Volume 9, Issue 10

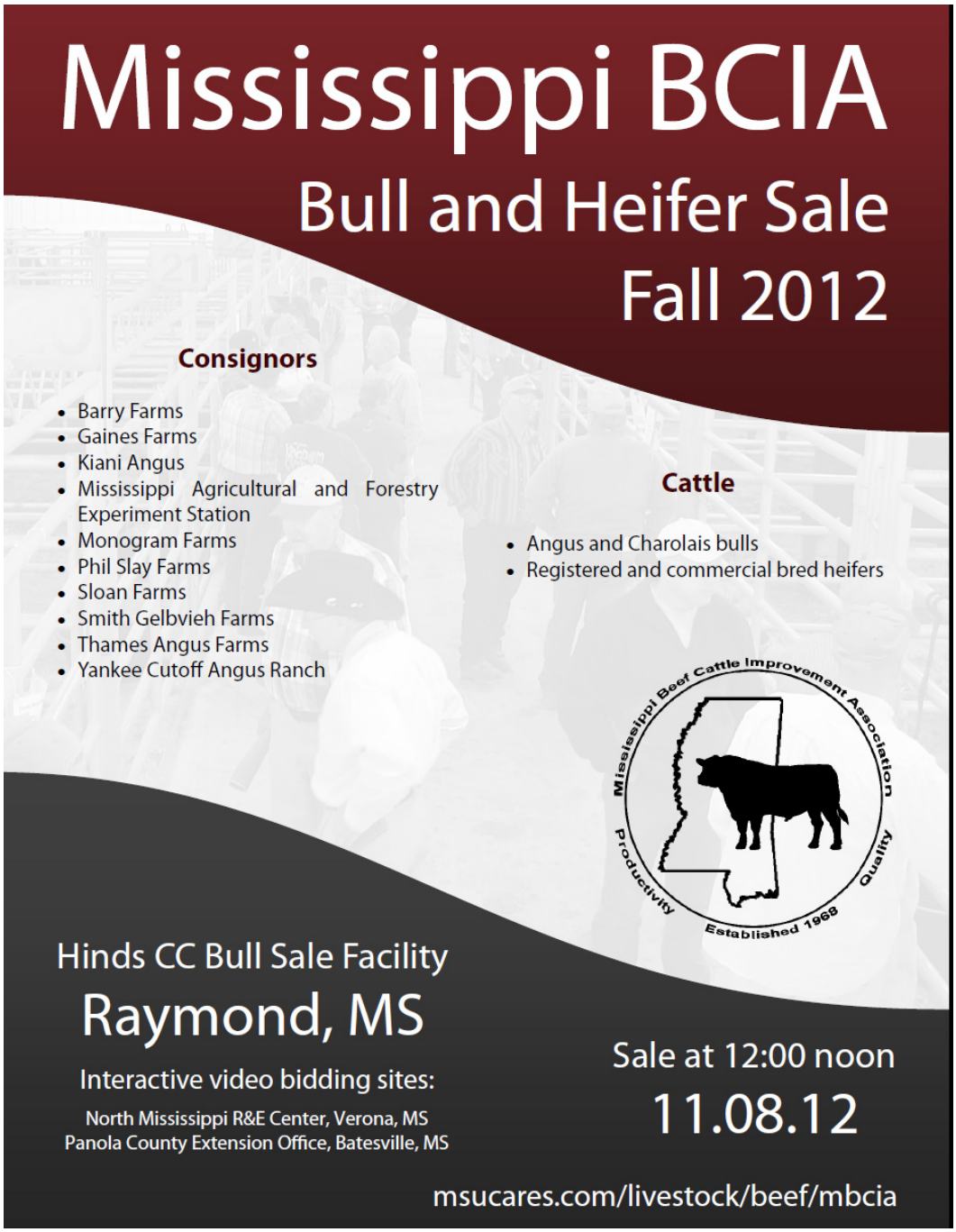
October 2012

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality

MBCIA Fall Bull and Heifer Sale—November 8

Catalogs to be available in early October



Upcoming events:

- October 25-27—Artificial Insemination School, Mississippi State, MS
- **November 8—MBCIA Bull and Heifer Sale, Raymond, MS**
- November 9—South MS Grazing School, Meadville, MS
- November 15—Improving Calf Value Short Course, Starkville, MS
- January 15—MBCIA Spring Bull Sale nomination deadline
- February 8—Mississippi BCIA Annual Membership Meeting, Jackson, MS
- March 7—Hinds Bull Test and MBCIA Spring Bull Sale, Raymond, MS
- March 12—Beef Heifer Development Short Course

Inside this issue:

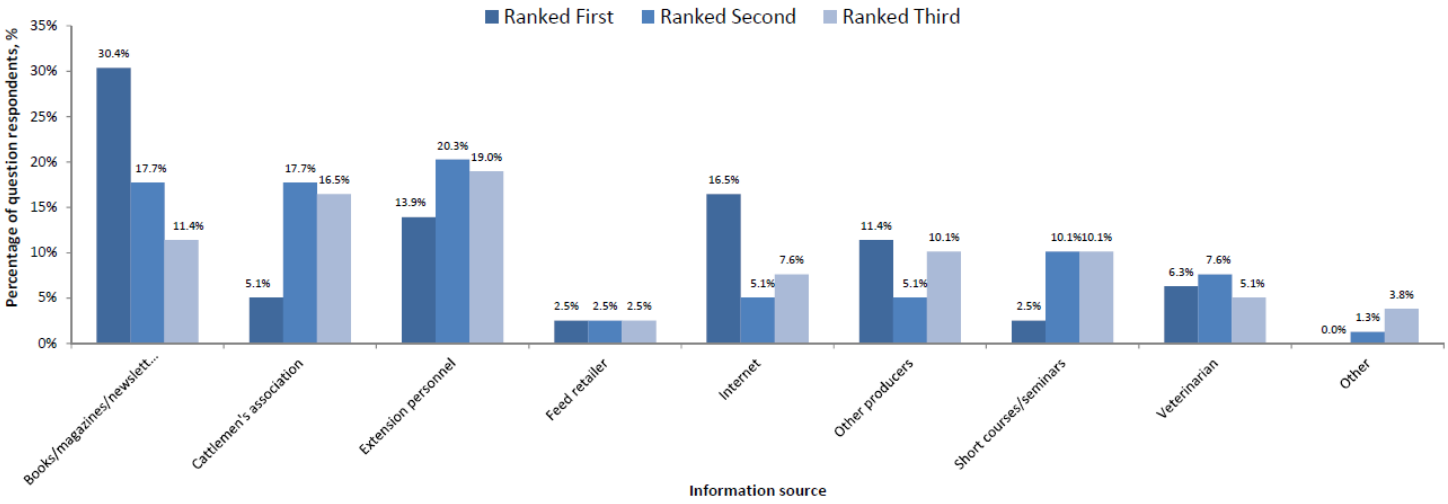
Beef Cattle Producer Survey Results—Record Keeping

Last month's MBCIA newsletter presented recent Mississippi and Southeast U.S. beef cattle producer survey management practice use results. This month information sources are highlighted. Once again this This reveals the major avenues in which cattle producers seek information for decision making on their operations.

The Mississippi data is compared against the data compiled for other states in the region. The other Southeastern U.S. states represented in the responses included Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

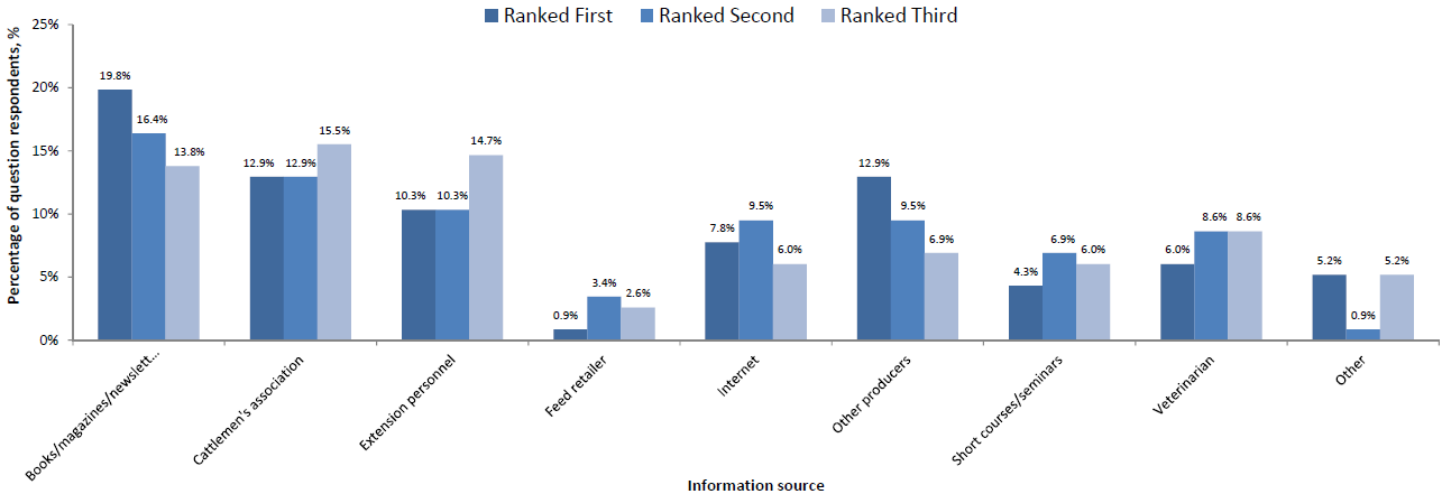
Mississippi

What information sources do you use to make decisions on your cattle operation? (Rank up to three)



Other Southeastern U.S. states

What information sources do you use to make decisions on your cattle operation? (Rank up to three)



MS: n = 79; Other states: n = 116

Missed the Economics Learn at Lunch? View It Online Anytime

The Beef Cattle Economics Learn at Lunch sessions presented throughout September 2012 are now available online for anytime viewing at:

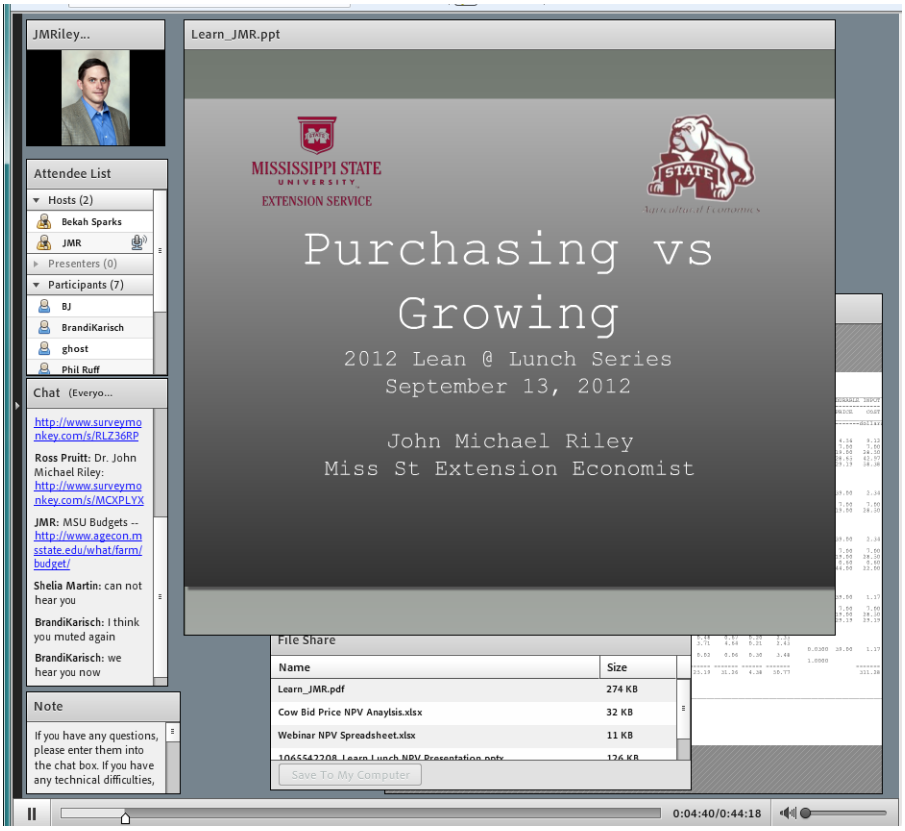
msucares.com/livestock/beef/beefsc.html

Log on to this website to access videos of the presentations.

Sessions archived online include:

- Budgeting
- Operation Investment
- Purchasing vs. Growing
- Risk Management
- Seasonal Price Trends
- Tax Planning
- Estate Planning

The sessions feature experts speakers from land-grant universities and other organizations across the U.S.



Feed Efficiency Conference Presentations Online

The National Program for Genetic Improvement of Feed Efficiency in Beef Cattle is a multiyear USDA funded project to develop selection tools and better understanding of feed efficiency in beef production. It hosts educational information on its website. Recent presentations on DNA technology are available at:

www.beefefficiency.org/marcmtgjune12.html

Because feed intake is a technologically challenging and expensive trait to record on large numbers of animals the group expects most of the selection for increased feed efficiency to occur through selection on genetic marker information. Its goal is to identify the genetic markers associated across multiple breeds with feed intake in the beef production system.

Beyond developing genetic marker tests for use in multiple breeds of cattle, they will also conduct research to help us better understand feed efficiency.

The program is also working with selected seed stock producers in multiple breeds to help them understand genetic marker technology and how to utilize it within their selection goals. As marker tests become available for feed intake in their breeds the program will work with this group of producers to incorporate selection for feed intake as part of their multiple trait selection strategy.

National Program for Genetic Improvement of Feed Efficiency in Beef Cattle

USDA
United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Assn.
Box 9815
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Phone: 662-325-7466
Fax: 662-325-8873
Email: jparish@ads.msstate.edu

Send questions or comments to
Jane Parish, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist,
Mississippi State University Extension Service

Visit MBCIA online at http://msucares.com/livestock/beef/mbcia/

MBCIA Membership Application

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____

County:_____ State:_____ Zip:_____

Phone:_____ Email:_____

(Check one) Seedstock:____ Commercial:____

Cattle breed(s):_____

Completed applications and $5 annual dues or $100 lifetime dues payable to Mississippi BCIA should be mailed to:

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association
Jane Parish, Extension Beef Cattle Specialist
Box 9815, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Arranging Fire Ant Inspections of Hay

MDAC Assisting Hay Producers to Comply with Fire Ant Quarantine Restrictions for Out-of-State Transport

Press Release—September 10, 2012
Mississippi State, MS

The Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce's (MDAC), Bureau of Plant Industry, is providing assistance to Mississippi hay producers that are transporting baled hay into areas that do not have established populations of fire ants. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a fire ant quarantine in place that restricts the movement of baled hay from infested areas to non-infested areas. The quarantine requires baled hay to be inspected and certified as apparently free of fire ants.

Due to drought conditions, a large volume of hay is being moved to parts of the Midwest, particularly Missouri and northern Arkansas, where fire ants are not established. In order for hay produced in Mississippi to enter these drought stricken areas, each load of hay will need to be inspected and certified as apparently free of fire ants prior to shipment.

Prior to inspection, the hay must be removed from direct contact with the soil, preferably within 24 hours of baling, and placed on concrete, pallets, tires, or plastic. Hay should be stacked and separated by truck loads; a certificate of inspection is required for each truck load. It is strongly recommended that the area surrounding the storage site be treated for fire ants to discourage fire ants from moving into the hay.

If you anticipate shipping baled hay to parts of the Midwest, particularly Missouri and northern Arkansas, contact MDAC's Bureau of Plant Industry well in advance of your shipment for detailed instructions at (662)325-3390.

Press Release Contact:
Stacey Swain, Communication and Policy Advisor
(662) 325-3393; Email: stacey@mdac.ms.gov