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Humboldt SK

Immediate Release

Winter Field Day at WBDC Expands

The Western Beef Development Centre got such a warm response its chilly Winter Field Day last year that it is doing it again with an expanded event. VP of the Centre, Dr. Paul Jefferson, noted that despite a pretty bitter day, the inaugural Winter Field Day in 2008 brought out about 45 people. "We saw the interest, and we just had to respond in kind." "There is always something new to share," he continued, "with new research projects, and new results from multi-year projects."

Dr. Bart Lardner, senior research scientist at the ranch agrees. "Producers love getting out in the field and seeing research projects in action. There is always a lot of interest, and they don't mind throwing out questions, and disagreeing with some findings. We're happy for their input!"

WBDC's 2009 Winter Field Day will be on Friday, December 11th, with the addition of a second day, Saturday, December 12th, which will feature a Blairs.Ag Cattle Co. Jr. Scholarship heifer sale. The field day will once again feature both indoor and outdoor presentations, starting at 12:30 p.m. on the afternoon of December 11th with a welcome from Greg Brkich, Legislative Secretary to Saskatchewan's Ministry of Agriculture.

This year WBDC will be touring five sites; Grazing Crop Residues with Beef Cows, Backgrounding Calves on Annual Forages, Bale Grazing Calves Supplemented with DDGS; Nutrients on Beef Cattle Winter Grazing, and Winter Watering System Frost Free Nose Pump.

This is the first collaboration with Blairs.Ag Cattle Company. Located just down the road from the research ranch, Blair's saw an opportunity to join with WBDC to make this a bigger event for the producer. "We do a lot of business with WBDC, and we look to them for leadership in practical and applicable new approaches to raising cattle," says Kevin Blair. "We thought we could give the producer more bang for their buck if we joined in on the day, and gave them a full event."

Blairs.Ag Cattle Co. will round off Friday with a complimentary supper after the field tours. Saturday, the Termuende Research Ranch will play host to the Blairs.Ag Cattle Co. Class of '09 Jr. Scholarship heifer sale, starting at 10:00 AM with display of the heifers. After providing lunch, the afternoon will begin with their Junior Scholarship Program and then it's on to the Class of '09 heifer sale.

"We're looking forward to it. It looks to be a pretty eventful couple days," said Jefferson. "And I wouldn't mind a bit if the nice weather held until then!"

For more information on the Western Beef Development Centre and its activities, go to www.wbdc.sk.ca.

- 30 -

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