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MATE Show Theater – It's all about Education

Billings, Mont. – The 2010 Montana Agri-Trade Exposition is set to kick off on Thursday, February 18th, 2010 with another sold out show. Featuring over 400 booths, the 34th Annual MATE Show, along with the Home & Health Expo, will encompass a Bull Pen Preview, CPR Saturday, and the MATE Theater.

The MATE Theater has long been a staple of the show. “It serves a twofold purpose. First for the exhibitor or presenter, it is a stage for them to provide more information about their service or product. Second for those visiting the show, an opportunity to learn about products, services, or issues that are current in today’s agriculture industry,” says Traci Marchwinski manager of the MATE Show and Home & Health Expo.

Again, this year the MATE Theater will offer seminars or presentations throughout the day during the three-day event. Here are some of the featured presentations offered this year:

- Local Livestock, a web based company, that charts and graphs livestock markets across the west.
- Dakota Sales will offer a daily presentation on Multi-Farming Systems, which holds the Guinness Book of World Records for the most acres seeded in a 24-hour period with a no till drill. They seeded 2,237 acres in a 24-hour period.
- Safflower Technology with the latest developments in the safflower market.
- The MSU Extension Service will offer two presentations on Friday, Feb. 18th: Mountain Pine Beetle at 10am and Grasshopper Control at 11am. In addition, the MSU Extension Office will also be offering pesticide applicator credits under the following categories:
 1. Private Applicator – 2 Credits (*farmers and ranchers*)
 2. Commercial & Government - 2 credits (*Dealer, Demonstration & Research, and Agricultural Plant Pest Control*)
- Tongue River Information Program: Agronomic monitoring of soils & crops in response to discharge of untreated coalbed methane (CBM) water into the Tongue River.
- Strip Tillage: Ridging, ditching, and making it work on flood irrigation as well as under sprinklers.
- Trimble GPS Farming System presented by Torgerson’s on the advantages and cost savings of this state of the art technology.

For a complete list of events, vendors, and map of the 2010 MATE Show and Home & Health Expo, go to www.thematshow.com

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The Montana Agri-Trade Exposition (MATE Show) and the Home & Health Expo are owned by the Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE). The MATE is held the third week of February and has a three day attendance of over 14,000 people. The NILE is a non-profit organization established in 1967 that is dedicated to the promotion of livestock, agriculture education, and respect of the western tradition. For more information contact the NILE office at 406-256-2495 or visit www.thenile.org.