## **Tri-State Cow-Calf Conference**

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A Tri-State Cow-Calf Conference will be held at the fairgrounds at Gray, Tennessee on September 22 and 23, 2009. A tour of three Tennessee cow-calf operations will take place at 1:00 p.m. followed by a light supper and brief program on September 22 with an 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. meeting on September 23. Topics covered at the meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> will include Beef Cattle Outlook, Utilization of By-Product Feeds in Beef Cattle Diets, Managing Genetic Defects and Enhancing End Product, What A Cow-Calf Producer Can Expect From a Custom Feedlot, Making the Decision to Market My Calves or Retain Them and Weaning Healthy Calves. There will also be a panel of Virginia cow-calf producers who will share information about their operations. Attendees will also have the opportunity to visit a trade show of agribusinesses who support the cattle business. While the focus of the meeting is towards cow-calf producers, anyone in the cattle business will benefit from the information presented. The meeting is sponsored by the University of Tennessee Extension, Virginia Cooperative Extension and North Carolina State University-A & T State University Cooperative Extension and a USDA Risk Management Education Grant. Advance registration is requested to plan for materials and a steak lunch. Registration is \$10 before September 16 and \$15 thereafter. Registration information is available through local County Extension Offices. One may also review information on the conference on the Internet at the following address: www.tnbeefcattleinitiative.org.