

To the Editor:

The 23rd annual Tennessee Beef Agribition was held for the first time in Wilson County at the James E. Ward Agricultural Center on March 11-13. This year's event attracted participants from 18 different states, 485 cattle were shown with a variety of breeds being offered for sale, nine chartered breeds were represented and 60 vendors were available for a large tradeshow. The total gross sales for this event totaled \$410,350.

This would be a record high average over the 23-year history of Agribition. The James E. Ward Ag Center has very diverse events, but the agricultural events are the reason we are here.

Events like this help strengthen our local economy and we are proud to be a part of that.

This was a collective effort by many people to make this a big success. Special thanks to the Wilson County workhouse crew, the Wilson County Road Commission, Eddie and Joslyn Conrad with Conrad Construction, 5 Bravo Construction, Ricky Rodriguez with Wilson County Convention & Visitors Bureau, Wilson County Commission, Agricultural Center Management Committee, Allan Foutch with ADC, Stratton Bone, Mike Justice with Lebanon Public Safety, *The Wilson Post* and The Lebanon Democrat for their excellent coverage of this event.

Thanks to Quintin Smith and the board members of the TN Beef Agribition for giving us the opportunity to host this event.

We observed some things that could be improved on to make next year's event being even better. We are looking forward to the 24th annual TN Beef Agribition in March 2012.

Our goal is to improve on our facility every year and make this a premier destination for events in the South.

Larry Tomlinson and Staff

Beef event was a success

Thursday, March 24, 2011

**James E. Ward Agricultural Center
Lebanon**