

Boot Camp for Midwest

Cattlemen's Boot Camp slated for Aug. 29-30 at University of Illinois.

by *Shelia Stannard*

The American Angus Association, Angus Foundation and University of Illinois (U of I) will conduct a Cattlemen's Boot Camp Aug. 29-30 at the U of I in Champaign-Urbana. The Boot Camp is open to all cattle producers and will provide an overview on various segments of the beef industry, as well as give perspectives on emerging technologies.

This is the third Cattlemen's Boot Camp sponsored by the Association and Foundation. It is open to all cattle producers. Enrollment is limited, so producers are encouraged to sign up well in advance.

"This two-day event is designed to give producers more insight and understanding to all aspects of the industry," Jim Shirley, vice president of industry relations for the Association, says. "We enjoy working with various universities and their staff to make sure we bring a top-notch program to cattle producers around the country."

U of I animal science professors, Association and Certified Angus Beef LLC (CAB) staff and other guest speakers will present the program. Some small groups will be formed to allow more hands-on interaction.

The event is set to begin at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 29, at the Holiday Inn in Urbana. Bus transportation will be provided to the University. The Boot Camp will conclude around 1 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30.

Registration is just \$75, which includes most meals and materials for the Boot Camp. To sign up, contact the Association for registration materials.

Prior to Boot Camp, an Angus Skills Lab will be conducted. This lab is designed for new Association members. It begins at 7:15 a.m. Tuesday at the U of I beef unit.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Holiday Inn. To make a reservation, call (217) 328-7900. Ask for the American Angus Association block to get the negotiated rate. For more information, contact Shelia Stannard, Association event coordinator, or log onto www.angus.org.



Tentative Boot Camp Schedule

Tuesday, Aug. 29 Holiday Inn

- 12:30 p.m. ▶ Welcome, Neal Merchen, U of I Department of Animal Sciences Head
- ▶ Welcome, Jerry Cassady, American Angus Association & Angus Foundation
- ▶ Developing a Business Mentality, Doug Parrett, U of I
- ▶ Making Estrus Synchronization Work, Darrel Kesler, U of I
- ▶ Economics and Cow Herd Nutrition, Dan Faulkner & Alan Miller, U of I

Bus to campus

- ▶ Quality/Yield Grade Determinations, Tom Carr & Floyd McKeith, U of I
- ▶ Marker-Assisted Selection, Using DNA, Jon Beever, U of I

Dinner at the Holiday Inn

- ▶ Case Study — "It's Sale Time," Bill Bowman, American Angus Association & Doug Parrett, U of I

Wednesday, Aug. 30 Holiday Inn

- 7:45 a.m. ▶ Nutritional Management for Optimum Production, N.T. Cosby, Purina Mills
- ▶ Beef Consumers — What They Want, Maralee Johnson, Illinois Beef Association
- ▶ Source & Age Verified Cattle Programs, Ty Groshans, American Angus Association
- ▶ Producing High-Quality Beef, Dan Faulkner & Dr. Larry Berger, U of I
- ▶ *Certified Angus Beef*® (CAB®), Mark McCully, Certified Angus Beef LLC
- ▶ Question-and-answer Session
- ▶ Lunch

