

Cattle Camps

The emphasis of the camps is for the handler to understand cattle and how they think and react to the handler, the dog, and environmental factors that are constantly present. Participants will then take this knowledge and apply it toward improving their handling and training skills in order to develop and train a dog that can handle cattle in a quiet, confident, and controlled manner.

There will be a maximum of twelve dogs in each camp. Each day will start with a short lecture, followed by a discussion of the previous working session and the opportunity to ask questions. Instruction at the camps is individualized. Each handler will be asked to write down their goals for themselves as handlers and their expectations for their dogs. This will be an interactive camp meaning you will be expected to watch and participate in the discussion after each dogs' and handlers' working session. You will learn how to recognize training problems and how to problem solve to fix the problem. We will be learning from one another so come prepared to share what's worked for you and learn new skills, make new friends, and have a good time.

Facilities at the ranch include a large arena and many other pens and stock handling facilities that will be used to train different aspects of working cattle. We have the flexibility to set up any of the ASCA courses and can work on any trialing problems that you might be having. We also have plenty of Angus cattle to work. In the working sessions we will be primarily using yearlings. Each dog will have the opportunity to work cattle twice each day. The sessions for beginning dogs/handlers may be shorter and more frequent until they are able to handle the longer sessions.

All dogs in attendance must be in good health, up to date on vaccinations, have flea and tick protection, and be able to provide a proof of rabies vaccination. Dogs will not be left loose unattended on the ranch at any time. Dogs participating in the camp will need to have a good stop and call off of the stock. They should have a basic foundation on sheep before coming to

cattle camp. Handlers should bring a notepad, portable chair, water bottle, sun screen, and a good attitude.

The ranch is a beautiful place in late summer. If time allows, we will enjoy some the sights of the ranch and the surrounding area. Bring your camera. Spring creek, which flows through the ranch, is a blue ribbon trout stream; so if you enjoy fishing throw in your fishing gear.

We have a large yard where you are welcome to camp or park your self-contained travel trailer. There are no sewer hookups. Limited electricity is available on a first come first served basis. In Lewistown, around thirteen miles from the ranch, there are motels available. If you have any questions about the camp, please don't hesitate to give me a call (406-535-7342) or send me an email at wlazyj@midrivers.com.