

2014 TCAAA Professional Improvement Tours

2014 TCAAA Beef Tour

Clark Angus Ranch & East Texas Livestock Auction



Clark Angus Ranch, located in Houston County, is well known for its quality herd bulls and females in the Angus breed. With a base herd of 600 Registered Angus females selected for performance, carcass and correct phenotype, that include daughters of top AI sires and carrying the latest genetics of the Angus breed, Clark Angus Ranch is a premier Herd Sire ranch. A working demonstration of

cattle dogs and a tour of the ranch along with their feedlot program and breeding program are on the schedule for the day.

Serving the livestock industry for over 60 years, East Texas Livestock is a modern cattle auction located in the heart of beef cow counties of Texas. All major order buying firms, plus the major packing houses, are represented each Tuesday to buy from the largest fresh cattle offerings within the East Texas area.

2014 TCAAA Natural Resources Tour

East Texas Conservation Center, Texas Parks & Wildlife Fish Hatchery, Lake Sam Rayburn



The Natural Resources tour for the 2014 TCAAA professional improvement opportunities will consist of a variety of topic areas that all will find greatly beneficial. The tour will begin at the East Texas Conservation Center in Jasper. At this location we will see a Longleaf pine demonstration, a Giant Salvinia weevil research project, prescribed fire, and wetland research. After lunch we will travel to the newest Texas Parks and Wildlife fish hatchery located on legendary Lake Sam Rayburn where we will see how new technologies in fisheries are utilized to get more fish into lakes and waterways around Texas. We will wrap up the tour by visiting a timber harvest location where all will see what goes into the efforts of harvesting timber and getting the product to area mills.

2014 TCAAA Poultry Tour

Tyson Hatchery and Pilgrim's Processing Plant



Tyson Foods and Pilgrims have an extremely large presence in East Texas, specifically in Shelby and Nacogdoches Counties. Annually, the poultry industry accounts for over \$520 Million in agricultural production in those two counties alone. On this tour participants will have the opportunity to see the facilities of both of these producers. We will begin with a tour of the Tyson hatchery in Nacogdoches, visit with local growers and end the tour at the Pilgrim's Processing Plant where we will see the whole process from live bird to breaded and seasoned filets made especially for your favorite restaurant.

2014 TCAAA Horticulture Tour

Stephen F. Austin State University Mast Arboretum and Gardens



Dr. Dave Creech, Regent's Professor and Professor Emeritus at SFASU, provides a tour that highlights some of the unique plants at the SFA Mast arboretum. The Mast arboretum is a ten acre garden along LaNana creek at Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas, and boasts one of the most diverse collections of plants in the South. The Mast Arboretum is dedicated to acquiring, testing, introducing and promoting new plants for

the landscape and nursery industry in the southern USA.

Greg Grant (horticulturist, historian and humorist, and former Extension Horticulture agent) will share a glimpse into the native forest and gardens that celebrate the wonderful diversity of native plants in the region found at the Pineywoods Native Plant Center. The PNPC is 42 acres of a unique mixture of uplands, mesic mid-slopes and wet creek bottoms.

Nacogdoches county Master Gardeners have a thriving demonstration garden within the city of Nacogdoches. This 7.3-acre teaching garden includes a butterfly garden, bulb garden, fruit variety trials, and large vegetable garden.