



# NEWS

*For Immediate Release*

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*This release is available electronically*

## **Iowa & Nebraska State Fairs Incorporate Balancers into Gelbvieh Shows**

On the heels of a highly successful National Balancer Show & Sale in Kearney, Neb., two state fairs have incorporated Balancers into their open Gelbvieh shows. The first National Balancer Show & Sale, held in conjunction with Nebraska Cattlemen's Classic, boasted a \$4,000 plus average on the bulls and \$1,800 plus on the females consigned.

The Gelbvieh Breeders of Iowa voted to add a Balancer division to the Open Gelbvieh Show at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines. The Gelbvieh show and the Balancer show will both be held on August 15. Entry deadline is July 1. Call 515-262-3111 for entry forms and premium book.

According to Pat McCabe, show organizer for Gelbvieh Breeders of Iowa, the Balancer Show will consist of three divisions in the female show: Spring Heifer Calves (1/1/05 to show date), Fall Heifer Calves (9/1/04 to 12/31/04), and Bred Heifers. The Balancer Bull Show will feature two divisions: Spring Bull Calves (1/1/05 to show date) and Fall Bull Calves (9/1/04 to 12/31/04). A Champion and Reserve Balancer will be selected in the female show and the bull show. The Balancer cattle will not show against the Gelbvieh cattle at the Iowa State Fair.

According to McCabe, if a 75 percent female has a Balancer certificate from the American Gelbvieh Association, she will be placed in the Balancer Show. A 75 percent female with a hybrid or percentage certificate from the American Gelbvieh Association will compete in the Gelbvieh show. Producers wanting their 75 percent female to compete in the Gelbvieh show can contact the AGA office to change a Balancer certificate to a percentage certificate. Questions on the Iowa State Fair Balancer Show should be directed to Pat McCabe, 563-852-7151.

Gelbvieh Association In Nebraska (GAIN) recently voted to incorporate registered Balancers into the Gelbvieh show at the 2005 Nebraska State Fair. In the past, any animal 50 percent Gelbvieh or higher and registered with the American Gelbvieh Association could compete in the Gelbvieh show at Nebraska State Fair. With a vote this spring, Gelbvieh Association In Nebraska will allow any registered Balancer to compete in the Gelbvieh show at Nebraska State Fair. Animals that are 50 percent Gelbvieh or higher, but without a Balancer certificate, will also be allowed to show, as in the past.

All exhibitors at the Nebraska State Fair Gelbvieh Show must be members of Gelbvieh Association In Nebraska. Contact Susan Gehl, GAIN Executive Secretary, for membership information, 308-653-2060. The Nebraska State Fair Gelbvieh Show is set for August 29 in Lincoln. Entry deadline is August 5. Contact the Nebraska State Fair for entry forms, 402-474-5371.

Balancers are registered, documented hybrid seedstock combining Gelbvieh and Angus (red or black) genetics. For more information visit the AGA website at [www.gelbvieh.org](http://www.gelbvieh.org) or call the American Gelbvieh Association office at 303-465-2333.

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