



The Ranch, Loveland, Colorado - November 17, 18 & 19, 2015
Presented by Extension & the Animal Science Departments of:
Colorado State University, South Dakota State University,
University of Nebraska-Lincoln and University of Wyoming

24TH BIENNIAL RANGE BEEF COW SYMPOSIUM NOVEMBER 17, 18 AND 19 LOVELAND, COLORADO

Welcome to the Range Beef Cow Symposium. The symposium is hosted by Extension and Animal Science Departments of Colorado State University, South Dakota State University, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Wyoming. We hope you will enjoy your visit to Colorado. The Range Beef Cow Symposium is noted for its excellent educational program for cow-calf producers, beef industry leaders and extension personnel. The first symposium was held in Chadron, Nebraska in 1969. It is held every other year and rotates location among the cooperating states. The next symposium will be hosted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The Bull Pen Sessions are said to be the most valuable part of the symposium. This is a time for attendees to have in-depth discussion with the speakers and an opportunity to ask questions. The majority of the symposium speakers on Tuesday and Wednesday will be present in the evening following their presentations.

Commercial displays representing many segments of the industry are an integral part of the symposium. Exhibitors will be present to discuss their products, plus information on newly released products will be available.

Additional copies of the proceedings may be obtained for \$25. Please contact either Colton Atkins at (970) 491-7604 (colton.atkins@colostate.edu) or Libby Bigler at (970) 491-2333 (libby.bigler@colostate.edu) with questions or comments.

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Brief History of Range Beef Cow Symposium:

1969 - Chadron, NE (First Year Ever Held)
1971 - Cheyenne, WY
1973 - Rapid City, SD
1975 - Denver, CO
1977 - Chadron, NE
1979 - Cheyenne, WY
1981 - Rapid City, SD
1983 - Sterling, CO
1985 - Chadron, NE
1987 - Cheyenne, WY
1989 - Rapid City, SD
1991 - Fort Collins, CO
1993 - Cheyenne, WY
1995 - Gering, NE
1997 - Rapid City, SD
1999 - Greeley, CO
2001 - Casper, WY
2003 - Mitchell, NE
2005 - Rapid City, SD
2007 - Fort Collins, CO
2009 - Casper, WY
2011 - Mitchell, NE
2013 - Rapid City, SD
2015 - Loveland, CO



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The 24th Biennial Range Beef Cow Symposium Committee expresses sincere appreciation to all of those who shared in the planning and arrangement to make this a success. Among those are: CSU Extension Field Specialists, CSU Animal Science Support Staff, Workers & Interns.

A Special Thanks to all the speakers, Deans of the Colleges of Agriculture and Animal Science Department Heads at organizing universities, Media, Corporate Sponsors, Trade Show Exhibitors and Participants (those who work and toil to make the beef industry great!)

RBCS XXIV SCHEDULE

Monday (November 16th - “Pre-Symposium” Events):

- 1:00 BQA Certification Workshop (BQA Coordinators)
- 3:00 BQA Certification Workshop - Stockmanship & Stewardship with Curt Pate
- 5:00 BQA Program Wrap-Up
- 5:30 Reception with Hors D’oeuvres - Hosted By Leachman Cattle of Colorado
- 6:00 Pre-Symposium Seminar - Hosted By Leachman Cattle of Colorado
- 8:00 Young Producers’ Professional Networking Social

Tuesday (November 17th - Morning):

- 7:00 Young Producer Inspirational Breakfast (Troy Marshall)
- 7:30 Onsite Participant Registration Open - Breakfast & Visit Industry Booths
- 8:45 Welcome (Kevin Pond)
- 9:00 Market Outlook (Jimm Robb)..... 31
- 9:30 Why does Consumer Opinion Trump Science (Animal Welfare, GMOs, Food Animals vs Pets)? (Ronnie Green)..... 33
- 10:00 No More Food Fights: Preparing for the Beef Industry’s Future (Michele Payn-Knoper)..... 49
- 10:30 Break and Visit Industry Booths
- 11:00 Animal Welfare Programs: Tyson’s FarmCheck Program (Lora Wright)..... 53
- 11:30 Animal Welfare Implications of Beef Industry Practices: Including Dehorning, Castration, and Branding Practices (Jason Ahola)..... 55

Tuesday (November 17th - Afternoon & Evening):

- 12:00 Lunch and Visit Industry Exhibitor Booths
- 1:25 Afternoon Ramrod (Dr. Larry Berger, UNL)
- 1:30 An Update on Sustainability and the Beef Industry (Cameron Bruett)..... 65
- 2:00 Challenges with Heifer Selection: How Many Should I Breed and What are They Worth? (Ron Lemenager)..... 67
- 2:30 Producer Perspective on Using Reproductive Technologies (Chad Blair)..... 73
- 3:00 Break and Visit Industry Booths
- 3:30 Impact of Estrous Synchronization and AI on Cowherd Performance Over Time (Cliff Lamb)..... 81
- 4:00 Running More Cows on Less Grass (Mike Engler)..... 89
- 4:30 Producer Panel: Cow Feed Efficiency & Unknowns (Trey Patterson, Douglas Olsen, & Lee Leachman)..... 91-99
- 5:30 Adjourn
- 6:00 A Taste For Quality Optional Dinner (Pre-Paid Ticket Holders ONLY) - Taste Panel..... 105
- 7:30 Bull Pen Sessions (Marketing, Consumers/Welfare, Reproduction, and Production Efficiency)

Wednesday (November 18th - Morning):

- 7:30 Onsite Participant Registration Open - Breakfast
- 7:55 Welcome & Ramrod (Dr. Mike Day, UWY)
- 8:00 Economically Relevant Traits and Selection Indices (Matt Spangler)..... 109
- 8:30 Crossbreeding Strategies: Including Terminal vs. Maternal Crosses (Bob Weaver)..... 117
- 9:00 How to Use Commercially Available Genomic Predictions (Michael Gonda)..... 131

Wednesday (November 18th - Morning - Continued):

9:30 High Altitude Disease, PAP, Feedlot Hypertension and Respiratory Issues:
Are They Linked? (Joe Neary)..... 141

10:00 Break and Visit Industry Booths

10:30 Managing Compromised and Weak Calves at Birth (Frank Garry)..... 149

11:00 What's the Value of Low-Stress Stockmanship from a Feedyard's Perspective?
(Anne Burkeholder)..... 159

11:30 Impact of Long-term Weather Patterns on Grazing (Brian Bledsoe)..... 161

Wednesday (November 19th - Afternoon & Evening):

12:00 Lunch and Visit Industry Booths

1:25 Afternoon Ramrod (Kevin Pond, CSU)

1:30 Cow Supplementation: Getting the Best Bang for Your Buck (Ken Olson)..... 163

2:00 Use of Annual Forages in a Grazing Livestock System (Nancy Peterson)..... 177

2:30 Effects of Grazing on Grass (Casey Matney)..... 193

3:00 Break and Visit Industry Booths

3:30 Incorporating a Yearling Stocker Enterprise to the Cow/Calf Operation: Buy, Sell or Hold?
(Mark Frasier)..... 199

4:00 The Focus My Millennial Generation Needs (Cassie Lapaseotes)..... 203

4:30 Young Producer Panel: How can Young People get into the Cattle Business?
(Brandon Peterson and Zach Thode)..... 207

5:30 Adjourn

6:00 Dinner on Your Own (Local Area)

7:05 Optional Colorado Eagles Hockey Game at Budweiser Center (Tickets Available)

7:30 Bull Pen Sessions (Genetics, Health/Management, Range/Grazing, & Young Producer)

Thursday (November 19th - Morning & Afternoon):

7:30 Onsite Participant Registration Open - Breakfast

7:55 Welcome (Dr. Ajay Menon, Dean College of Agricultural Sciences, CSU)

7:55 Morning Ramrod (Dr. Jason Ahola, CSU)

8:00 Mentoring and Managing Employees to Ensure Proper Husbandry for Consumers
(Bob Budd)..... 211

8:30 Feedlot and Carcass Data: Making "Cents" and Making Decisions (Julie Walker)..... 213

9:00 Manage Risk on the Average Size Cow/Calf Operation (Wayne Fahsholtz)..... 223

9:30 Evaluating and Valuing Cull Beef Cows and Their Carcasses (Dale Woerner)..... 227

10:00 Break and Visit Industry Booths

10:30 De-Commoditizing the Feeder Calf Market: Providing Objective Information to Buyers
(Tom Brink)..... 231

11:00 Global Market Landscape (Duane Lenz)..... 235

12:00 Adjourn