

# 'Come Home to Kansas'



PHOTO BY KASEY MILLER

## The 2012 National Angus Conference & Tour is planned for Oct. 3-5.

by **CARRIE HEITMAN,**  
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American Angus Association members and supporters have a chance to “Come Home to Kansas” during the 2012 National Angus Conference & Tour (NAC&T). Scheduled for Oct. 3-5, the event will headquarter out of Wichita, Kan., and includes trips to both the Flint Hills and the western region of the state.

“This year’s NAC&T is full of informative speakers, inventive cattle operations, and, most of all, beautiful Kansas scenery,” says Bryce Schumann, the Association’s CEO. The event is hosted by both the American Angus Association and the Kansas Angus Association, along with sponsorship support by Land O’ Lakes Purina Feed LLC.

Rodney Nulik, Purina director of production livestock marketing, is a Kansas native and is proud to be a part of the NAC&T again this year.

“Experience tells me that no matter where it is held, the NAC&T will be another ‘can’t miss’ event,” Nulik says.

The 2012 agenda consists of a one-day conference, including industry-leading speakers and educational seminars, and two days of tours, which will feature the state’s historic Angus genetics. Gather for the welcome reception the evening of Oct. 2. The conference portion begins Wednesday, Oct. 3, and will feature feed efficiency, reproductive performance, genomics and agriculture’s global footprint. The first tour stop — McCurry Bros. Angus of Sedgwick — takes place that evening.

“Angus enthusiasts from across the

nation will learn something new, view elite Angus genetics and create friendships during the conference and tour,” says Shelia Stannard, Association director of activities and events. “We have a wide variety of items lined up; there is something for everyone at this highly anticipated event.”

The Flint Hills tour on Thursday will be Sankey’s 6N Ranch, Council Grove; Fink Beef Genetics, Randolph; Lyons Ranch, Alta Vista; and historic Cottonwood Falls. Friday’s tour of western Kansas will feature Pratt Feeders, followed by stops at Gardiner Angus Ranch, Ashland; Giles Ranch, Bucklin; and Stucky Ranch, Kingman. Other herds will be on display at many of the tour stops, and CAB is sponsoring a portion of the tour meals.

Registration will be available at [www.angus.org](http://www.angus.org). Early registration is \$150 per person and due Aug. 20. After that date, registration increases to \$175. The final deadline is Sept. 10. However, walk-ins are accepted as space is available.

Attendees are encouraged to make their own hotel reservations at the Double Tree Wichita Airport, which is the headquarters hotel. Call 1-800-247-4458 and ask for the American Angus block to get the negotiated rate.

For more information and to download a registration form, visit [www.nationalangusconference.com](http://www.nationalangusconference.com); or contact the Activities Department at 816-383-5100.

A tentative schedule follows.



### 2012 National Angus Conference & Tour Schedule

#### Tuesday, October 2

- 3 p.m. Registration and exhibits open
- 6-8 p.m. Welcome reception
- 7 p.m. Registration closes

#### Wednesday, October 3

- 6 a.m. Breakfast buffet
- 7 a.m. Registration opens
  - National Angus Conference: Beef Improvement, Angus-style
- 8 a.m. National Angus Conference Welcome, Jarold Callahan, president and chairman of the Board, American Angus Association
  - Setting the Stage, Matt Caldwell, regional manager, American Angus Association
  - Feed Efficiency and Understanding its Impact on Production Systems, Bob Weaber, Kansas State University, and Daryl Strohbehn, Iowa State University
- Break
  - Reproductive Performance: When You Need to Know More, Sally Northcutt, director of genetic research, and Brian Brigham, director of genetic systems, Angus Genetics Inc.
- Lunch
  - Genomics: Old, Now and New, Tonya Amen, director of genetic services, Angus Genetics Inc.; Megan Rolf,

Oklahoma State University; and Mark McCully, Certified Angus Beef LLC

- Global Footprint of Food Production and the Impact of Genetic Improvement, Jude Capper, Washington State University

Wrap up, Bryce Schumann, CEO, American Angus Association

3:45 p.m. Buses depart hotel & begin National Angus Tour

Evening National Angus Tour Kick-off, McCurry Bros. Angus, Sedgwick, Kan.

#### Thursday, October 4 — Flint Hills tour

- 6 a.m. Breakfast buffet
- 7 a.m. Depart hotel
  - Sankeys 6 N Ranch, Council Grove
  - Fink Beef Genetics, Randolph — Lunch
  - Lyons Ranch, Alta Vista
  - Historic Cottonwood Falls — Dinner

#### Friday, October 5 — Western tour

- 6 a.m. Breakfast buffet
- 7 a.m. Depart hotel
  - Pratt Feeders, Pratt
  - Gardiner Angus Ranch, Ashland — Lunch
  - Giles Ranch, Bucklin
  - Stucky Ranch, Kingman — Dinner