

The 18th Annual Ranchers Workshop was held in White River on January 14, 1997. The program was a big success with over 105 people attending the workshop.

The program started off in the morning with Dave Bryant talking about "Challenges", followed by "Resource Inventory" by Rod Baumberger, "Equine Nutrition & Management" presented by Dr. Bill Headlee. Dick Pruitt discussed Cow Condition Scoring and we also broke out during lunch for some actual Cow Condition Scoring. Andy Applegarth from NE discussed "Matching green growth to calving" and the day wrapped up with the highlight of the program being "Livestock Handling/Safety" with Dr. Temple Grandin and "More live calves" by Dr. Robert Mortimer.

Some of the comments from folks attending include: "I wished I would have had this class (corrals & calving) 40 years ago", "I will take more time when calving this year", and "I enjoyed the whole day, it was very worthwhile and informative."

Sponsors this year include the South Central RC & D, Badlands RC & D, North Central RC & D and Jim Stotts, MERCK (Ivomec). Other thanks need to go to Sid Fairbanks for providing panels and an excellent selection of cows for condition scoring and a special thank you to the Mellette County Cattlewomen for preparing the meal.

The Ranchers Workshop is a cooperative effort of the Conservation Districts, Cooperative Extension Service of Rosebud, Todd & Mellette Counties, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Bureau of Indian Affairs and a few other area citizens.

Plans for next year are already under way. The committee has picked January 13, 1998 in Mission for the 19th Ranchers Workshop. A search is being conducted for possible speakers.

If you have any suggestions for next year, feel free to contact the Extension Office or the NRCS Office.