

Cattlemen's Day enters centennial anniversary

Kansas State University's Cattlemen's Day always has numerous events associated with it, but this year's 100th Annual Cattlemen's Day on Friday, March 1, will be special in several ways.

"We're kicking off the Henry C. Gardiner Lectureship with inaugural speaker Steve Hunt of U.S. Premium Beef," said Ken Odde, head of K-State's Department of Animal Sciences and Industry. "Henry Gardiner is a visionary leader in beef cattle genetics. We are pleased to honor him by launching this lecture series in his name."

Gardiner, widely considered a pioneer in beef genetics, is founder of Gardiner Angus Ranch in Ashland.

Cattlemen's Day begins at 8 a.m. in K-State's Weber Hall with a commercial trade show and educational exhibits. The program begins at 10 a.m. in Weber 123.

Hunt, who guided U.S. Premium Beef as its chief executive officer from 1996 through January 2013, and now serves as an advisor to the company, will present, "Designing Meats and Meals." Other topics and presenters will include:

- Keeping Your Farm in the Family for the Next Generation – Ron Hanson, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- Cattle Market and Industry Short-Run Outlook and Long Term-Perspective – Ted Schroeder and Glynn Tonsor – K-State.

Afternoon breakout sessions will include:

- Ammoniation: Stretching your Forage Supply – Dale Blasi and Justin Waggoner – K-State.
- To Clone a Dead Steer, As Long as It's Not Too Dead – David Grieger, K-State.
- Beef Selection Systems to Meet Market Trends – Bob Weaver and Mike MacNeil – K-State.
- Heifer Development in a High Cost Environment – Sandy Johnson – K-State.

- Developing a Strategic Plan for Farm Family Succession – Ron Hanson, University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Producer Panel: Our Approach – moderated by Gregg Hadley, K-State.
- Is All Ground Beef Created Equally? – John Unruh, K-State.

The day also features a ribbon cutting and dedication ceremony for the new Stanley Stout Center from 3 to 4 p.m. just ahead of the 36th Annual Legacy Sale. A celebration social will be held in the Stanley Stout Center immediately following the sale.

Information and online registration is available at www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday.

Beef industry lectureship named for innovating rancher

As part of its 100th Annual Cattlemen's Day on March 1, Kansas State University will present the inaugural Henry S. Gardiner Lectureship. This year, the speaker will be Steve Hunt, long-time chief executive officer of U.S. Premium Beef, who now serves the company as an advisor.

Henry Gardiner bought his first Angus female in 1947, at age 16. While attending K-State in the 1950s, he learned about artificial insemination and came to believe the only way to make genetic improvements in beef cattle was through the use of technology and sound science.

Since 1964, Gardiner Angus Ranch has been a total artificial insemination and embryo transplant operation and has used Expected Progeny Differences to make genetic selections since the inception of the technology. The operation has kept extensive records on reproductive performance, gain and carcass data since 1970.

commitment to genetic improvements have directly affected the beef industry," said Ken Odde, head of K-State's Department of Animal Sciences and Industry. "The ranch has conducted cooperative research with K-State, Auburn University, Colorado State University, the University of Illinois, Oklahoma State University and Virginia Tech, including research on estrous synchronization systems and real-time ultrasound measurements of carcass traits."

Henry realized the producer must be rewarded for better genetics and that in a true value-based system, the cattle feeder and packer should also recognize the potential for better margins.

The original Gardiner ranch was homesteaded near Ashland in 1885 by Henry Gardiner's grandfather. Today, it is a family-owned and operated 48,000-acre beef operation that produces registered and commercial Angus cattle.

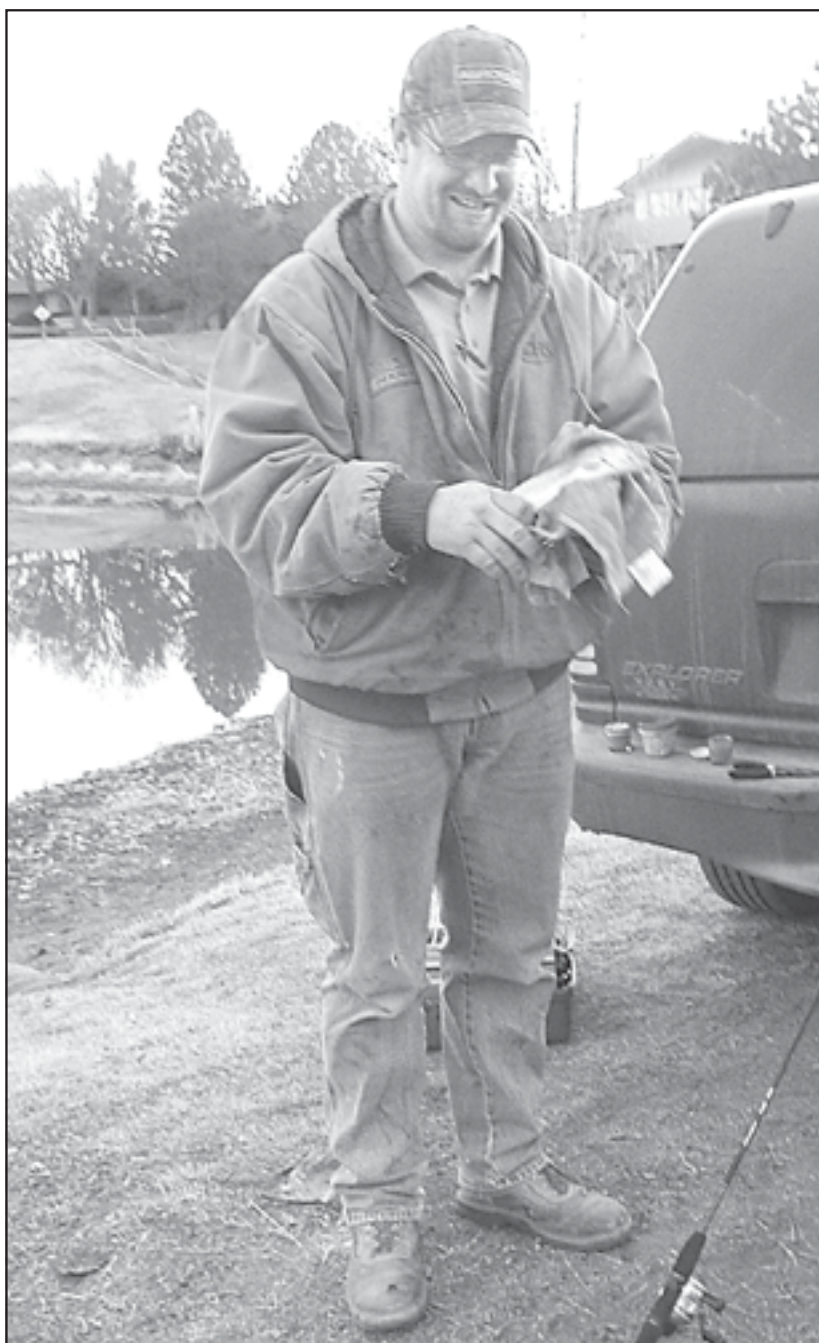
"Henry's knowledge and com-



Trout count jumps at Colby fishing pond

A small crowd of fishermen, including a little guy with his pole at the ready, showed up Wednesday evening at Villa High Park to watch as Bill Murray (above left, on truck) help unload approximately 300 trout into the pond. Dave Spalsbury (left, beside truck), fisheries biologist for the Kansas Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, said this is the second year the department has stocking the pond. "A lot of our funding comes from these federal grants that are basically funded by 'anger dollars,'" he said, because the trout are paid for by a tax on fishing supply stores. Ron Vrbas, (right) held a trout that had already been swimming in the pond.

SAM DIETER/Colby Free Press



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