

AGRICULTURE IN THE BOOTHEEL – Spring Planting Tour

(Based on a normal spring season, best time to book tour for viewing wheat harvest is week of June 13-19. Harvest time does vary a few days each year due to weather conditions.)

A three day/two night tour will highlight agriculture in the Missouri bootheel. The trip is designed to give your group a close-up look at a variety of crops produced in the region. Row crops, vegetables and other specialty crops will be seen being planted, and a dinner/seminar will give special enlightenment on agriculture relative to southeast Missouri.

JUNE

Day One :

Arrive Sikeston 1:00 p.m.

Check In/Free Time

Depart Hotel 2:00

Visit Depot 2:10-2:45

Driving Tour of Sikeston 3:00 – 4:00 with Step-on Guide

Arrive Hotel – 4:15

Depart for Susie's – 5:30

Arrive Susie's – 5:45

Seminar begins – 6:00-6:30

Ideas for topics:

- *Bee Keeping Presentation*:(Selling products / beeswax candles, honey, & more.
Gayle Ann Bloyd: 573-649-5094
- Scott County Extension Service Rep./or Farm Bureau Speaker
- *Opti Crop Presentation*: Tim Coppage (MRM- East Prairie) 573-649-3533 No Charge for speakers. / Please cover speaker's meals.
- Question and Answer Time.
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Dinner Meal: 6:30-7:00

Outlet Shopping Mall 7:15 -9:00

Return to Hotel 9:00

Day Two: Spring Planting Tour

Breakfast 7:30 Depart Hotel 8:30

Arrive Granny's Antiques 8:50 Depart Granny's 10:00

Arrive Turnbo Vegetables: (Step-On Guide, Ms. County Extension Service Rep. – no charge - provide lunch)

Depart Turnbo's 10:30 -10:45 contact: 649-3714

Arrive Mid-Valley Irrigation: 11:00 -11:20 contact: Jerry Whittington 683-6041

Depart Mid-Valley Irrigation: 11:20

Arrive Missouri Potato Company: 11:25 contact person: Tim Irby 649-5443

Depart Missouri Potato: 11:40

Arrive East Prairie: 11:55

Noon Lunch: Thurmond's Banquet Room 12-12:30 Contact: Lonnie Thurmond 573-649-3057

Rental Price for Banquet Room: \$50.00

Lunch Choices:

1. catered by *James Bayou Catfish Cookers*: Cooked in giant kettles as you watch. Menu features fried catfish fillets, hush puppies, fries, slaw, pickles & onion, tea, lemonade.) \$8.00 per person
2. catered by *Hog Wild*: sliced barbecue, potato salad, baked beans, slaw, Texas toast, dessert, tea, coffee. \$ per person (NO BID)
3. catered by *Depot Barbecue*: sliced barbecue or barbecue chicken, potato salad, baked beans, slaw, Texas toast, dessert, tea, coffee. \$ 6.75 per person
4. catered by *Hwy 105 Diner*: Fried chicken and meat loaf, 4 vegetables, rolls, desserts, drinks \$9.95 per person

After Lunch, GPS demonstration by EDAT 649-5466 Contact person: Avery Hutcheson (15 minutes).

12:30-12:45 / No charge.

Free time from 1:00 – 2:00

- Visit Museum/ No charge but donations are welcomed.
- Caboose
- Old Time Traders Mall

Depart East Prairie 2:05

Arrive Wheat field 2:30 (Will see soybean planting in progress).(Barker Farms)

Depart Wheat field 2:45

Arrive Choate Farms/Sweet Corn Fields 3:15

Depart Choate Farms 3:30

Arrive River Grain Terminal 3:45 (stay on bus for tour)

Depart River Terminal 4:00 (Driving 102 to 80)

Arrive Sikeston 5:00

Lamberts Dinner 6:30 **\$10 - \$12**

Day Three: Spring Planting Tour

Breakfast 8:00

Depart Hotel 9:00

Arrive Delta Agri Center, Portageville 9:45 : Call for tour info. 573-379-5431 Dr. Gene Stephens

Depart 11:00

Arrive New Madrid /Rebecca Sharp's

Noon: 573-748-2004

Depart 1:00

Visit ADM or Rice Mill-1:15 – 2:15

Hunter Dawson Historic Site /2:30-3:15 (lemonade on the porch) contact Margaret 748-5300)
\$2.00

Visit New Madrid Museum \$1.50 (3:30 – 4:45)

Visit Higginson School /\$ 1.00

Depart New Madrid 5:00

Arrive Hotel 5:30

Depart Hotel 6:30

Dinner at Ryan's 6:35 – 7:15

Depart Sikeston: Home

Day Four has two options

OPTIONAL: FOURTH DAY TOUR (Western option) / Spring Planting Tour (weekday)

Breakfast

Depart 9:00

Arrive Dexter: 10:00

Visit Dexter Old Timer's Antique Mall/Plowing demonstration. Call for details and arrangements. 573-624-8288

Depart Dexter 11:00

Arrive Bloomfield 11:30

Lunch: Cow Town 11:45 contact Jerry Moore. 573-568-3157

OR Elderland: contact/Jerry Elder (573-568-2866)

Herding Demonstration 1:00-1:30 Contact: Debbie Hunott or Jack George/ 573-222-6083

Stars and Stripes Museum /1:40 – 3:45 / \$2.00 per person.

contact: Deloris May / 573-568-2055

Depart Bloomfield 3:45

Arrive Sikeston 4: 30

Rest Time

Dinner/ Tour Choice.

Outlet Mall Shopping/optional

OPTION TWO: FOURTH DAY TOUR (Northern option) / Spring Planting Tour
(Designed for a weekend.)

Breakfast

Depart Hotel: 9:30

Arrive Begg's Family Farm 10:00 / 573-471-3879

Depart: 10:45

Arrive Benton/ Diebold's Apple Orchard 11:00 (Call David for scheduling call 573-545-3184 or 573-545-3571.)

Depart Diebold's. 11:45

Arrive Commerce/River Ridge Winery 12:15 / 573-264-3712 contact: Jerry Smith or Keller Ford.

Lunch: 12:30 – 1:00 River Ridge Winery

See: riverridgewinery.com for complete menu

Tour facility/ enjoy live music from 2-6 on Saturdays and Sundays).

Depart Commerce 2:30

Arrive Hotel: 3:10

Dinner. Tour choice.

Outlet Mall/optional.

