

# Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association

Mississippi Beef Cattle Improvement Association—Productivity and Quality



#### Upcoming events:

- June 12-15—Beef Improvement Federation Convention, Oklahoma City, OK
- August 5—Homeplace Producers Feeder Calf Board Sale, Hattiesburg, MS
- August 8-9—Deep South Stocker Conference, Athens, GA
- August 28—Cattlemen's College, Pickens, MS
- August 29—Cattlemen's College, Seminary, MS
- September—Cattle Nutrition Webinar Series
- September 15—BCIA Fall Bull and Heifer Sale Nomination Deadline
- October 17-19—Cattle Artificial Insemination School, Mississippi State, MS
- November 13—MBCIA Educational Meeting and Supper, Raymond, MS
- November 14—MBCIA Fall Bull and Heifer Sale, Raymond, MS

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## Plan Ahead to Attend Mississippi's 2013 Cattlemen's College

### Cattlemen's COLLEGE


**August 28: Pickens • Cain Cattle Co. Sale Facility**  
**August 29: Seminary • JRW Simmental Cattle**

Low Stress Cattle handling demo: Curt Pate & Dr. Ron Gill  
Also on program are: Dr. Robin Faulkner from Zoetis, Dr. Hugh Aljoe, Noble Foundation, grazing management, and Scott George, NCBA President

Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. • Lunch will be provided


Learn more about Smooth Stockmanship that can improve gathering, penning, chute work & hauling. Also reduce stress & increase performance in your herd. The program will be presented by Curt Pate, Effective Stockmanship instructor and livestock handling advisor, renowned horseman, former auctioneer, and life long rancher.

**MISSISSIPPI CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION**




Mississippi Cattlemen's Association  
680 Monroe St. • Jackson, MS 39202  
601.354.8951  
[www.ms cattlemen.org](http://www.ms cattlemen.org)

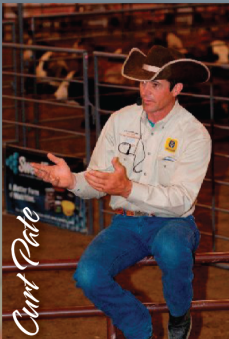
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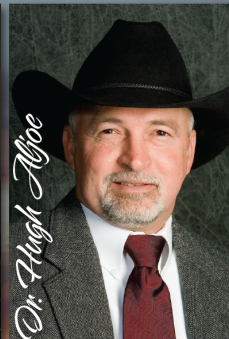
Curt Pate




Dr. Ron Gill

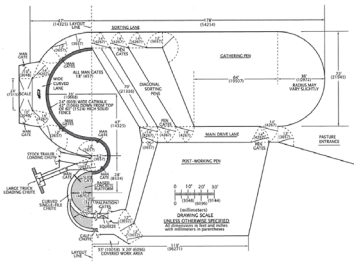


Scott George



Dr. Hugh Aljoe





Example layout design of a corral system for a cow-calf operation

## Facilities Design and Construction Tips Online

No matter the size or nature of the cattle operation, having effective cattle handling facilities is critical for good management. Construction detail photos and tips are available online at [www.grandinlivestockhandlingsystems.com](http://www.grandinlivestockhandlingsystems.com)

This website provides layout drawings of different types of facilities and facility components. It includes a corral system for a cow-calf operation, a curved cattle loading ramp, back stop gate in V-chute, and more.

The website is the product of the efforts of Temple Grandin, a Professor of Animal Science at Colorado State University. Dr. Grandin is one of the world's leaders in the design of livestock handling facilities. She has designed livestock facilities throughout the United States and internationally. In North America, almost half of all cattle processing facilities include a center track

restraint system that she designed for meat plants. Her curved chute (race) systems are used worldwide and her writings on the flight zone and other principles of grazing animal behavior have helped many producers to reduce stress during handling.

Dr. Grandin has consulted with many different ranchers, feedlot owners, packers, and industry organizations for many years. She has published several hundred industry publications, book chapters and technical papers on animal handling plus 62 refereed journal articles in addition to ten books.

Dr. Grandin's main website, [www.grandin.com](http://www.grandin.com), contains her research papers and additional information on livestock behavior, cattle handling, humane slaughter, stunning methods, effects of stress on meat quality, and design information.

## DID YOU KNOW?

The average value per head of Mississippi cattle and calves increased from \$800 in 2012 to \$860 in 2013. The total value of Mississippi cattle and calves on January 1, 2013 was \$782,600,000. — *MS Agricultural Statistics Service*

## Follow MSUCattle on Twitter



For the latest tweets from Mississippi State University beef cattle extension, visit: [twitter.com/MSUBeefCattle](https://twitter.com/MSUBeefCattle)

Become a follower of MSUBeefCattle on Twitter to receive timely tweets with educational information, images, video links, announcements, and retweets from other great Twitter feeds.



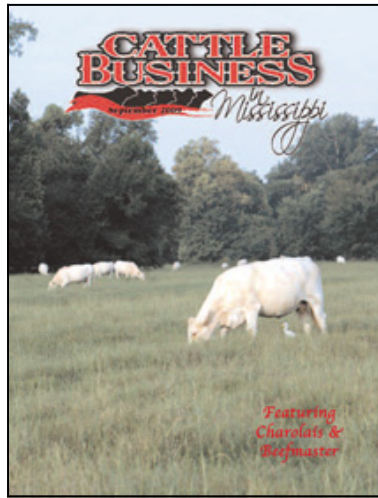
*"...Become one of a growing list of MSUBeefCattle Twitter followers to receive timely tweets targeted for beef cattle producers."*

## Mind on the Markets

Want to stay informed about agricultural markets and how they affect Mississippi cattle operations? A new column is now included in the *Cattle Business in Mississippi* magazine covering current market topics relevant to cattle producers. Dr. John Michael Riley authors this "Mind on the Markets" column.

Current and archived Mind on the Markets articles are posted online at [msucare.com/livestock/beef/cattle\\_market.html](http://msucare.com/livestock/beef/cattle_market.html)

This website also includes links to weekly Cattle Market Update podcasts.



*"...Mind on the Markets articles provide insight into how current agricultural market events affect beef production."*

## Deep South Stocker Conference this Summer

The fifth annual Deep South Stocker Conference is headed to Georgia. This year's conference will be held August 8-9, 2013 in Athens and Watkinsville. Click on the location tab to the left for location details. This conference is a joint effort between the Alabama Cooperative Extension System, the Mississippi State University Extension Service, and the University of Georgia Cooperative Extension.

This year's conference will be a two-day event with live animal demonstrations and hands-on opportunities on Thursdays, August 8, and educational seminars Friday, August 9. The conference will utilize two facilities. On Thursday, August 8, the conference will get started at the University of Georgia Livestock Instructional Arena. On Friday, August 9, the conference will move to the Oconee County Civic Center in Watkinsville, GA.

Additionally, this year's conference will be held in conjunction with Georgia Grazing School ([www.GeorgiaForages.com](http://www.GeorgiaForages.com)). This will give producers an opportunity for up to three days of hands-on, demonstration, and classroom learning opportunities. Registration for each event is separate. The Deep South Stocker Conference registration will cost \$125/person and will cover all seminars, events, meals, and handouts for the two-day event. Additionally, a trade show

will be held in conjunction with the conference to allow stocker operators the opportunity to network with industry professionals and to become aware of products and services that can improve their profitability and product quality.

If you are interested in traveling with the group leaving from Meridian, Mississippi to attend the Deep South Stocker Conference, contact Dr. Brandi Karisch at [bkarisch@ads.msstate.edu](mailto:bkarisch@ads.msstate.edu) or 662.325.7465.

The conference schedule of events and tour details are available online at:

[www.deepsouthstocker.com](http://www.deepsouthstocker.com)



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

*Joe Parish*

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Visit MBCIA online at  
[http://msucares.com/  
livestock/beef/mbcia/](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 life-time 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

## Estrus Synchronization Planner now Includes Protocols for Brahman-influenced Cattle

### Estrus Synch Planner Update

The Beef Reproduction Task Force provides a free spreadsheet planner tool to the public. The Microsoft® Excel compatible spreadsheet assists herd managers in making the right management decisions and establishing a program calendar for each day and each task.

The Estrus Synchronization Planner works with your program to:

- Assist with the challenge of planning and implementing some of the more complicated synchronization systems.
- Eliminate errors in the timing of injections, starting and ending the feeding of MGA, CIDR insertions, etc.
- Optimize labor use.
- Provide analysis and comparison of input costs of several synchronization systems.

An update to the Bovine Estrus Synchronization Planner has been released. Go to the Iowa Beef Center website to download. This version contains a system for synchronizing Brahma influenced cattle now as well.

The newest version of the planner is available for download at:  
[www.iowabeefcenter.org/estrus\\_synch.html](http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/estrus_synch.html)

Tips for download and getting started using the spreadsheet are available on this website. Contact information for technical support is provided as well.

### Survey Input Needed

Your help is requested in learning about practices beef producers use in conjunction with AI and synchronization of estrus and the success rates. Responses are sought from those that use AI for their own operation as well as those that provide AI services to others.

A majority of the questions are simple to answer, for instance "have you used gender sorted semen? y/n". A few questions allow you to share what you have learned using AI. Most people should be able to complete the survey in 10 to 20 minutes.

As an added incentive to complete the survey, one lucky respondent will receive 50 Estroject Heat Detection Patches. Results of the survey will be available at [www.beefrepro.info](http://www.beefrepro.info) for your viewing and will also be shared in the annual Beef Reproduction Task Force Conferences. Please take a few minutes and let the task force know how the suggested practices work for you on this survey.

Follow this link to the survey:  
<https://surveys.ksu.edu/TS?offeringId=208705>

