



## PRIDE OF THE PLAINS



*Cattle representing several Kansas Angus herds were on display during Kansas Angus Field Day activities at the Mill Brae Ranch.*



*Mill Brae Ranch manager Mark Nikkel (with microphone) explains their freeze branding procedure to field day participants.*

**K**ansas takes pride in its Angus history. The first Aberdeen-Angus cattle to be imported to the United States came to George Grant's farm near Victoria, Kan., in 1873. More than 100 years later, the Angus breed has spread to every corner of the country.

This pride lives on in the 248 members of the Kansas Angus Association and was displayed at its 1992 FieldDay\Tour.

More than 250 people attended the field day, held August 15-16. It was hosted by the Mill Brae Ranch, Maple Hill, Kan.; the Downey Ranch, Wabaunsee, Kan.; and Shamrock Angus Farms, Manhattan, Kan. Ten area breeders, who brought pens of their best cattle to the Mill Brae Ranch for viewing, were also represented.

Coordinating the event were leaders of the Kansas Angus Association, including president Allan Miller, Great Bend; vice president Galen Fink, Manhattan; treasurer Fred Holder, Milton; and secretary/fieldman Guy Peverley, St. George. Representing the American Angus Association was regional manager Bill Bowman.

Along with cattle, field day participants could view demonstrations on embryo transplant and freeze branding. Evening activities moved to Shamrock Angus Farms where a complimentary supper was served along with a fun program presented by the Kansas State University (KSU) athletic department. Shamrock Angus Farms owners George and June Crenshaw received special recognition for their 50th anniversary in the Angus business. (See sidebar story, "Pride Runs Deep at Shamrock Angus Farms.")

Sunday morning dawned with a church service at the historical Beecher Bible and Rifle Church in Wabaunsee. It was followed by an educational and entertaining program at the Downey Ranch. Owner Barb Downey talked about her commercial beef operation and its relationship with the Certified Angus Beef Program. Also on the program were KSU animal scientists Jack Riley and Janice Swanson, who shared insight into the animal welfare/ animal rights issue.

"Angus Breed — Past-Present-Future" was the title of an enlightening panel discussion during the afternoon program. Moderated by Miles McKee, KSU animal scientist, it brought together retired cattle auctioneer Ray Sims, Raymore, Mo.; Ken Conway, manager of R&J Ranch, Briggs, Texas; Vance Uden of TC Ranch, Franklin, Neb.; and Henry Gardiner of Gardiner Angus Ranch, Ashland, Kan. These cattlemen had much to contribute in their discussion of the Angus business and generated a lot of questions from the audience.

Capping off the field day was a visit to Shamrock Angus Farms, where George Crenshaw explained his breeding program and goals, and Don Good, Manhattan, summarized the 1992 field day and tour.

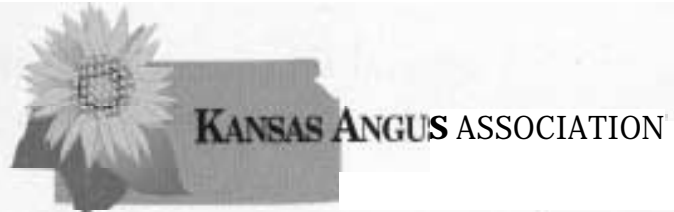
— Jerilyn Johnson



*Church services were held at the historical Beecher Bible and Rifle Church in Wabaunsee. This church, built from 1859-62 and dedicated in May of 1862, is Kansas' oldest church using its original building.*



*Dale Hammarlund, St. Mary's Kan., explains his breeding program to field day participants. Established in 1922, Hammarlund Angus is celebrating its 76th anniversary this year. This family-run operation specializes in raising bulls for commercial cow-calf producers.*



*Valerie Crenshaw is Miss Kansas Angus for 1992-93. She is the 17-year-old daughter of Roy and Sue Crenshaw, Wichita, and also serves as secretary-treasurer for Kansas Junior Angus Association.*



*What's a field day without a little fun? Sandra McCurry (center) had little trouble recruiting (l to r) Tom Burke, Guy Peverly, Bob Laffin and Gene Gates as BS experts for the day (official judges of the cow pasture bingo game). It was all for a good cause -donations went to the 1993 National Junior Angus Show to be held in Wichita.*



*(right) These courageous cattlemen participated in a panel discussion of the Angus industry's past, present and future. They are (l to r): Miles McKee, Kansas State University, Manhattan; Vance Uden, Franklin, Neb.; Ray Sims, Raymore, Mo.; Henry Gardiner, Ashland, Kan.; and Ken Conway, Briggs, Texas.*