For Immediate Release

A Growing Trend

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LOUISVILLE, KY –November 19, 2014- The National Belted Galloway show took place in Broadbent Arena with fifty-eight entries at the 41st North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE). The Belted Galloway, or Beltie, is a heritage beef breed that is growing in popularity.

The Belted Galloway originated from the Galloway District in Scotland during the 16th century. The breed is commonly black, red, or dun with a white “belt” around their middle section. Belted Galloways are known as an intermediate sized breed. The average bull, at five years, weighs around 1,900 pounds. A cow, age three to four, weighs around 1,200 pounds and a heifer weighs around 750 pounds. The Beltie is known for its exceptionally lean and favorable meat (U.S. Belted Galloway Society).

“The breed has a lean, high yielding carcass,” said Dustin James, 21, of Pine View, Maine. Dustin is an exhibitor at the National Belted Galloway show at the NAILE. He prefers the Belted Galloway over other beef breeds because they’re easier to handle and maintain, are budget friendly, and a heritage breed.

Heritage breeds are traditional livestock breeds that were around before modern agriculture.

“The Belties are growing in popularity from the northeast and making their way out west,” said Dustin. “It’s important to help restore a heritage breed like the Belted Galloway and that is the reason I show them.”

Dustin is not the only person who likes showing Belted Galloway because of its heritage breed quality. Marty and Juanita Tripp, of Brookhaven, Mississippi, also show Belted Galloways. This was their 5th year at the NAILE.

The Tripps and the James family met a few years ago at the NAILE. The Tripps have since purchased Belted Galloway cattle from the James family. Justin showed with his sister and the Tripps at the NAILE this year. Their friendship is a result of their passion for the Belted Galloway.

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