



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KRIRM To Offer Practical Stockmanship Symposium With Live Cattle Handling Demonstration

KINGSVILLE, Texas (July 29, 2016)—Practical stockmanship on the ranch continues to be a valuable and necessary practice, important to the rancher, the industry as a whole, and the beef consumer. The King Ranch® Institute for Ranch Management (KRIRM) will host a symposium on “Practical Stockmanship in Ranching” Oct. 20-21, 2016, in Kingsville, Texas.

The 13th Annual Holt Cat® Symposium on Excellence in Ranch Management will feature top cattle handling experts from across the country, including professionals with the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (NCBA), Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, and board certified veterinarians. These speakers will offer their expertise on cattle handling topics that go beyond the basic principles and practices.

“Cattle handling and stewardship has always been a high priority for managers in our industry,” said Clay Mathis, KRIRM director. “Today, more than ever before, how we handle cattle matters.”

Practical, low-stress stewardship is important not only because it can improve performance and health of livestock, but also consumers of beef are interested in the welfare of the animals they eat. A keynote address, presented by Shawn Darcy of NCBA, will discuss consumer perceptions on production practices and animal welfare. Darcy will illuminate what consumers are saying about the industry and how cattle are handled.

Equally important, producers that have made strides to improve cattle handling have great testimonials of success and cost-effective change. Two presentations during symposium will include these producer stories on implementing change in cattle handling. Additional topics will include the impacts of stress and handling on cattle performance; best management practices for castrating, dehorning, and euthanizing; cowboy safety and worker’s compensation; cattle handling facilities large and small; and more.

The symposium will conclude with a low stress cattle handling demonstration at the King Ranch arena. This demonstration will be led by Dr. Ron Gill and Curt Pate. They will demonstrate reading cattle behavior, teaching cattle to respond, and low stress handling on horseback and foot.

“Learning from the premier cattle handling experts in the industry will make a great educational experience for cattlemen,” said Mathis.

Transportation to the arena will be provided by KRIRM. Registration for symposium is \$150, which includes workbook materials, equipment, refreshments, and meals. A tradeshow of more than 25 industry vendors will be open during the entire symposium. For more information, to register, or to download the agenda, visit krirm.tamuk.edu/symposium or call 361-593-5401. Para todas las presentaciones y demostraciones habrá traducción simultánea al Español.

About KRIRM

Formed in 2003, KRIRM is a ranch management master’s program at Texas A&M University-Kingsville created in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the legendary King Ranch. As the only ranch management master’s program in the world, KRIRM teaches graduate students using a multi-disciplinary, systems approach to ranch management, and provides the highest quality lectureships and symposia to ranching industry stakeholders. For more information, visit krirm.tamuk.edu.

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