



*This is a unique opportunity for Kansas cattle producers to update themselves on topics that will affect their operations. Look inside for meeting highlights.*

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## BEEF IMPROVEMENT FEDERATION MEETING SET K-State to co-host 32nd annual event July 12-15 in Wichita

The Beef Improvement Federation Annual Meeting and Research Symposium is fast approaching. The 32nd annual meeting will be held July 12-15 in Wichita.

Workshops, tours and committee meetings are planned, complete with "An Evening with Baxter Black." Sessions focusing on Economically Relevant Traits and Emerging Technologies are designed to help producers with present management decisions and prepare them for cattle industry developments.

"This is a unique opportunity for Kansas cattle producers to update them-

selves on topics that will affect their operations," Twig Marston, K-State Research and Extension, said.

Local tours offer opportunities to participate in local attractions, while the industry tours go a bit further. Day tours to either southwest or central Kansas will include visits to top commercial and seedstock producers in addition to the commercial feeding industry.

For more information contact Marston at (785) 532-5428, twig@ksu.edu, or Todd Johnson at KLA, (785) 273-5115, toddj@kla.org. Register on-line at [www.beefimprovement.org](http://www.beefimprovement.org).

## NEW RESOURCE FOR BEEF PRODUCERS Data base contains more than 1300 articles featuring latest research

If you like keeping up with the latest beef research and industry trends, the Beef InfoBase might be the tool for you.

Introduced at the 2000 National Cattlemen's Beef Association convention, the Beef InfoBase contains more than 1,300 documents. Articles are added every month, with 188 added in May alone.

"The Beef InfoBase represents another good source of information for producers," K-State Beef Extension Specialist Dale Blasi said.

Blasi, who helped review the product from Agricultural Databases for Decision Support (ADDS), said articles from university research reports, Extension fact

sheets and private industry materials are all easily accessible through the search function. As publications from universities are released, they will be available on the Web site, including K-State publications such as the Cattlemen's Day proceedings.

Beef InfoBase is available on the [www.adds.org](http://www.adds.org) Web site or Beef InfoBase CD. A 12-month Web site subscription is available for \$35. The Beef InfoBase CD may be purchased for \$99 plus shipping and handling.

For more information contact Blasi at (785) 532-5427 or [dblasi@oznet.ksu.edu](mailto:dblasi@oznet.ksu.edu). To contact ADDS directly, phone (608) 848-9055.



## 32nd Beef Improvement Federation Annual Meeting and Research Symposium

July 12-15

Wichita, Kansas

*Register on-line  
at [www.beefimprovement.org](http://www.beefimprovement.org)  
or contact the  
Kansas Livestock  
Association at  
(785) 273-5115.*

### Wednesday July 12

7 p.m. - 9 p.m. **Opening Session**  
Hyatt Regency

#### **Focusing on Economically Relevant Traits**

- Marker-identified QTL versus actual QTL.
- How do DNA tools change beef cattle evaluation?

#### **Live Animal, Carcass and Endpoint Committee**

Focus: Coordinated relationships within the industry that are now making it possible to accumulate additional data that have been difficult to collect in the past. Topics will include:

- Canada's four-breed alliance.
- Sire selection for feed efficiency—building relationships between researchers and industry.
- Sorting feedlot cattle into the most profitable groups.
- Panel discussion on coordinated relationships.

### Thursday July 13

8 a.m. - Noon **General Session**  
Century II Convention Center

#### **Emerging Technologies Session Biotechnology**

Cloning, DNA, Sexing Semen and Embryos

#### **Electronic**

Video Imaging, On-line Eating Quality Evaluation, Identification and Tracking

2 p.m. -5 p.m. **Committee Sessions**  
Century II Convention Center

#### **Emerging Technology Committee**

Focus: DNA-based selection technologies presented at a producer's level. Topics will include:

- The fundamentals of DNA-based genetic evaluation tools.
- Gene mapping and DNA markers.
- Searching for QTL from gene maps and other data.

#### **Multiple Trait Selection Committee**

Focus: A follow-up panel of speakers from the opening session on economically relevant traits. Topics will include:

- Using EPDs from actual carcass data versus EPDs from scan data.
- What is needed to make genetic improvement in lifetime reproductive performance?
- Opportunities to improve components of longevity.
- Enhancing accuracy of multiple trait

selection through advanced data screening techniques.

## Friday, July 14

### 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m. General Session

Century II Convention Center

#### **Who is the keeper of the technology?**

##### **Simplifying Technology**

Breeding Objectives—Beef

Breeding Objectives—Dairy

Breeding Objectives—Swine

#### **The Future of Technology**

What is the public perception of technology?

Who will develop the technology?

Who will broker the technology?

### 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. Committee Sessions

Century II Convention Center

#### **Genetic Prediction Committee**

Focus: the development of revisions for the genetic prediction section of BIF's guidelines. Topics will include:

- Multi-Breed Evaluations
- Across-Breed Evaluations
- Multi-Trait Prediction
- Approaches to International Evaluation

Additional discussion on developments needed to facilitate use of genomic markers in genetic prediction

#### **Producer Applications Committee**

Focus: Simplifying available performance technology as well as preparing for what's to come in the future. Topics will include:

- A producer's perspective on data overload—prioritizing performance information.

- Interpreting carcass data to make better breeding decisions.

#### **Whole Herd Analysis Committee**

Focus: A review of where various breeds are in regard to whole herd reporting and inventory based fee structure.

Topics will include:

- What will breed associations' roles be in the future?
- Will whole herd reporting and inventory based fee structures be the end or just the beginning in reshaping breed associations?

## Saturday, July 15

### 6:30 a.m. -10:30 p.m. Kansas Beef Industry Tours

Tours will highlight both state and national BIF Seedstock and Commercial Producers of the Year nominees and recipients plus visit the state's commercial feeding industry.

#### **Southwest Kansas Swing**

This tour will take participants through the beautiful Gyp Hills and on to southwest Kansas, home of Kansas' commercial feeding industry and many progressive cow-calf producers.

#### **Post Rock Country**

This tour will treat guests to a look at the rolling hills of central Kansas and the famous Post Rock country. Limestone fence posts and progressive cow herds are home to this area of the state.

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## Kansas Feedlot Performance and Feed Cost Summary\*

Gerry Kuhl, Extension Feedlot Specialist, Kansas State University

### APRIL 2000 Closeout Information\*\*

Sex/No.	Final Weight	Avg. Days on Feed	Avg. Daily Gain	Feed/Gain (Dry Basis)	% Death Loss	Avg. Cost of Gain/Cwt.	Projected Cost of May-Placed Cattle
Steers:17,023	1,190	156 (137-218)	3.06 (2.51-3.48)	6.15 (5.61-6.50)	1.97	\$44.55 (38.23-47.68)	\$44.20 (42.00-48.00)
Heifers:16,551	1,089	161 (135-204)	2.77 (2.26-3.15)	6.45 (6.06-7.25)	1.77	\$47.03 (43.43-49.43)	\$46.20 (45.00-49.00)

  

Current Feed Inventory Costs:	Mid-May Avg. Prices	Range	No. Yards
Corn	\$ 2.19/bu	\$ 2.02-2.32	7
Ground Alfalfa Hay	\$62.57/ton	\$53.00-75.00	7

\*Appreciation is expressed to these Kansas feedyards: Brookover Ranch Feed Yard, Decatur County Feed Yard, Fairleigh Feed Yard, Hy-Plains Feed Yard, Kearny County Feeders, Pawnee Valley Feeders, and Supreme Cattle Feeders.

\*\*Closeout figures are the means of individual feed yard monthly averages and include feed, yardage, processing, medication, death loss and usually sold FOB the feedlot with a 4% pencil shrink. Interest charges normally are not included.

K-State, County Extension Councils, Extension Districts, and U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperating. All educational programs and materials available without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability.

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