



For Immediate Release
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Brazilian Santa Gertrudis Breeders Association Tour Across Texas

The State Fair of Texas® was proud to host international guests at its Pan American livestock shows. As a part of their tour to explore the Texas cattle industry, the Brazilian Santa Gertrudis Breeders Association was a recent guest in Dallas.

The group was made up of 28 people who all raise Santa Gertrudis cattle in Brazil. They derive from different ranches throughout the country from the capital of Brasillia to the northern part of the Amazon; but most of the members are not strangers to doing business with each other. One of the members was the first to bring Santa Gertrudis from the United States to Brazil and became very successful with his herd. Another member was both a lawyer and a rancher who attended school at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas. While two other members, Carson and Ellen Geld, have had success and longevity in raising Santa Gertrudis for over 25 years.

On their tour through Texas, the members have made many stops. They arrived in San Antonio to get a little taste of Texas history. Next, they made their way to Victoria to visit some Santa Gertrudis ranches and visit with breeders. Their next stop was a visit to the birthplace of Santa Gertrudis cattle at the King Ranch in Kingsville, Texas. This is where a Brahman bull and Shorthorn female were bred together to make a Santa Gertrudis, the beginning of the first American breed. After the King Ranch, the crew made their way to Fort Worth to visit more ranches and the stockyards. They finally arrived at the State Fair of Texas on game day Saturday to observe the Youth Santa Gertrudis Beef Heifer show.

After the Santa Gertrudis show, the group made their way through the entire State Fair of Texas including the Midway. The Portuguese/English translator mentioned a lot of the members were talking about buying new boots and were excited about

exploring the fairgrounds. They ended their evening with a special dinner hosted by the Livestock Department in honor of their hard work with the cattle breed.

Agriculture plays a major role in economies worldwide. It is a vital part for survival and too often taken for granted. All international visitors of the State Fair of Texas (including, but not limited to the Brazilians) remind us of the importance of agriculture and livestock all around the world. The State Fair of Texas was honored to have the members of the Brazilian Santa Gertrudis Breeders Association and all other international guests who joined the fair this year!

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