

# media release

*Colorado State Fair*  
*Colorado Department of Agriculture*  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 3, 2013

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### *141<sup>st</sup> Annual Colorado State Fair Comes to a Close*

PUEBLO, Colo. – The 2013 Colorado State Fair ends its 11-day run as Colorado's premier celebration of youth and agriculture. Attendance increased slightly to 476,966; in 2012, 474,914 people attended the Colorado State Fair.

“The increased attendance is great news but, first and foremost, we highlighted the importance of agriculture, provided educational opportunities to the people of Colorado, and supported 4-H and FFA youth. That is our true measure of success,” said General Manager, Chris Wiseman.

According to the Fair’s new cashless system, the top three food items sold at the fair are funnel cakes, turkey legs, followed by corn dogs.

“We understand that some people are not in favor of the new cashless system but I believe this is a trend coming soon to state fairs across the country. We will certainly listen to our customers and

make any necessary adjustments. The Colorado State Fair is a pioneer for the use of this technology. The system provides information that will help shape the future of this fair and I'm confident that, as this system continues to transform, that visitors will continue to enjoy the fair that has entertained families for over 140 years," said Wiseman.

#### Highlights from the 2013 Colorado State Fair:

- The annual Colorado's Touchstone Energy Cooperatives Junior Livestock Sale celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. According to preliminary totals, approximately \$451,750 was raised for Colorado's 4-H and FFA youth. For more information, visit [http://www.coloradostatefair.com/press\\_release.aspx?p=38](http://www.coloradostatefair.com/press_release.aspx?p=38).
- The Fair offered a wide variety of free, family attractions including extreme canines, talented bears, a petting zoo, and three free music stages.
- Five nights of PRCA Ram Rodeo action brought some of the country's top cowboys and cowgirls to Pueblo.
- Approximately 67,400 people enjoyed the Colorado State Fair entertainment series including Randy Houser, Oak Ridge Boys, Seether, Lynyrd Skynyrd, and five nights of PRCA Ram Rodeo action.
- The State Fair General Entry department received more than 8,000 entries in a variety of categories including fine arts, canning, quilts, crops, and cooking.
- Approximately 425 commercial and food locations sold products at this year's Fair. An assortment of delicious fair food was offered to tempt taste buds including red velvet funnel cakes, gourmet hot dogs, hamburgers, and deep fried Twinkies.
- Participation for the Fair's horse shows and special horse events matched last year's high numbers, especially in the Draft Horse & Mule Challenge, Youth Freestyle and Steer-Gathering contests.
- Two grand opening ceremonies were celebrated. The Colorado Proud Store debuted to educate consumers about the financial and environmental value of buying local products, while also making these local products accessible under one venue. The Colorado State Fair Foundation celebrated the renovation of the Growing Minds Dormitory, which is used by approximately 450 4-H and FFA members annually.

A profit/loss report is currently being figured and those numbers should be available in November. Results from the State Fair competitions continue to be posted at [www.coloradostatefair.com](http://www.coloradostatefair.com) .

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