

Views from VanDeWalle

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“Herd That” Women’s Ag Conference

This week I’ve decided to highlight a new conference that is coming to Lincoln for women involved within the agricultural industry, with a specific focus on women in beef production. This sounds like an excellent program as the following information and a specific agenda can be found on the UNL Women in Ag website at <https://wia.unl.edu/herd-that>.

The Nebraska Women in Agriculture program along with the Nebraska Beef Quality Assurance Program are excited to announce the first annual Herd That! Conference on Sept. 15, 2021 in Lincoln, Neb. The conference will focus on the five areas of risk management specific to livestock. The highlight of this year’s inaugural event will be a live cattle handling demonstration with Temple Grandin, Ph.D., Colorado State University and Dean Fish, Ph.D., ranch manager, Santa Fe Ranch.

“We are thrilled to be bringing a new event to our Women in Agriculture programing that is specific to women who raise livestock,” said Jessica Groskopf, director of Nebraska Women in Agriculture. “With Nebraska being one of the largest beef producing states in the country and women across our state taking in active role in their operation, there is no better time to launch this event.”

The one-day conference will bring a variety of speakers and topics for attendees to learn from. The workshops and keynote speakers will offer tools and information that they can take back to their operations to become more successful. During the morning sessions, participants will have the opportunity to learn from industry experts as well as University of Nebraska Extension professionals. Topics will range from market outlooks, family communication, livestock insurance, veterinarian practices and more.

Dr. Temple Grandin and Dr. Dean Fish will finish off the conference with a live cattle handling demonstration focusing on low stress cattle handling and facility design.

“The way we handle our animals is more important than ever to the animal agriculture industry. As caregivers, we need to be sure we are handling our animals in the lowest stress-free environment as possible”, says Jesse Fulton, Director of Nebraska Beef Quality Assurance. “Being able to have Dr. Temple Grandin, the patriarch of low-stress cattle handling and facility design, teamed up with Dr. Dean Fish, a nationally renowned cattle stockman, come to Nebraska to demonstrate the importance and ease of low stress cattle handling is a great chance for Nebraska producers to hear from the industry leading experts on the topic. Just because we are using cattle for the demonstration, doesn’t mean you can’t ask question about other species. I hope every producer tries to join us for this exceptional opportunity”, says Fulton.