



“There is a direct correlation between disposition and tenderness. A wild animal just won’t eat as good. We’re trying to grow our breed slowly and do it right. We want to make sure we keep the quality of the breed up,” he said.

Gentry thanked the Judys for hosting the field day and said he’s never seen grass as good as theirs. “I’ve learned a lot here this weekend and I’m going to make some changes on my farm when I get home,” he said, alluding to the mob grazing management style Judy uses to graze his herd of 200 cows.

Judy stressed the need to have the right kind of cattle to do what he is doing. “Seven and eight frame cattle won’t do what I need them to do. We winter our cows on stockpiles, we don’t feed any hay. We take our cattle through the winter with

stockpiles,” he said.

Judy said he started several years ago with custom grazing because he could not afford to buy his own cows. He said when he got his own cows he thought he had cattle with good grass genetics. “I was wrong, I didn’t. So I sold them and was lucky enough to have Teddy sell me 22 cows and calves and then I really got going,” he said.

“One of the problems farmers have today is that too many people are trying to get their hands into our pockets. There are too many inputs. We, as farmers, are doing all the work and taking all the risks. We used MiG grazing before and switched



Some of the outstanding South Poll heifers that SPGCA President Teddy Gentry brought to Missouri from his Bent Tree Farm in Alabama. The top heifer – as chosen by Bent Tree herdsman Dave Robert, Kansas purebred cattleman Tim Ohlde and SPGCA Vice President Greg Judy – sold for \$3,600.



From the left, Bent Tree herdsman Dave Roberts, Kansas purebred cattleman Tim Ohlde and SPGCA Vice President Greg Judy judged the four outstanding heifers SPGCA President Teddy Gentry brought to the field day.

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SPGCA President Teddy Gentry speaks to the crowd about the advantages of South Polls.



SPGCA members and friends gathered for this photo late on the afternoon of the field day, after the clean-up was completed and after the crowd had left. The four folks in the back row, from the left, are Paul Shanks, Bruce Shanks, Ralph Voss and Jan Judy. In front are Jerry Voss, Lisa Jeffery, Linda Gentry, Teddy Gentry, Greg Judy and David Penn, an intern who worked for the Judys this past summer.



to mob grazing in 2005. We've never been more excited, to have our three herds co-mingled. And you can't believe the results we have gotten in doing that," he said.

"We've gotten the density of our cattle up, our grass has long recovery periods and we don't need any inputs. We don't need hay and we don't own a tractor. You don't need machinery to run cattle. We're making a good living from running cattle on grass," he said.

"We're trying to put as much litter on the ground as possible with our mob grazing. Our cows are trampling 50 percent of our forage. That forage is feeding our animals and our soil every day. They're hitting it hard, laying it on the ground and then letting the plants recover. I used to graze my grass six to eight times a year, but that doesn't work here. If you don't get rain you're out of grass in July or August," Judy said.

Guests were asked to grade four heifers that Gentry brought from his Bent Tree Farms in Alabama and were later given measurement and testing data on the heifers to see if they had chosen correctly with their eyes only.

Judy, Bent Tree Farms herdsman and Gentry's



Teddy Gentry and his wife Linda, left, slowed down for a minute to have this photo taken with Lisa Jeffrey, association administrator, and Dave Roberts, Bent Tree herdsman.



Late in the afternoon a guitar pull was held, with these four singer/songwriters participating. From the right are Teddy Gentry, Dillon Dixon, Chas. Sanford and David Rice, a young Ashland resident. Rice, who was blind from birth, is a long-time fan of Gentry's and for years had dreamed of singing with him.

cattle partner Dave Roberts and Angus cattleman Tim Ohlde judged the heifers and the winning heifer was auctioned off for \$3,600 that was donated to the association. The day also featured lunch, farm tours of the Judy farm, a silent auction and a guitar pull that included Gentry, Chas. Sanford, Dillon Dixon and local musician David Rice.

Next year's field day will be held at the Tom and Toyah McGrady farm in Montgomery, Texas.



Teddy Gentry and Greg Judy shortly before lunch spoke to the crowd spread out on the lawn behind the Judys' home. At this time the crowd could have used umbrellas to protect themselves from the sun. Not much later umbrellas would have come in handy for protection from a raging thunderstorm that soaked everyone that wasn't close to a vehicle or building.