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FROM UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI EXTENSION

Tim Schnakenberg, field specialist in agronomy

Headquartered in Stone Co.

Tel: (417)-357-6812

E-mail: schnakenbergc@missouri.edu

Ozark Empire Fair Hay Show Call for Entries

Challenge yourself to be an exceptional haymaker!

Now that hay season is finally in full swing, now is a good time to pull hay samples for entry in the Ozark Empire Fair Hay Show. Even though the weather has presented challenges for ideal hay or haylage production, you can use the hay test results to begin planning your winter hay feeding strategy and learn to improve your haymaking skills.

The entry deadline for the Hay Show Is July 18. The cost is a bargain at \$23 per sample. To enter, contact the nearest University of Missouri Extension specialist as they are the ones who actually pull the core samples from the 10-bale entry.

The show accommodates either dry hay or haylage in conventional small bales or large high moisture forage. Allow at least two to three weeks before collecting the hay bale sample.

Space at the fair only allows for displaying the Champions and Reserves in the two divisions. Within each division the classes are split into: legumes; cool season grass; warm season perennial grass; grass-legume mix and summer/winter annual grass. The hay exhibit at the fair will be educational and have booklets on display with all the exhibitors' data that includes test results from Custom Lab, Monett. Past exhibitors credit the show with marketing assistance.

The class placings will be based on Relative Forage quality (RFQ). Data, in addition to RFQ will include: moisture; crude protein; acid detergent fiber; neutral detergent fiber; and total digestible nutrients (TDN). The forage must have been harvested in Missouri in 2022. Exhibitors are limited to two entries per class. No more than one entry per field per cutting may be made.

Due to the emphasis on education about forage analysis and how to interpret lab results for planning supplemental feed needs, premiums are limited to ribbons, rosettes and cash prizes for the top six entries in each class. This year there will be a special prize of a new hay probe for top winners of the dry hay and haylage classes from Custom Lab of Monett.

For more details contact Tim Schnakenberg, Galena 417-357-6812.