



# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, JAN. 24 | OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY, WOOSTER CAMPUS

## Buckeye Cattlemen's Summit

Ohio's Signature Gathering for Breed Meetings, Industry Updates, Educational Opportunities & OCA Traditions

### 7- 8 a.m. - Registration - Donuts & Coffee

Shisler Conference Center  
1680 Madison Ave, Wooster Ohio 44691

### 8- 10 a.m. - Education Workshop - Beef Cattle Reproduction Research Update & Herd Rebuilding Strategies

Hear from industry professionals about the latest advancements in beef cattle reproduction and gain practical strategies to support herd rebuilding efforts. This workshop will provide research-based insights and actionable tools producers can apply to improve herd performance, productivity, and long-term sustainability.



**Aaron Arnett, Ph.D.**  
Director of Beef Genetics, ST Genetics



**John Fulton, Ph.D.**  
OSU Depart. of Food, Agricultural and Biological Engineering



**Alvaro Garcia-Guerra, Ph.D.**  
OSU Dept. of Animal Sciences

### 8:30 a.m. - Ohio CattleWomen Annual Meeting

### 9 a.m. - Ohio Beef Youth Council Stockmanship Session - Determining Carcass Value - Quality and Yield Grading

Mandatory for Fed Cattle Carcass Contest participants, open to all youth. Gain a deeper understanding of how carcass value is measured through both quality and yield grading. This session will break down the key factors that influence premiums and discounts, explain how grading impacts market decisions, and provide practical insights used to maximize the value of finished cattle.



**Culley Kutz**  
Meat Scientist, Beef Education Specialist, Certified Angus Beef

### 10 a.m. - Ohio Beef Youth Council Stockmanship Contest - Beef Cuts Identification

Participants will test their knowledge of retail and wholesale beef cuts through hands-on identification challenges. This contest helps youth strengthen their understanding of the beef carcass and product value.



**Lyda Garcia, Ph.D.**  
OSU Dept. of Animal Sciences

Contest Registration due by Jan. 10 at [ohiocattle.org](http://ohiocattle.org) or scan the QR code



### 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. - Breed Association Luncheons

Join fellow breeders for a chance to connect, share updates, and highlight ongoing initiatives. These luncheons recognize members through award programs, and celebrate achievements that strengthen and support your breed community.



Buckeye Hereford Association



Ohio Shorthorn Association



Ohio Simmental Association

### 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Buckeye Cattlemen's Summit Luncheon (if not attending a breed luncheon)

The Ohio Beef Council will provide an overview of 2025 Beef Checkoff investments, highlighting key programs, promotions, and research efforts shaping the year ahead. The session will also include the awards presentation for the Ohio Beef Youth Council Beef Cuts Contest.

### 1:30 p.m. - Ohio Cattlemen's Foundation Annual Meeting

Presentation of the 2025 Foundation Scholarships to outstanding students for their achievements and commitment to the future of the beef industry.

### 2:30 - 4 p.m. - Education Workshop - Evolution in Beef Carcass Yield Grading & Red Meat Yield, Direct Marketing Panel Discussion

Explore how advancements in beef carcass yield grading and red meat yield evaluation are shaping today's marketing decisions. This session includes a practical panel discussion featuring direct marketers who will share real-world insights, challenges, and strategies for capturing value in modern beef markets.



**John Stika, Ph.D.**  
President of Certified Angus Beef LLC

Panelists include Garth Ruff, Beef Cattle Field Specialist, OSU Extension; Lindsey Hall, Maplecrest Meats & More; Andy Lohr, Center Street Meat Co.; Justin Esselburn, Big Prairie Beef. Lyda Garcia, Ph.D., OSU Dept. of Animal Sciences will moderate the panel.

### 4-6 p.m. - OCA Annual Meeting

Stay informed on the latest policy discussions and issues impacting Ohio's cattle industry. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in dialogue, provide input, and help shape OCA's policy direction for 2026.

## 6-7 p.m. - Cattlemen's Social & PAC Auction



Evening reception and live auction supporting OCA PAC and its ongoing work on behalf of Ohio's beef industry. This event offers a fun, social atmosphere while helping advance critical legislative and advocacy efforts that protect and promote cattle producers statewide.

## 7 p.m. - OCA Awards Banquet

Celebrate the seven distinguished award winners of the year while enjoying a plated dinner, watching the award winner tribute videos, and hearing remarks from NCBA President-Elect Gene Copenhaver of Virginia. This special evening brings the beef community together to honor excellence, leadership, and lasting contributions to the industry.



### Gene Copenhaver

2025 National Cattlemen's Beef Association President-Elect

Copenhaver is a fifth-generation cattleman whose family dates to the 1850s in Washington County, Virginia. Copenhaver currently manages his family's stocker operation in southwest Virginia with his son, Will. Copenhaver was an agriculture loan officer for 38 years and served his clients who were primarily cattle producers in five East Coast states.

Copenhaver served as NCBA Vice President, chair and vice chair of the Policy Division, chair and vice chair of NCBA's Tax & Credit Committee, and chair and vice chair of NCBA's International Trade Committee. He is a past president of the Virginia Cattlemen's Association and past chairman of the Virginia Cattle Foundation.

Copenhaver graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in animal science. He has been married to his wife, Jodi, for more than 35 years, and they have three grown children, Brad, Will and Jaymee, and one granddaughter.

## LEARN MORE & REGISTER!

SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW FOR ONLINE REGISTRATION OR COMPLETE THE FORM AND RETURN TO:  
10600 US HWY 42 MARYSVILLE, OH 43040 BY JAN. 15

Don't miss your chance to be part of this year's event. Secure your spot today to ensure full access to all sessions, activities, and meetings. Lunch registration includes access to all educational workshops, the Ohio Cattlemen's Foundation Annual Meeting, and the OCA Annual Meeting. Registration for the OCA Awards Banquet is separate unless the all-day registration option is selected.



Rooms blocks are available at the Hilton Garden Inn - 950 Dover Rd Wooster, Ohio 44691. Use code OCA.

### Buckeye Hereford Luncheon

Individual breed meeting and awards program. Youth 6 and under are free, please list names below

\$20 x # of individuals attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those attending (will be printed on name tags)

### Ohio Shorthorn Luncheon

Individual breed meeting and awards program. All juniors are free, please list names below

\$20 x # of individuals attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those attending (will be printed on name tags)

### Ohio Simmental Luncheon

Individual breed meeting and awards program. All juniors are free, please list names below

\$20 x # of individuals attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those attending (will be printed on name tags)

### Buckeye Cattlemen Summit Luncheon

Ohio Beef Council will present a review of 2025 Beef Checkoff Investments and Ohio Beef Youth Council Beef Cuts Contest awards presentation

\$20 x # of individuals attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those attending (will be printed on name tags)

### OCA Awards Banquet

Celebrate the seven distinguished award winners for the year, enjoy a plated dinner, view the award winner videos, and hear from NCBA President-Elect, Gene Copenhaver of Virginia

OCA Members \$50 x # of individuals attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non OCA Members \$65 x # of individuals attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those attending (will be printed on name tags)

### Entire day

Includes all educational workshops, meetings, lunch, and OCA Awards Banquet

OCA Members \$70 x # of individuals attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Non OCA Members \$85 x # of individuals attending \_\_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Names of those attending (will be printed on name tags)

