

News Column

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RCLA Summer Tour – August 28, 2022

Inner beauty. That's what really matters, isn't it?

It sounds like a sales pitch from a grandmother,...when she is trying to convince her teenage grandson to ask out the really nice – but average looking – girl down the street. She has inner beauty!

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder – another cliché commonly spewed by a grandma,...or even a dad. What is beautiful to me might not be beautiful to you. We all have different taste.

In the cattle business, different producers have different tastes too. What is beautiful to a show calf producer may be far different from what is viewed as beautiful to a commercial cattleman. The commercial producer probably doesn't care about pretty – he/she wants pounds.

Now, if you're really into inner beauty, then Wagyu cattle might be just the thing for you. I haven't seen many of them, but I hear they are ugly. They are also said to have plenty of marbling and great flavor. Inner beauty.

Your chance to view some of those beautiful Wagyu cattle will be at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 28. The annual Riley County Livestock Association summer tour will be held at Booth Creek Wagyu, 12900 Booth Creek Road, Olsburg, KS.

Yes, we are hopping the county line again and touring a cattle operation in Pottawatomie county. It will be a short drive of about 20 minutes coming from Manhattan. From the Leonardville area it will take a little longer to loop around the lake, but it is a pretty drive

whether you are coming from the north or the south. Your GPS will get you there, so I won't bother giving directions.

Booth Creek Wagyu is what I would call a conception to consumption operation. They breed, feed, and process their own animals, then market the meat products directly to consumers. Our tour will be at the ranch, viewing cattle and learning about the Waygu breed and the Booth Creek Wagyu business model.

The RCLA summer tour always concludes with a picnic and the Booth Creek owners have generously offered to provide Waygu burgers as the main course. Samples of some other Waygu products will also be available.

The tour is open to anyone interested in livestock and there is no charge to attend. However, reservations are required and must be made by August 25. Register online at [www.riley.ksu.edu](http://www.riley.ksu.edu).

Food, drinks, and table service will be provided, but participants are asked to bring their own lawn chairs.

I hope you can join us.

If you have questions, you can reach me at the Riley County Extension Office at 785/537-6350. Or, you can send e-mail to [gmcclure@ksu.edu](mailto:gmcclure@ksu.edu).

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