



# Beef Cattle

TEACHING & RESEARCH CENTER

## Mission

To advance agriculture using multidisciplinary approaches to teach, generate, disseminate and apply knowledge in beef cattle biology and management

## Vision

The center will be utilized by dedicated faculty, staff and students to develop successful graduates, conduct innovative research and engage stakeholders.

## Visiting

9 a.m. – 4 p.m. daily for self-guided tours. Visitors must not have visited a foreign country in the 7 days prior to visiting the farm. Groups may request guided tours.

## Location

5307 Bennett Rd.  
Lansing, MI 48910

## Manager

Tristan Foster  
715-892-1079  
Fostert8@msu.edu

## STATISTICS & INFORMATION

Home to:

- 80 calving cows at cow/calf unit
- 510 steers and heifers at feedlot

### Production Performance

#### Highlights:

- 1:1 ratio of live born calves to cows with 0% dystocia rate. Average live birth weight of 82 lbs.

### Farm Upgrades & Capital Improvements:

- Slatted barn renovation including new top slats, waterlines, pen gating and alleyway concrete
- Calan gate system updated for monitoring individual feed intakes in research project
- Added permanent heating to physiology room for heat stress demonstration
- New fencing to create equal pastures for grazing research at cow/calf unit
- New truck and UTV vehicle used for daily operations

## RESEARCH

This past year, research at the beef unit focused primarily on breed performance and carcass differences, heat stress and disease transmission.

### Highlighted Research:

- Beef x Holstein Performance and Carcass (Daniel Buskirk, Ph.D.)
- Deciphering Bovine Leukemia Virus Transmission: Maternal Impact on Calves Before Weaning (Tasia Kendrick, Ph.D.)
- Effect of Breed and Corn Silage Inclusion Rate on Liver Abscess Incidence (Jerad Jaborek, Ph.D.)
- Investigating Skeletal Muscle and Adipose Tissue Response to Heat Stress in Beef Cattle (Jongkyoo Kim, Ph.D.)

## TEACHING

The center regularly provides the facilities, cattle or beef for numerous experiential learning opportunities, including courses from Animal Science, Crop and Soil Sciences, Institute of

Agriculture and Technology and College of Veterinary Medicine

Host 100+ different laboratory and teaching sessions each academic calendar year

- Nine different courses and 554 different students

Classes focused on:

- Farm finance, nutrition, livestock marketing, livestock procurement, calving, reproduction, feed harvesting/storage, pasture management, carcass evaluation, live cattle evaluation, cattle processing, and beef industry overviews.

## OUTREACH

The center regularly hosts a wide range of outreach events and organizations, including:

- Vaccination demonstration
- Grandparents University
- CAB/Sysco Foods Education



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