

BIF Convention Is May 28-31

Plans for the 2003 Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) Annual Meeting and Convention are taking shape. The event is scheduled for May 28-31, 2003, at the Hyatt Downtown in Lexington, Ky. It is being sponsored by the University of

Kentucky, the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture.

Rooms at the Hyatt Downtown are available under the BIF room block. Call (859) 253-1234 for rooms. Shuttle service

will be provided by the hotel from Bluegrass Field (airport) in Lexington throughout the meetings. Louisville and Cincinnati airports are both about one hour away, but will have no shuttle service. To obtain registration materials, contact

the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association, 176 Pasadena Dr., Lexington, KY 40503; or Darr Bullock, University of Kentucky, 804 WP Garrigus Bldg., Lexington, KY 40506-0215 or (859) 257-7514. Registration materials will be available online at www.beefimprovement.org and www.bifconference.com [the real-time coverage site provided by Angus Productions Inc. (API) and Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica, Inc.]

For more information, contact Jim Akers at the Kentucky Cattlemen's Association at (859) 278-0899.

The tentative agenda includes:

Wednesday, May 28

5:00 p.m. Welcome reception
7:30 p.m. National Association of Animal Breeders symposium

Thursday, May 29

8:00 a.m. Welcome
8:15 a.m. Surviving Environmental Challenges
Moderator: Tom Jenkins, U.S. Department of Agriculture Meat Animal Research Center
● Beef Production in Adverse Environments, Carl Huvland, University of Georgia
● Clinical Mode of Action and Genomic Potential in Fescue, Richard Browning, Tennessee State University
9:45 a.m. Break
● Management of Beef Production in an Adverse Environment, to be determined
● Questions and summation
Noon BIF Recognition luncheon
2:00 p.m. Roundtable discussions
● Emerging Technologies
● Selection Decisions
● Cow Herd Efficiency
Evening Kentucky Night Out

Friday, May 30

8:00 a.m. Traits to Dollars
Moderator: Craig Huffines, American Hereford Association
● Panel discussion: What will the target be?
— Rick Carlson, PM Beef Group
— Glen Dolezal, Excel
— John Tobe, Laura's Lean Beef
— Joe Bill Meng, Creekstone Farm
9:00 a.m. Questions and discussion
9:30 a.m. Break
● Available Tools for Making Genetic Change, Tom Fields, Colorado State University
● How Best to Achieve Genetic Change, Dorian Garrick, Colorado State University
11:30 a.m. Questions and summation
Noon BIF awards luncheon
2:00 p.m. Roundtable discussions
● Producer Application
● Genetic Prediction
● Live Animal, Carcass and End Point
Evening Night on the Town, dinner on your own

Saturday, May 31

Kentucky Tours — Optional tours showcasing Kentucky's beef industry and heritage will be available. One tour will have a purebred focus; another will have a commercial focus.