gates to host the 2019 Arkansas Hereford Field Day on June 8. Guests heard from Shane Bedwell, American Hereford Association's (AHA) chief operating officer and director of breed improvement. Bedwell gave a recap on the AHA's "The Brand" Marketing Summit, general Association updates and an animal evaluation presentation. Lunch was served followed by a farm tour. The afternoon featured educational session centered around summertime pasture management and hot topics related to veterinary medicine. The event closed with the Arkansas Hereford Association meeting.

## Oregon Hereford Association Field Day

Oregon Hereford Association held its 2019 Oregon Hereford Field Day July 28 in central Oregon. The first stop featured Hacklin Herefords, Redmond, owned and operated by Hack and Linda Norton. The Norton family shared about their operation and breeding program. Attendees enjoyed coffee and donuts plus judged two classes of young bulls and heifers.

Stop two was at Barry Hereford Ranch in Madras, owned by Joe Barry. Two classes of yearling bulls and heifers were judged. Attendees were able to view pastures of cattle and a few herd bulls on display. The final visit was at Gohr Hereford & Angus, Madras, where the judging contest wrapped up with a final set of heifers to evaluate. Guests were served a *Certified Hereford Beef* tri-tip dinner.



Guests had the chance to view cattle at Barry Hereford Ranch.



Attendees line up for a *Certified Hereford Beef* tri-tip dinner at Gohr Hereford & Angus.

## Georgia Hereford Field Day

The Georgia Hereford Association held its annual field day June 14, 2019, and was hosted by Barnes Herefords, Cedartown, and White Hawk Ranch, Buchanan. Attendees were provided with a sorting demonstration by Barnes Hereford Manager Kevin Atkins, a judging contest, pasture tours of cattle and forage, followed by educational presentations during a *Certified Hereford Beef*® hamburger dinner.



Visitors enjoy pasture tours of cattle and forage during the Georgia Hereford Field Day.



Bulls at Barnes Herefords were on display for attendees to view.

## Hereford on the Mountain Field Day

Hereford breeders headed to the mountaintops of Tennessee for the 8th annual Hereford on the Mountain, hosted Aug. 3, 2019, at the Sewanee home of Tommy and Kim Coley. More than 250 people representing 15 states were in attendance for the event, which kicked off with a welcome from 2019 AHA President Pete Atkins.

David Trowbridge, Gregory Feedlots Inc.; Ty Ragsdale, *Certified Hereford Beef*; and Trey Befort, AHA, led a panel discussion about the *Certified Hereford Beef* program while Shane Bedwell, AHA, wrapped up the educational component with a discussion of the importance of selecting for traits that do not have expected progeny differences. The evening concluded with a fundraising auction, CHB dinner and live music.



Tommy and Kim Coley welcomed more than 250 guests to their mountaintop home in Sewanee, Tenn., for the 2019 Hereford on the Mountain.

## Kansas Hereford Tour

The Kansas Hereford Association held their Hereford tour Aug. 24, 2019. Stops this year included Coon Herefords at Goodland, 4V Ranch, Stephen Douthit Family Herefords at St. Francis, Douthit Herefords (Walter Douthit family) also at St. Francis, Mader Farms at Hoxie, Jamison Herefords at Quinter, Pieper Land & Cattle at Zurich, and VJS Polled Herefords at Hays.

## Illinois Hereford Association Tour

The east central region of Illinois was occupied by Hereford breeders for the 2019 Illinois Hereford Association Tour Aug. 24-25.

The five stops for the first day included: Cole Herefords, Roberts; Tjardes Farms, Gibson City; University of Illinois Beef Bar, Champaign; Aden Farms, St. Joseph; and Edenburn Family Farm, Penfield. Dinner was served at I&I Club Hall and Antique Farm Equipment Museum, Penfield.

Attendees gathered Sunday at Lorenzen Farms, Chrisman, followed by a stop at Ellis Farms Beef Genetics LLC, Chrisman.

### Wisconsin Hereford Association Field Day

Wisconsin Hereford Association Field Day was held Aug. 24, 2019, and featured visits at ST Genetics, Fond du Lac, and Huth Polled Herefords, Oakfield.

Around 120 Hereford enthusiasts started the day with a tour at ST Genetics viewing the facility, the bulls and the lab. Attendees were also given an explanation and demonstration of semen sexing technology. A *Certified Hereford Beef* lunch was served at Huth Polled Herefords. In addition to cattle viewing and pasture tours, visitors were also provided with educational sessions involving grazing opportunities, pasture renovation, fencing and waterline installation and National Resource Conservation Service support.



ST Genetics opened their doors to provide guests with a tour and an educational session on sexing technology.

### Iowa Hereford Breeders Tour

Slightly overcast and mild weather conditions combined with four high-caliber herd stops in southwest Iowa set the stage for a successful 2019 Iowa Hereford Breeders Association Tour Aug. 25.

A crowd of around 60 people gathered for the first stop at Rustic View Farm, Mount Pleasant. Don and Annie Van Amerongen opened their gates and featured a few artificial insemination (AI) calves on display. K7 Herefords, Lockridge, was next on the list and provided 100 head of spring and fall calving cows for viewing. After lunch, attendees ventured to Phillip and Ryan Gaffney's, Milton, who have deep roots in the Hereford business.

Goehring Herefords, Keosauqua, rounded out the event with a handful of females and AI calves on display. Nearly 90 people were in attendance for the evening event "Herefords in the Park," which consisted of a dinner and a special custom backgrounding message from Frank Barnitz, owner and operator of Net Worth Feeds & Feeding in Lake Springs, Mo. Joe Rickabaugh, AHA director of field management and seedstock marketing, introduced the new online catalog service Herefords On Demand.



Bill Goehring with Goehring Herefords, addresses the crowd of Hereford breeders.



Approximately 90 people attended "Herefords on the Hill" and enjoyed a *Certified Hereford Beef* meal.

### Missouri Hereford Field Day

Hereford breeders gathered in central Missouri Sept. 6-7, 2019, for the District 5 Missouri Hereford Field Day.

The first leg of the event was a meal and social gathering hosted by AbraKadabra Cattle Co., Columbia, followed by the Missouri Hereford board meeting.

Saturday morning was spent at Circle F Farms in Jefferson City. Cole Fischer and his family served breakfast and provided a short overview of Circle F Farms. This was followed by a presentation from Joe Brown with MultiMin 90.

Field day attendees stopped off at Mead Farms, Versailles, where they heard from farm manager, Jennifer Russell, who shared the operations goals and future plans. Several groups of cattle that would be featured in their fall sale were on display.

Lunch was served at Day's Family Farm in Pilot Grove and sponsored by MFA. The Esser family of Blackwater opened their gates and provided visitors with a short overview of their cattle and grain operation. The final event was a fun evening spent back at AbraKadabra Cattle Co. Attendees browsed through their cowherd and sale cattle. A meal, door prizes and a band topped off the night's festivities.



Larry Day, Day's Family Farm, Pilot Grove, shares his intensive management process with attendees during his stop of the tour.

### Montana Hereford Tour

The Montana Hereford Tour was hosted by the Montana Hereford Association Sept. 13-14, 2019. Tour stops included: ORlgen Beef, Bar Star Cattle, Frank Herefords, L Bar W Cattle Co., Loyning Herefords, McMurry Cattle, Mohican West Polled Herefords and Sidwell Ranch.



Terry Powlesland of Mohican West Polled Herefords addresses the guests on the tour.



Guests enjoy a *Certified Hereford Beef* steak dinner served at Bar Star Cattle.



The Missouri Hereford Field Day final stop was spent at AbraKadabra Cattle Co., Columbia, and featured a meal, door prizes and a live band.



Approximately 50 juniors joined the tour to compete in the livestock judging contest.



Each stop featured cattle on display which allowed attendees to learn more about cattle herds from various operations.

### Nebraska Hereford Association Tour

The 2019 Nebraska Hereford Tour was held in south central Nebraska Sept. 7-8 and was attended by nearly 100 individuals.

Breakfast was served Saturday morning at Albert Moeller & Sons of Grand Island, with guest exhibitor, Priefert Polled Hereford, Fairmont. Moeller had numerous herd sires on display, as well as cattle from their Red Angus herd.

Participants then took to Central Community College in Hastings where they were guided through a brief history of the Navy Ammunition Depot by a representative from the Adams County Historical Society. A stop at Schroer Herefords, Nelson, was next on the list. They displayed their productive Line 1 females, along with herd bulls purchased from Miles City Fort Keogh Research Station. The tour then traveled to Lawrence with a visit at Stillwater One Polled Herefords, owned by Joe and Frances Brockman.

MCM Polled Herefords of Ayr hosted dinner featuring a *Certified Hereford Beef* supper and a large screen TV broadcasting the Husker football game. Pens of heifers featured in the November online sale were on display, along with herd bulls available for sale.

The tour resumed Sunday morning at VR Bar Land and Cattle, Kenesaw. Owners Andy

and Catie Blessin served breakfast and had a select group available for viewing. Also displaying was B Bar L Herefords, Levi Grsuch and Daniel Leonard.

Around 50 junior members and their families joined the group to participate in the livestock judging contest sponsored by the Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic and the Nebraska Hereford Association. Shane Bedwell, AHA chief operating officer and director of breed improvement, served as an official for the contest. VR Bar Land and Cattle provided a class of bred heifers.

Rutt Herefords was the next stop and the group judged a class of yearling bulls and an additional class of yearling heifers as part of the contest. Also displaying at this location was Darren and Katie Bolte, Bolte Farms, with a select group of females; and R&R Cattle, Railen and Ralson Ripp with a few of their foundation females.

The weekend festivities closed at S&S Polled Herefords in Guide Rock. Owners Ron and Nancy Schutte served a meal to more than 250 people. They were assisted by Wilson and Afton Alber and their children, who also displayed some of their Windmill Livestock show cattle and foundation females. The livestock contestants finished up judging a class of spring heifer calves, spring bull calves and yearling bulls.

### Minnesota State Hereford Tour

The Minnesota Hereford Association hosted the 2019 Minnesota State Hereford Tour Sept. 28. The tour stops included: JMF Herefords and SimAngus, Walsh Family Herefords, Carlson Farms, Cardinal Creek Cattle Co. and Louriston Dairy.



Attendees walk through numerous pens of cattle on display at JMF Herefords and SimAngus, Holloway.

### Tennessee Hereford Field Day

Mike and Carol Rogan, owners of Rogan Hereford Farm in Rogersville, opened their gates to host the 2019 Tennessee Hereford Field Day Sept. 28. Visitors toured the Rogan Farm, which is recognized as a century operation. The show barn and paddocks featured high-quality Hereford bulls and females. Plus, wagon tours were given for participants to catch a glimpse of the cowherd along with the amazing landscape of east Tennessee. Attendees were served a brisket lunch followed by an educational program and a judging contest.



Attendees walk through numerous pens of cattle on display at JMF Herefords and SimAngus, Holloway.

### North Carolina Hereford Association Workshop

In place of the annual field day, the North Carolina Hereford Association held a workshop for members on Nov. 23, 2019, in Winston-Salem, N.C.

The event focused on preparing cattle for consignment auctions, reducing the impact of fescue toxicosis, forage species for grazing, and maximizing forage utilization, plus presentations from junior members. Speakers for the program featured: Tommy Coley, AHA Eastern region representative; Johnny Rogers, North Carolina State University Amazing Grazing Program coordinator; Paige Smart, Southeast AgriSeeds LLC regional support manager; Justin O'Flaherty, BioZyme Inc. area sales manager; and Laura Loschke, AHA education and information services coordinator and records supervisor.



Tommy Coley address the importance of preparing cattle for consignment auctions.

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