

Event is a must for area farmers

ROCK ISLAND, Ill. — Although this is a difficult year for agriculture, you certainly wouldn't know it from looking at the roster of exhibitors that will be displaying their products and services at the 28th annual Quad Cities Farm Equipment Show, scheduled Jan. 20-22 at the QCCA Expo Center in Rock Island.

"It doesn't really surprise me to see that so many ag companies are coming to exhibit at the Quad Cities. The farmers of this area have always strongly supported the show," said Show Manager Richard Sherman, who has headed up the event since its beginning.

"Our attendance is always excellent, and a lot of buying goes on during and after these three days," Sherman said. "When companies decide what shows to attend, it's very hard for them to skip the Quad Cities. No matter how difficult business is, when they begin to examine the return on investment they get from attending and compare it with other shows, coming back to the Quad Cities always stays at the top of their list.

"We also impress them with the care and hard work of our all-volunteer labor at the QCCA and with the knowledge that money earned by the building goes into vital conservation projects.

"Because of these reasons, the show is amazingly stable, but with just enough companies not returning to allow room for at least some new companies to take good-size space and others to return after a year or so absence."

Check It Out

This year's show will give farmers the opportunity to see everything that's needed for the next planting and harvesting seasons.

The event will feature more than 200 companies exhibiting everything that's new: long line, short

line, seeds, supplies, chemicals, livestock equipment, grain handling, storage, buildings, replacement parts, trucks, seed tenders, outdoor power equipment and all the new technologies so vital for profits, from computer software to GPS systems.

"Regular show visitors shouldn't think because they saw a company's display last year that it will be the same again. Most return to show their new products or present their newest ideas that match the economic conditions," Sherman said.

"Farmers will always find show specials and ideas designed for them, no matter what amount of acreage they farm, from the part-time farmer to the largest of operations."

Among the companies exhibiting for the first time or returning after a few year's absence, Sherman said, are:

Price Brothers Equipment Co.;

* E & M Seed Agency, representing Precision Planting;

• MH Equipment, showing Hyster and York forklifts;

• Linco Precision LLC, precision ag specialists;

* E & S Equipment, which specializes in liquid manure tanks, fertilizer applicators, toolbars and sprayers;

• 360 Yield Center, Gregg Sauder's company that will show farmers how to boost their yields by an average of 13.8 bushels per acre;

• BR Innovation, whose Nhibitor device is used to prohibit anhydrous ammonia from corroding a coulter;

- Low Mu Tech from Calamus, Iowa, with a soy protein planter lubricant; and

- United Rentals, an exciting addition that opens up an all-new category for the farm show with top-name rental equipment on display.

Admission and parking are free, and the show hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday.

The QCCA Expo Center is at 2621 Fourth Ave. in Rock Island. It is easiest to take Fifth Avenue and

then turn left at 26th Street on to Fourth Avenue at the Expo Center parking lot.

For more information about the upcoming event, go online to the official website at www.QuadCitiesFarmShow.com or visit www.qccaexpocenter.com.

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