State Tours

State Hereford tours highlighted great genetics and the even better stockmen behind them.

Editor's Note: If you'd like to feature your state's 2027 tour in Hereford World, contact your region's AHA field representative or email Katie Miller at kmiller@hereford.org.

Kansas

The Kansas Hereford Tour Aug. 15-16 kicked off just north of Abilene at Jones Hereford Farm for breakfast. Attendees traveled to Oleen Cattle Co. in Falun where they learned the operation's history and enjoyed brisket sandwiches, before touring Ringer Herefords' pastures in Concordia. The evening wound down with the last two stops, Jensen Land & Cattle and Jensen Ranch in Courtland. The latter served 216 guests prime rib dinners in honor of their five decades in the Hereford business. Sunday dawned cool and rainy with the first stop at Walnut Grove Farms near Agenda for breakfast. The group toured Marc Hanson and Family's pasture in Morrowville before seeing the Cerny family's commercial Hereford herd. Reed Polled Herefords in Clifton served as the final stop, and attendees enjoyed a brisket lunch while learning about the operation. HW



Chuck Oleen welcomes a great crowd to Oleen Cattle Co.



Everyone enjoyed prime rib for Jensen Ranch's 50th year.



Cattle on display at Cerny's.



Lots to see at Hanson's pasture stop.

Illinois

More than 100 people attended the Illinois Hereford Association (IHA) Tour held Aug. 29 in South Central Illinois. Attendees enjoyed stops at Eubank Farms and cohost Newbold Farms in Willow Hill; J. Lidy Herefords, Jewett; Crutcher Livestock and cohost Warfel Family Farms in Montrose; Goldstein Farms, Effingham; and Second Creek Cattle, Altamont. These producers showcased superior genetics and excellent hospitality. The IHA and tour attendees extend a special thanks to Ty Drach, American Hereford Association (AHA) field representative, for giving an update during dinner. Lastly, a big congratulations to Charles Warfel — the winner of the $250 sale credit at the IHA Winter Classic in December. HW



More than 100 Hereford enthusiasts attended the Illinois Hereford Tour.



Attendees enjoyed viewing cattle from seven South Central Illinois producers.

Missouri

The Missouri Hereford Association Annual Field Day, held Aug 29-30, was very well attended in the South Central region of the state. More than 150 people from across Missouri, along with Hereford enthusiasts from other states, as well as a small contingent from the United Kingdom, enjoyed the educational weekend. On the first day, attendees stopped by Ace's Polled Herefords, Joplin, Mo.; J.D. Bellis Family Herefords, Aurora, Mo.; Missouri State University, Springfield, Mo.; and Butler Polled Herefords, Republic. Attendees saw good cattle and enjoyed presentations on a variety of topics including: the Show-Me Select Heifer program, embryo evaluation, virtual fencing, American Hereford Association happenings and aerial drones. The second day started at McMillan's Toothacre Ranch, Walnut Grove, and the event ended with a tour of Bonebrake Herefords, Strafford. HW



J.D. Bellis Family Herefords welcomed attendees.



Ace's Polled Herefords kicked off Missouri's field day.

Iowa

The Iowa Hereford Tour was held in North Central Iowa on Aug. 30. The day began at MDF Polled Herefords near Northwood, where the Dierenfeld family showcased their registered Hereford cow herd. Attendees then visited the Flyin H Ranch in Sheffield. Flyin H uses Hereford bulls on their Angus cows, producing black whiteface calves that have consistently topped a regional sale barn's feeder calf sales. After a buffet lunch and the Iowa Hereford Breeders Association's Annual Meeting, a marketing roundtable was held discussing various marketing methods and opportunities. Panelists included Bill Goehring, owner of Goehring Herefords and Keosauqua Sales Co.; Justin Miller, AHA director of commercial programs; and Marilyn Lenth, of Lenth Herefords. The final stop was Grand View Farm & Ranch, outside of Belmond, where attendees were treated to a hayride through an impressive horned Hereford herd, which is the base of their family's farm-to-table, online beef marketing business. HW



Flyin H Ranch's Hereford-sired calves were on display.



The Marketing Roundtable discussion and forum provided valuable insights.



Mike and Jean Dierenfeld welcomed folks to MDF Polled Herefords.



Attendees view cattle at Grand View Farm & Ranch.

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Nebraska

After a five-year hiatus, the Nebraska Hereford Tour was back in full force Sept. 19-20. It was well attended with breeders from across the state, as well as other states, enjoying the stops across the Sandhills. Cool weather provided extra enjoyment to the fellowship and good Hereford cattle. Nelson Herefords, Boothill Herefords and Upstream Ranch served as the first tour stops near Taylor. The first day rounded out at Morgan Ranch in Burwell. Sunday's first stop was to Hoffman Ranch in Thedford and the day ended with a golf scramble or a tour of the Cowpoke Hotel and Bar None Hat Shop. HW



Nebraska tour attendees enjoyed visiting over the weekend.



A gathering of great people led to a great weekend.



Lots of good Hereford cattle were on display in Nebraska.

Michigan

The Michigan Hereford Association (MHA) gathered at Ridgeview Farm in Alto for its annual Field Day Oct. 3. The field day was held in conjunction with the Michigan Junior Hereford Association Fall Spectacular. MHA recognized the Hall of Merit inductee, Outstanding Junior Hereford Member and the 3rd Annual EPD Show winners. (Read more about the winners in From the Field on Page 70.) Attendees enjoyed a lovely evening learning about the Ridgeview Farm's farmer's market beef sales program, cattle production and evaluation from owners, Bob and Jami Goble. HW



Kirby Jo Cattle Co. receives EPD Show awards.



MHA Hall of Merit Inductee, Geof Bednar



Michigan juniors gather during the Fall Spectacular held in conjunction with the field day.



MHA Outstanding Junior Award Elayna Hawkins