



NEWS

From the **Northern International Livestock Exposition**

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NILE Acquires The Mate Show

Billings, Mont. - The Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE) is pleased to announce the acquisition of the Montana Agri-Trade Exposition (MATE) and its subsidiary shows from Jerry Hanson and Associates. The MATE Show is the largest agricultural trade show event of the year in Montana held annually during the second week of February at Metra Park.

NILE President Gary Adams says, "The NILE Board of Directors felt this was a great opportunity and good fit for the NILE that offered us more diversity" adding that, "it was important for this event to stay in Billings because of its economic impact to the community".

The first MATE show was held in 1976 under the management of owner Jerry Hanson with 60 exhibitors displaying in 122 booths. In over its 32 years, the MATE has grown become the premier agricultural trade show of the Northern Rocky Mountain Region encompassing over 210 exhibitors and 13,500 spectators.

Regarding the daily running of the show, Justin Mills, General Manager of the NILE organization says, "we are extremely confident in the staff and operations that are already in place and there are no plans to make any changes. I believe there is a tremendous amount of potential to grow the show in various areas. I want to commend Jerry Hanson for his vision and work over the years and we look forward to the future."

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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 on the NILE Stock Show and ProRodeo contact the NILE office at 406-256-2495 or visit www.thenile.org.