

Program

- 3:00 p.m. Registration
- 3:30 p.m. Welcome & Introductions
- 3:45 p.m. Educational Sessions
- 6:45 p.m. Dinner

Background

C.J. and Russell Blew, brothers who make up the Blew Partnership, are headquartered in Reno County and lease the Nichols Ranch in Barber County where the field day site is located. The Blews are fifth-generation ranchers that operate a commercial cow-calf business in multiple counties in Kansas. Improving the genetics of their Red Angus-based cowherd and enhancing the grassland resources of their owned and leased grazing lands are priorities for the Blew brothers.

Field Day attendees will have an opportunity to seek information and ask questions about beef cowherd genetics, improving grazing resources with a grazing plan, the economics of removing invasive trees on rangeland, and how to insure against a drought.

Location

3156 SW Bitter Creek Rd
Medicine Lodge, KS 67104

Directions to Field Day:

Nichols Ranch is located west of Medicine Lodge. From the Highway 281 and Highway 160 intersection on the southwest edge of Medicine Lodge, go west on Highway 160 8.4 miles to Bitter Creek Road. Turn south on Bitter Creek Road, pass through the cattle guard and continue about 2.5 miles on the gravel road to ranch headquarters.

Watch for directional signs!

Not a KLA Member?

Join at the field day
and receive a special gift!

Questions about the field day?

Contact KLA at 785-273-5115 or wendy@kla.org.

6031 SW 37th Street
Topeka, KS 66614



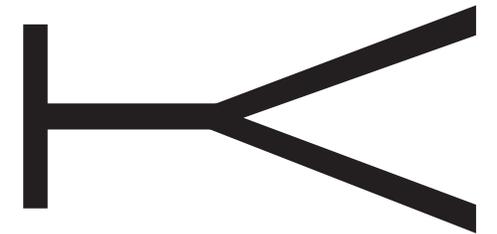
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Ranch Management Field Day Blew Partnership

C.J. & Russell Blew
Medicine Lodge, KS

Monday, August 6, 2018
3:00 p.m.





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Topics

Our Strategies for Enhancing the Economic Traits of Our Cowherd

C.J. Blew, Blew Partnership

Striving to produce premium feeder cattle that consistently achieve a high quality grade when finished is the focus of the Blews' commercial cow-calf breeding program. C.J. will share the Blew Partnership's experiences retaining ownership of their calves, providing sire testing data to a breed association, and incorporating the latest genetic selection technology, such as DNA testing.

Opportunities and Challenges for Improving the Grasslands of the Gyp Hills

Russell Blew, Blew Partnership
Dusty Tacha, Acting State Range Management Specialist, NRCS

With the guidance and financial support of USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the Blews have coordinated eastern red cedar tree removal and prescribed fire on the Nichols Ranch. Dusty Tacha and other NRCS personnel have worked with the Blews to design and implement a multi-year grazing plan for range improvement. The 2016 Anderson Creek fire swept through over 400,000 acres in Kansas and Oklahoma, including the Nichols Ranch. This fire left thousands of acres of Barber County ranchlands with dead, but standing, trees that area ranchers and NRCS are collaborating to remove for enhancing the grassland resources. This session will provide insight and discussions on the future of projects that improve and sustain the Gyp Hills grasslands.

Topics (cont.)

Tips for Developing or Improving Stockwater Accessibility

Carl Jarboe, Soil Conservation Technician, NRCS

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has assisted in developing new stockwater sources in strategic locations on the Nichols Ranch. Jarboe will discuss the water developments implemented on the ranch and highlight the services and assistance NRCS provides ranchers for stockwater improvements.

A Look at Our Cattle Handling and Processing Facilities

Russell Blew, Blew Partnership

The Blew Brothers designed and built new cattle-handling facilities at the ranch headquarters, especially designed for artificial insemination, which uses a "Bud Box" to move cattle through the facilities. Russell Blew will share their insight on the facility and visit about the merits of handling cattle in a low-stress manner.

Have You Considered USDA's Risk Management Programs for Livestock Producers?

Amy Roeder & Steve Vollrath, Agra View, LLC

Weather conditions, especially timely rainfall, are significant factors for profitability in farming and ranching. Amy Roeder and Steve Vollrath have over 50 years of combined experience serving as Risk Management Specialists for the USDA Risk Management Agency's (RMA) national office. They will provide an overview of RMA programs available to livestock producers.

Transforming livestock production

Bayer Animal Health has over 100 years of global experience in providing innovative, scientifically proven products that help veterinarians and producers preserve the health and profitability of food animal production. We remain a committed partner in successful livestock production today and in the future.

