

2026 Annual ASA



FOCUS ON YOU. FOCUS ON SUCCESS.
FOCUS ON PROFIT.

Montana Simmental Association Showcase

Friday, August 28, 2026 | Bozeman MT

Best Western GranTree Inn

- 9:00 AM Registration desk opens, located in the lobby
Name badge pickup available until 12:00 pm.
- 11:30 AM Lunch at the GranTree Inn
Follow signs in the lobby to the meet-up area.
- 12:15 PM Depart for the MSU BART Farm
Carpooling is encouraged.
Details for transportation and parking shared in pre-event email.

MSU BART Farm

- 12:30 PM Tour of the MSU BART Farm
Learn about the MSU Steer-A-Year program, current research projects, and participate in technology demonstrations.
- 2:30 PM Return to GranTree Inn

American Simmental Association Headquarters

- 3:40 PM Tour ASA's Headquarters
Show up early for staff-guided tours of the ASA office.
Tours will continue until dinner starts.
- 5:00 PM Welcome, and social hour
Meet and interact with ASA staff and leadership, and socialize with fellow SimGenetics breeders and enthusiasts.
- 6:00 PM Dinner hosted by the Montana Simmental Association.
Presentations by Mike Honeycutt, Executive Officer, Montana Department of Livestock; and Raylee Honeycutt, Executive Vice President, Montana Stockgrowers Association.

*The schedule is subject to change.



American Simmental Association
One Genetics Way
Bozeman, MT 59718

Best Western Plus GranTree Inn
1325 N 7th Ave
Bozeman, MT 59715

MSU BART Farm
2730 West Garfield
Bozeman, MT 59718

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Educational Symposium

Saturday, August 29, 2026

Best Western GranTree Inn, Bozeman MT

Welcome and Opening Comments

- 8:00 AM Welcome and opening comments – Dr. Jon DeClerck, ASA EVP; and Ryan Thorson, ASA Board Chairman
- 8:15 AM A Reflection on Defining Moments in Simmental History — Moderated by Dr. Jerry Lipsey
An interactive panel discussion where legends of the Simmental breed will reflect on turning points in ASA's history.
- 9:30 AM Break

Session I: Keeping the End in Mind

- 10:00 AM Red Meat Yield: A New Era — Dr. Dale Woerner, Texas Tech University
- 10:45 AM Stacking Gold on the Hoof: Today's beef consumer, demand, and industry outlook — Dr. Andrew Griffith, University of Tennessee
- 11:30 AM Roundtable Discussion with Drs. Woerner and Griffith – moderated by Dr. Jon DeClerck
- 12:30 PM Lunch

Session II: Focus on the International Genetic Solutions (IGS) Multi-breed Genetic Evaluation

- 1:00 PM IGS genetic evaluation updates and new trait development — Dr. Ryan Boldt; and Practical application for ASA members — Dr. Elizabeth Dressler
- 2:00 PM Panel discussion with Dr. Ryan Boldt, Dr. Elizabeth Dressler, and Dr. Jackie Atkins
- 2:30 PM Break

Session III: Focus on the Female, Selection Decisions for the Cow Herd

- 3:00 PM An economic perspective on female selection — Dr. Ryan Rathmann, Texas Tech University
- 3:45 PM More Than Just a Weight: The complex challenge of breeding more efficient cows — Dr. Troy Rowan, University of Tennessee
- 4:30 PM Wrap-up panel discussion with Drs. Rathmann and Rowan
- 6:00 PM Recognition Dinner and Celebration

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ASA Board Schedule & Agenda

August 30 – September 1, 2026

Best Western GranTree Inn, Bozeman MT

Sunday, August 30 – Town Hall, Committee Meetings & Board Meeting

- 8:00 AM Town Hall Meeting
- 9:30 AM Break
- 9:45 AM Committee Meetings
- ◆ ▲ Breed Improvement – Chairman Quin LaFollette
 - + Activities & Events – Chairwoman Brandi Karisch
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- 1:00 PM Committee Meetings
- ◆ ▲ Growth & Development – Chairwoman Maureen Mai
 - + Policy & Procedures – Chairman Mark Smith
- 3:15 PM Break
- 3:30 PM Board Meeting Begins

Monday, August 31 – Board Meeting continues

- 8:00 AM Committee Reports/Presentations of Resolution and Directives
- Activities & Events – Brandi Karisch
 - Breed Improvement – Quin LaFollette
 - Executive Committee – Ryan Thorson
 - Assets & Finance – Greg Burden
 - Growth & Development – Maureen Mai
 - Policy & Procedures – Mark Smith
 - Simbrah – Joseph Hensgens
 - ASA Publication Board – Scott Trennepohl
 - Foundation Board – Chris Ivie
- Strategic Planning
- Bull Session
- Executive Session

★ **Simbrah Committee Meeting:**
Thursday, August 27,
6:30 PM

Tuesday, September 1 – Board Meeting concludes

- 7:00 AM Roll Call
- Voting on Resolutions & Directives
 - Activities & Events – Brandi Karisch
 - Breed Improvement – Quin LaFollette
 - Executive Committee – Ryan Thorson
 - Assets & Finance – Greg Burden
 - Growth & Development – Maureen Mai
 - Policy & Procedures – Mark Smith
 - Simbrah – Joseph Hensgens
- Wrap-up – Chairman Ryan Thorson and EVP, Dr. Jon DeClerck

Room Assignments

- ★ Aspen
- ▲ Clark
- ✓ Grand Ballroom
- ◆ Hyalite
- Lewis
- + Madison
- Tamarack

See posters or room signs for more info

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