

Angus Conference at Michigan State To Discuss Performance Testing

Michigan State University at East Lansing, and Angus breeders of the Wolverine State will be hosts to cattlemen from throughout the United States and Canada the second week in March when the National Angus Conference convenes there. The dates for the event are March 10, 11, and 12.

A major attraction at this, the third annual Conference, will be the opportunity for Angus breeders to discuss the advantages of progeny and performance testing. Giving his views on this and leading the discussion will be A. D. "Dad" Weber, Dean of Agriculture at Kansas State College and world famous cattle judge and educator.

Dean Weber will be the first speaker on the program, Monday morning, March 11, following a welcome by Dr. John A. Hannah, president of Michigan State University, and the response by John C. Gill, Upperville, Va., president of the American Angus Assn.

Labeled "A Blueprint for Aberdeen-Angus Progress," the Conference is planned around four major points of vital interest to cattlemen — **One:** Progeny and Performance Testing, **Two:** Herd Type Classification, **Three:** Dwarfism Research, and **Four:** Carcass Evaluation. Those participating will have the opportunity to hear many well-known agricultural educators and experienced Angus breeders express their views on these subjects.

The Monday morning session, which will take place in Anthony Hall on the University campus, as well as at the Livestock Pavilion, will also feature a talk by Manager Robert W. Williams of Great Oaks Stock Farms, Rochester, Mich., continuing Dean Weber's challenge with the subject, "How Does Type Fit Into This Program?" After the group has moved to the Pavilion, it will see a demonstration of live grades of slaughter steers by Dr. R. J. Deans of the University staff, and



ARTHUR D. WEBER
Dean of Agriculture
Kansas State College

will watch the judging of a carcass steer show on the hoof by Dr. Deans and Dr. D. L. Good of Kansas State College

On Monday afternoon, type classification will enter the picture with a lecture by H. H. Kildee, Dean Emeritus, Iowa State College, on the subject, and a discussion of "Virginia's Improvement Program for Beef Cattle" by Dr. Thomas J. Marlowe of Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Blacksburg.

At the livestock pavilion, demonstrations of the Virginia program in operation by Dr. Marlowe, of type classification by a trio of experts, and of dwarfs, will be observed. Those participating in the second demonstration will be Professor Herman Purdy, Pennsylvania State University, Lewis B. Pierce, Angus breeder of Creston Ill.; and Dr. Dan Roberts, manager of 77 Ranch, Wichita Falls, Texas.

Tuesday morning's session will open with a report from the University of Missouri on Dwarfism Research, given by Dr. John Lasley. Dr. L. N. Hazel, Iowa State College, will speak on the "Present Status of Dwarfism Research," and participants will have an opportunity, as throughout the conference, for a question and answer session.

The last major subject on the program, carcass evaluation, will also be reviewed on Tuesday morning, with Dr. Deane speaking on "A Blueprint for Carcass Evaluation." Dr. Deans and Dr. Good will give results of the carcass test and Insulin test demonstrations.

A banquet, scheduled for Monday evening at Kellogg Center, will feature a Meat Cutting Demonstration by Augie R. Ring, Director of Merchandising for the National Livestock and Meat Board.

Guests will also be entertained with a Smorgasbord given by the Michigan Aberdeen-Angus Assn. at Kellogg Center on Sunday evening, March 10, following registration at the conference.

The conference will be sponsored by the American Angus Association and the Michigan Angus Association in cooperation with Michigan State University.

Growers Approve Market Quotas

Preliminary results announced by the USDA show approval of marketing quotas on 1957-1959 crops of cigar-binder tobacco and cigar-filler and binder tobacco.

The referendums were held Feb. 13. The national returns show that 98 per cent of the 1,846 ballots reported approved quotas on cigar-binder tobacco. Quotas on cigar-filler and binder tobacco were approved by 94.1 per cent of the 3,766 growers voting. Final results are not expected to vary much from the preliminary tabulation.

In the referendum on cigar-filler and binder (types 42-44 and 53-55) tobacco, Pennsylvania growers voted 71.4 per cent in favor of the marketing quotas, 14 growers voted.

Insect Control, Bloat Research Needed, Crop Committee Says

Better control of insects that attack forage crops and pests that infest stored grains, expansion of work on ruminant bloat, and more basic studies on the composition of forage crops as a basis for improving processes and feed products are among the high-priority needs of research cited by the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Feed and Forage Research and Marketing Advisory Committee.

These and other research proposals were considered by the committee at its annual meeting in Washington, D. C., Feb. 11-13. The committee is composed of persons outside USDA selected to review the Department's research program on feeds and forage and to advise the Secretary of Agriculture on research needs in this field.

The group elected as its chairman, E. G. Cherbouner, feed consultant, St. Louis, who succeeds Elwood L. Chase, Buffalo, N. Y. R. M. Bethke, vice president of Ralston Purina Co., St. Louis, was elected vice chairman.

Important lines of work were cited by the committee in the fields of production, utilization, and marketing research.

In the field of production research, the committee considered proposals under two categories — Feed and Forage Production, and Feeding Livestock and Poultry.

Under the category of Feed and Forage Production, high-priority recommendations included the following: Expand research on insect physiology and toxicology, including work on the nature and action of insecticides, repellents, and attractants, and studies on why some insects develop resistance to insecticides. Increase research on range practices, including grazing and soil water management. Expand studies on the genetic stability of seeds grown in different areas from seed produced in other regions. In the category of Feeding Livestock and Poultry, top-priority proposals include these: Expand basic investigations on ruminant bloat, with emphasis on the study of animals bloating under natural or field conditions for correlation with studies in the laboratories. Initiate studies on the amino acid requirements of poultry — particularly laying hens. Increase studies to value the

feeding quality of forages and of the needs for supplementary feeds under different conditions.

In the field of utilization research, the committee emphasized the need for the following: Increases studies on forage-crop constituents and how they affect the health and growth of livestock and poultry, as a basis for developing new and improved processes and feed products. Expand research on the preservation of nutrients in forages. Widen work to produce additional protein and growth factors to enhance the value of grain by fermentation.

Among top-priority research needs in the field of marketing, the committee cited the following: Expand research on the control of insects that infest stored grains. Initiate studies on the feasibility and value of grades and standards for feed molasses. Begin investigations on loss and deterioration of grain during storage.

The committee urged expansion of USDA marketing services, including statistical service on grass silage and grazing. It also called for more USDA foreign marketing services, and endorsed educational work of cooperative Extension Service.

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