

PROGRAM

Day One

Monday, 1 February 2010

Tour of Rangers Valley Feedlot, Glen Innes, NSW

Visit a large scale (32,000 head) feedlot supplying both long fed export and domestic markets.

The tour commences at 2.40pm at the Rangers Valley Visitors Centre. A bus will be leaving Armidale from Duval College carpark at 1.00pm on Monday, 1 February 2010.

People coming from the north can catch the bus at Glen Innes Visitors Information Centre on the New England Highway at 2.15pm.

The tour will be followed by a BBQ and discussion at Duval College at 6.30pm. Although the costs of the tour and BBQ are included in the registration, attendance at these events is not compulsory.

Day Two

Tuesday, 2 February 2010

08.30 Registration - Duval College

08.50 Welcome
(Todd Andrews, I&I NSW & Bob Dent, Bob Dent Cattle Services)

09.00 Why Feeder Steers?
(Todd Andrews, I&I NSW)

Session 1: Meeting the market

09.30 Feeder Steer Industry – overview and future directions (Jim Cudmore, Kerwee Feedlot & President, Australian Lot Feeders Association)

10.00 Feeder steer specifications
(Brett Campbell, Swift Australia)

10.30 Morning Tea

10.50 Meeting specifications
(James Laurie, Commercial & Seedstock Breeder, Gloucester)

11.20 Growth, maturity and market suitability
(Brett Littler, I&I NSW)

11.50 Assessing muscling & fatness videos
(Bob Dent, Bob Dent Cattle Services)

12.30 Lunch

13.00 Travel to saleyards (bus)

13.15 Assessing fat and muscling in live feeder and slaughter cattle
(Bob Dent & Brett Campbell)

14.30 Assessing slaughter and feeder steers for various markets

15.30 Afternoon Tea

16.00 Discussion of assessment groups

16.30 Return to Duval College (Bus)

16.50 Managing the supply chain - an AA Company perspective
(David Gallagher, AACo)

18.30 Pre-dinner drinks

18.45 Wine appreciation (optional)
(Shaun Cassidy, Merilba Estate Wines)

19.30 Formal dinner - MSA Graded Beef

Dress: Coat & Tie

After dinner speaker
(Prof Mingan Choct, CEO, Poultry CRC)

Day Three

Wednesday, 3 February 2010

Session 2: Producing efficient feeder steers

08.15 Growth, compensatory effects and development of feeder steers
(Jeff House, I&I NSW)

09.00 Factors affecting methane emissions from cattle
(Roger Hegarty, I&I NSW)

09.30 Maternal efficiency project: an update
(Peter Parnell, Angus Australia)

09.45 HGP Select - a tool for assessing HGP effects on production
(Todd Andrews, I&I NSW)

10.15 Morning Tea

10.45 Optimal preparation strategies to minimise sickness
(Kev Sullivan, Bell Veterinary Services)

12.00 Lunch

Session 3: Cattle evaluation

12.45 Travel to saleyards (bus)

13.00 Assessing slaughter and feeder steers
(Bob Dent & Brett Campbell)

15.00 Afternoon Tea and travel to Duval College (Bus)

Session 4: Information Management

15.30 Three Rotating Sessions

Herd Recording Systems
(Practical Systems, Armidale)

Using MSA Feedback to Improve Market Compliance
(Alan Laing, DEEDI Qld)

BeefSpecs predicts animal performance
(Bill Hoffman, I&I NSW)

18.30 Dinner

20.00 Optional Session
(Participant talks)

Day Four

Thursday, 4 February 2010

Session 5: Sire selection, principles & practice

08.00 An introduction to using EBVs and Selection Indexes to assist in bull buying
(Andrew Byrne, Southern Beef Technology Systems, ABRI)

08.45 Workshop session - Using the internet to help find your next bull; Selection Indexes; Using DNA information in bull selection.
(Andrew Byrne, Christian Duff, ABRI; Emma Weatherly, Angus Australia)

10.00 Bull soundness
(Bob Dent)

10.30 Morning Tea

10.50 Travel to saleyards (bus)

11.00 Bull selection - combining visual and BREEDPLAN EBVs
(Bob Dent)

11.55 Introduction to bull buying case study
(Bob Dent & Andrew Byrne)

12.05 Bull inspections
(Bob Dent)

12.15 Lunch at saleyards

12.45 Bull selection case study - discussion
(Bob Dent & Andrew Byrne)

13.05 Review bulls and Value for \$
(Andrew Byrne, ABRI)

14.00 Close and depart

Privacy

In registering for the 2010 Feeder Steer School relevant details will be incorporated into a delegate list for the benefit of all delegates (i.e. name, title, position, organisation, postal and email address only) and may be made available to parties directly related to the conference including venue and accommodation providers and key sponsors. Should you not wish your details to be used for this purpose, please contact the UNE Conference Company (confco@une.edu.au).

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The Feeder Steer School organising committee reserves the right to make changes to the school program if necessary. Information is accurate at time of printing.