

# **Livestock Tour**

## **OSU Purebred Beef Center**

The Purebred Beef Cattle operation is one of the unique experiences which OSU can offer to Animal Science students and potential recruits relative to other universities across the country. The educational aspect of producing, promoting and merchandising genetically superior, high quality seedstock is a vital part of a program that continues to enjoy a national reputation for excellence in teaching, and an important factor that contributes to the outstanding quality of students and alumni from the OSU Department of Animal Science. The OSU Purebred Beef Center offers the most advanced and superior operation of any land-grant university. The facility offers teaching, research, extension education and marketing benefits to the students of OSU and the beef industry of Oklahoma.

## **Lazy-E Arena**

The Arena – just southeast of Guthrie and northeast of Edmond/Oklahoma City – opened its doors in December 1984 in time for that season’s National Finals Steer Roping to coincide with the National Finals Rodeo, which took place in downtown Oklahoma City. While the building hosts close to 30 lease events annually, Lazy E Productions also produces an additional 12 championship quality events, some at the Lazy E Arena and the others spanning the country. It’s a marriage that has worked rather well for over 30 years! The Lazy E is more than just a Western sports-event facility. Also part of the formula is the Lazy E Ranch and Training Center, and the arena itself has also hosted many concerts, conventions, wedding receptions, bicycle racing, trade-shows, and dirt-bike racing for years.

## **OKC Stockyards**

Stockyards City was founded October 3, 1910, and was built to serve the nation as a primary source for meat processing and packing. By 1915, Morris, Wilson and Armour all established huge packing facilities to slaughter the cattle, hogs and sheep which were transported first by cattle drive and later by railroad and truck. The area’s nickname for a time was “Packingtown.” By 1961, faced with complete overhaul and updating of equipment, the packing plants decided to close. However, the Stockyards still retains its profitable cattle trading and related businesses. Since its founding, Stockyards City has been the place for cattlemen, horsemen, farmers, ranchers and real cowboys to come for apparel, equipment, supplies, a good meal, and the opportunity to catch up on what was going on over a cold sarsaparilla with fellow cattlemen. For over 80 years, Stockyards City has continually offered the kind of quality products and services which are synonymous with the heritage of the West.

## **Express Ranches**

Ranking as the largest seedstock operation in America based upon sales records compiled by Cattle-Fax and published by NCBA, Express will sell more than 5000 head of Angus and Hereford genetics during the year. Express Ranches is an active participant in every phase of the beef production process and has fed as many as 50,000 head of cattle per year. Even the relatively recent acquisition of the historic UU Bar and Mora Ranches located just outside of Cimarron, NM, has added over 150,000 acres of high-altitude rangeland to Express Ranches. A production unit of commercial cows and calves plus 4,000 to 5,000 yearlings each summer will result in the testing of Express genetics under these semi-arid conditions that are not unlike many

of our commercial customers to the south and west of us. The genetics being developed, tested and marketed by Express are required to satisfy the needs of every step in the production chain.

### **Express Clydesdales**

In 1998, Bob Funk, owner of Express Ranches and CEO and Chairman of Express Employment Professionals, visited the longstanding Canadian Western Agribition in Regina, Saskatchewan. While visiting, he met and fell in love with the rare and beautiful black and white Clydesdales. Mr. Funk saw an opportunity to bring something entirely new and different to his home state of Oklahoma, a state steeped in its own rich equestrian history. Each year, the Clydesdales star in some of the world's most famous parades like Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, The Tournament of Roses Parade, The Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade and the Kentucky Derby Pegasus Parade, just to name a few. They've also had the extreme honor and pleasure of chauffeuring the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge, Prince William and Kate, during a visit to Calgary in Alberta, Canada.