

MISSOURI NEWS SCENE

Newsmakers

Missourians serve on beef board
Charles Bassett, Dixon, former chairman of the Missouri Beef Industry Council, was elected to represent Missouri on the Cattleman's Beef



CHARLES BASSETT

Board, which administers the beef checkoff on the national level.

Bassett believes nutrition education and research is vital for the future of the beef industry, both in terms of the childhood obesity problem and the needs of aging baby boomers. He'd like to see more research on how beef fits into a healthy diet for growing children and aging seniors.

David Dick, current MBIC chairman, was re-elected to the operating committee of the Cattleman's Beef Board. Dick also



DAVID DICK

serves as vice president of the joint nutrition and health committee.

The leaders say Missouri beef pro-

ducers should be proud of the role they are playing in determining the future of the industry nationwide.

NFU hosts energetic convention

The National Farmers Union's 104th convention in Denver, March 3-6, was powered by renewable energy.

Through a donation by Renewable Choice Energy of Boulder, Colo., the convention's electricity use was offset with 32,000 kilowatt-hours of wind energy credits from wind farms.

"Using this form of alternative energy not only supports development of wind-

energy in our communities, but also directly avoids 44,000 pounds of carbon dioxide pollution," says Quayle Hodek, CEO of Renewable Choice Energy. "Because of the way power is distributed, it's actually impossible to pipe wind power directly to the convention location. The difference is that by using renewable energy credits, we ensure the electricity we use from the grid gets replaced with wind power, which makes the energy mix cleaner for everyone."

20th anniversary celebrated

The Missouri Forage and Grassland

Council was founded in the spring of 1986. The organization now boasts some 800 members and conducts an annual meeting with educational seminars. The 2006 meeting will be held Dec. 10-13 in St. Louis, in conjunction with the National Conference on Grazing Lands.

The purpose of the Missouri Forage and Grassland Council is to promote profitable and efficient production, utilization and conservation of Missouri's forage and grasslands. For more information, call (573) 499-0886, or go to agebb.missouri.edu/mfgc.

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What's Happening in Missouri

APRIL

19-21: Agri-Marketing Conference and Trade Show, Kansas City. Call (913) 491-6500.

20-21: Missouri FFA Convention, Hearnes Building, University of Missouri campus, Columbia.

MAY

7-9: U.S. Food Export Show, Chicago.

JUNE

5-9: MU Agricultural Lenders School, Columbia. Early career ag lenders can experience an intensive technical overview of the entire loan and servicing process while learning about the changing role of capital suppliers in ag operations. Call Joe Horner at (573) 882-9339.

JULY

28-Aug. 6: Ozark Empire Fair, Springfield. Visit www.ozarkempirefair.com.

30-Aug. 1: Missouri Young Farmers and Young Farmwives Summer Tour, Chillicothe. Call (573) 751-8467.

AUGUST

10-20: 2006 Missouri State Fair, Sedalia. Call (660) 530-5600 or visit www.mostatefair.