



**Dale Blasi ([dblasi@ksu.edu](mailto:dblasi@ksu.edu); 785-532-5427)**

**Extension Specialist - Beef Cattle Nutrition and Management**

Dale A. Blasi received his B.S. in Animal Sciences at Colorado State in 1984. In 1986, he received his M.S. in Beef Systems Management at Colorado State. After earning his Ph.D. degree in 1989 from the University of Nebraska, he accepted an appointment as a Livestock Specialist in South Central Kansas at Hutchinson for KSU. In 1997, he transitioned to the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry as a State Beef Specialist where he currently has a 10% teaching, 20% research and 70% extension appointment. His responsibilities include providing statewide Extension educational leadership in stocker cattle nutrition and management and utilization of grazed and harvested forages by beef cattle and other livestock. He is manager and director of the KSU Beef Stocker Unit and Animal Identification Knowledge Laboratory.



**Jaymelynn Farney ([jki@ksu.edu](mailto:jki@ksu.edu); 620-820-6125)**

**Extension Beef Systems Specialist/Southeast Area**

Jaymelynn Farney was hired as the Beef Systems Specialist at Kansas State University's Southeast Area and works at the Southeast Agricultural Research Center in Parsons. Farney grew up in Fort Sumner, New Mexico where her family had a cow-calf operation. Jaymelynn was a member of the livestock judging team at Butler Community College. She completed her A.S. in Agriculture degree and then continued her education at Kansas State University in Animal Science. Jaymelynn then went to Oklahoma State University to complete her M.S. in Ruminant Nutrition with an emphasis on receiving calf management. She then returned to Kansas State University to complete her PhD in Ruminant Nutrition, using the dairy cow as the model for how inflammation impacts production.



**Sandy Johnson ([sandyj@ksu.edu](mailto:sandyj@ksu.edu); 785-462-6281)**

**Extension Specialist, Northwest Area-Livestock Production, Reproduction Physiology**

Sandy Johnson received a B.S. degree in Animal Science from the University of Nebraska in 1982 and a M.S. degree in Reproductive Physiology from the University of Missouri in 1984. Sandy received a Ph.D. degree from West Virginia University in Reproductive Physiology in 1991 and continued there as a post doctoral fellow until 1993. She held a teaching position at Fort Hays State University before beginning her current position in October of 1998 as Extension Livestock Specialist at the Northwest Research and Extension Center in Colby.



**Chris Reinhardt ([cdr3@ksu.edu](mailto:cdr3@ksu.edu); 785-532-1672)**

**Extension Specialist-Beef Feedlots**

Dr. Reinhardt received a B.S. in Meat and Animal Science from the University of Wisconsin, an M.S. in Nutrition from Texas A&M University, and a Ph.D. in Nutrition from Kansas State. Chris works extensively in the areas of feedlot nutrition, manipulation of body composition and beef quality, feedlot facilities and design, animal handling, and personnel management. Dr. Reinhardt was hired on at Kansas State University in the fall of 2005 as the Feedlot Extension Specialist with a 20% research and 80% extension appointment.



**Justin Waggoner ([jwaggon@ksu.edu](mailto:jwaggon@ksu.edu); 620-275-9164)**  
**Beef Systems Extension Specialist, Southwest Area**

Justin Waggoner was hired as the Beef Systems Specialist at Kansas State University's Southwest Area Extension Office in Garden City. Waggoner was raised on his family's farm in central, Kansas and obtained his Bachelor's (2000) and Master's (2001) degrees in Animal Science from Kansas State University. He completed his Doctorate in Ruminant Nutrition at New Mexico State University in 2007 where his work evaluated the impacts of morbidity on performance and profitability in feedlot cattle and nutrient utilization in stressed cattle.



**Bob Weaber ([bweaber@ksu.edu](mailto:bweaber@ksu.edu); 785-532-1460)**  
**Extension Beef Specialist**

Bob Weaber grew up on a cow-calf operation in southern Colorado and went on to earn a BS in animal science followed by a Master of Agriculture degree in the Beef Industry Leadership Program at Colorado State University. He completed his doctoral studies in the Animal Breeding and Genetics Group at Cornell University. While there, he served as the Interim Director of Performance Programs for the American Simmental Association for three and a half years. Previously, Weaber was Director of Education and Research at the American Gelbvieh Association. Weaber's nationally recognized extension programming has resulted in more than 145 publications and more than \$13 million from 42 awards of grants and gifts for research and extension programming. Bob Weaber also serves as the faculty coordinator for the KSU Purebred Teaching Unit.



**A.J. Tarpoff ([tarpoff@k-state.edu](mailto:tarpoff@k-state.edu); 785-532-1255)**  
**Assistant Professor/Extension Beef Veterinarian**

A.J. Tarpoff was born and raised in Edwardsville, Illinois. His family owned and operated a beef processing plant and a steakhouse. He received his bachelor's in animal science at K-State in 2010. In 2012, he received his DVM and Master's in biomedical science at K-State.

After earning his DVM, he accepted an associate feedlot veterinarian position at Alberta Beef Health Solutions in Southern Alberta, Canada. His focus in practice was herd based cattle production medicine, research field trials, hands on feedlot employee training, disease surveillance and mitigation and federal import/export duties.

At K-State, Tarpoff's appointment is 70% extension, 20% research and 10% teaching. He will work closely with the state's extension team to develop an extension program to help improve the health of cow-calf, stocker and feedlot cattle for beef producers throughout the state.



**Mike Brouk** ([mbrouk@ksu.edu](mailto:mbrouk@ksu.edu); 785-532-1207)

**Extension Specialist-Dairy Management and Nutrition**

Micheal Brouk attended the University of Missouri-Columbia majoring in agronomy and dairy science and received the Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture in May 1985. Mike worked at the University of Missouri-Columbia as a Research Specialist and then began a M.S. degree program there. Mike accepted a position with Cenex/Land O'Lakes as a Livestock Production Specialist. After two years with LOL, he entered a PhD program at SDSU. Following completion of the Ph.D. in 1994 in Animal Sciences, he joined the teaching and research staff of South Dakota State University. Mike returned to the University of Missouri-Columbia in August of 1996 as an Extension Specialist with Commercial Agriculture Program. He joined the faculty of Kansas State University in December of 1998 as a State Dairy Extension Specialist where he holds a 30% teaching and 70% research appointment. Mike Brouk will be on sabbatical from June, 2016 to June 2017.



**Luís Mendonca** ([mendonca@k-state.edu](mailto:mendonca@k-state.edu); 785-532-2652)

**Extension Specialist-Dairy Science**

Dr. Luís Mendonça received a D.V.M degree in 2006 at Universidade Estadual de Maringá, Brazil. In 2007 he worked in a private practice that specialized in reproductive management and technologies (i.e. embryo transfer and in vitro embryo production), providing services to clients across various states of Brazil and in Bolivia. In 2008 he was hired as a postgraduate researcher at the Veterinary Medicine Teaching and Research Center in Tulare, CA, where he worked in large dairy operations and was involved in different aspects of dairy production research. He obtained his M.S. degree and completed his residency in Dairy Production Medicine (2012) at the College of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota. Dr. Mendonça joined the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry at Kansas State University in 2013 as a State Dairy Extension Specialist where he now has a 30% research and 70% extension appointment. His current roles and responsibilities include development of an extension and research program addressing issues facing the Kansas and U.S. dairy industry. His goal is to develop and carry out research related to immune function, health, heat abatement and reproductive management of dairy cattle.



**Scott Beyer** ([sbeyer@ksu.edu](mailto:sbeyer@ksu.edu); 785-532-1201)

**Extension Specialist-Poultry Nutrition and Management**

Originally from Galveston County, Texas, Dr. Scott Beyer attended Texas A&M University, the University of Georgia, and Harvard University earning degrees in biochemistry and animal nutrition. He joined the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry in 1993 as State Poultry Extension Specialist, where he currently has an appointment of 60% teaching, 25% research and 15% extension. Dr. Beyer is involved with many teaching activities and is coach for the KSU Collegiate Poultry Judging Team. He also supervises the operations of the KSU Poultry and Gamebird Research Unit. Dr. Beyer's research focuses primarily on nutrition and feed manufacturing for small animals including poultry, gamebirds, and companion animals. His graduate assistants conduct research on the availability of feed nutrients as affected by feed processing conditions, enzyme additives and least cost feed formulation. Dr. Beyer also works with FFA and 4H youth programs at many county and state programs.



**Fadi Aramouni** (*aramouni@ksu.edu*; 785-532-1668)

**Extension Specialist-Food Science**

Dr. Fadi Aramouni was born and raised in Beirut, Lebanon. He received his B.S. in Biochemistry in 1977, and his M.S. in Food Technology in 1980 from the American University of Beirut. Dr. Aramouni earned his Ph.D. in Food Science in 1986 from Louisiana State University. He joined the Kansas State University Department of Foods and Nutrition in 1989, then the Department of Animal Science and Industry in 1995. Since July 1999, his responsibilities have been 0.85 Extension/0.15 Teaching. Since June 2002, Dr. Aramouni has been a Professor and Extension Specialist with the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry and a member of the Food Science Institute.



**Karen Blakeslee** (*kblakesl@ksu.edu*; 785-532-1673)

**Extension Associate-Rapid Response Center Coordinator**

Karen Blakeslee received her B.S. in 1986 and her M.S. in 1997 from Kansas State University. She is coordinator for the KSU Rapid Response Center, which was formed in 1995 as a resource for Kansas State University Research & Extension Agents. The Rapid Response Center works closely with Food Science faculty as well as Human Nutrition faculty to answer Extension Agent and consumer questions about food. Most questions are related to food safety, home food preservation, and food preparation. Other responsibilities include being co-director of the Master Food Volunteer program; managing several websites; and teaching home food preservation to all age groups across Kansas. Karen has received the President's Award of Excellence for Unclassified Professionals and the Builder Award, the Communicator of the Year

award, and the Clover Award for K-State Research and Extension.



**Elizabeth Boyle** (*lboyle@ksu.edu*; 785-532-1247)

**Extension Specialist-Meat Safety and Quality, HACCP**

Dr. Liz Boyle joined the Animal Science faculty in 1992 and currently has a 60% Extension and 40% teaching appointment. She received her B.S. in Wildlife Biology from the University of Minnesota in 1980. She earned her M.S. (Food Science and Nutrition) and Ph.D. (Food Science, Meats emphasis) degrees from Colorado State University in 1987 and 1991, respectively, followed by post-doctorate work at the University of Kentucky and the University of Minnesota. Dr. Boyle's focus is to provide scientific and technical assistance to meat processors and trade associations and researching quality and safety of meat products. She is a Lead Instructor with the International HACCP Alliance and the Food Safety Preventive Controls Alliance. Dr. Boyle teaches Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) workshops nationally and teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in meat

processing, HACCP and Preventive Controls, and Advanced HACCP. In 2016, Dr. Boyle was named a Fellow by the American Meat Science Association.



**Travis O'Quinn** (*travisquinn@ksu.edu*; 785-532-3469)

**Extension Specialist-Meat Science**

Dr. Travis O'Quinn received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Texas Tech University and earned his Ph.D. in Meat Science from Colorado State University in 2012. Upon graduation, he returned to Texas Tech to conduct a post-doctoral research project working to develop a palatability-based grading system for the largest beef producer in New Zealand. Travis joined the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry at Kansas State University in July of 2014 with a 60% extension and 40% research appointment. Dr. O'Quinn's research interests center on beef palatability and the factors affecting the traits of tenderness, juiciness, and flavor. His extension program will work to provide science-based knowledge to consumers, packers, and producers throughout the state of Kansas through numerous educational programs and formats.



**Joel DeRouchey ([jderouch@ksu.edu](mailto:jderouch@ksu.edu); 785-532-2280)**

**Extension State Leader**

**Extension Specialist-Swine Nutrition, Environmental Management**

Dr. Joel DeRouchey graduated with his B.S Animal Science from South Dakota State University in 1997. He then obtained his M.S. (1999) and Ph.D. (2001) in Swine Nutrition at Kansas State University. In 2001 he was hired as the K-State Northeast Livestock Extension Specialist as an Assistant Professor. In 2004, Joel made a transition into the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry as an Environmental Management and Livestock Nutrition Specialist and currently is a full Professor with a 50% Extension and 50% Research appointment. Joel was named Extension State Leader in 2016. A brief listing of Joel's Extension and Research interests involve: 1) Mentor and train swine nutrition graduate students; 2) Conduct applied swine nutrition and management research; 3) Provide environmental information to livestock producers for regulatory and manure management compliance and 4) Coordinate youth swine activities to increase swine industry knowledge and awareness of career opportunities in swine production.



**Bob Goodband ([bgoodban@ksu.edu](mailto:bgoodban@ksu.edu); 785-532-1228)**

**Extension Specialist-Swine Nutrition and Management**

Dr. Bob Goodband was graduated from The Pennsylvania State University in 1984. He obtained his M.S. (1986) and Ph.D. (1989) in Swine Nutrition at Kansas State University, and then joined the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry. Currently, Bob has a split appointment with 40% extension, 40% teaching, and 20% research responsibilities. With his colleagues, Bob plays an important role in developing, evaluating, and disseminating the latest information to increase the profitability of pork producers. Bob also teaches Swine Science and Swine Nutrition classes and advises approximately 35 to 40 undergraduate students each year.



**Jim Nelssen ([jnelssen@ksu.edu](mailto:jnelssen@ksu.edu); 785-532-1251)**

**Extension Specialist-Swine Nutrition and Management**

Dr. Jim Nelssen is an extension specialist and swine nutritionist at Kansas State University. His current position is 41% Extension and 41% Research. Jim received his B.S. in Animal Science (1978) and his M.S. in swine reproductive physiology (1980) from Kansas State University. He received his Ph.D. in Swine Nutrition from the University of Nebraska in 1983. Later that year Jim started his career at Kansas State University as an Assistant Professor and Extension Swine Specialist.



**Mike Tokach ([mtokach@ksu.edu](mailto:mtokach@ksu.edu); 785-532-2032)**

**University Distinguished Professor**

**Extension Specialist-Swine Nutrition and Management**

Following completion of a bachelor degree in Animal Science at North Dakota State University in 1986, Mike earned a Masters degree in swine nutrition at Kansas State University in 1988. After completing his doctorate in swine nutrition at the University of Minnesota in March 1991, Mike joined K-State Research and Extension as a livestock specialist. Mike's current role is as Extension Swine Specialist for Animal Sciences and Industry. Mike's focus is transferring information to swine producers, educating graduate students and producers, and conducting practical nutrition research.



**Charles Lee ([clee@ksu.edu](mailto:clee@ksu.edu); 785-532-5734)**  
**Extension Specialist-Wildlife Control**

Charlie completed a B.S. degree in 1975 at Kansas State University in Wildlife Biology. After several years of business and being involved with the family farm and feedlot, he returned to Kansas State where he completed a M.S. degree in 1988 in Animal Science. He previously worked for Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for 6 years directing private land wildlife management programs and Farm Bill conservation issues. Charlie was first employed at Kansas State University as extension assistant and now as Extension Specialist, Wildlife. Responsibilities include conducting a statewide program in wildlife damage control, wildlife enhancement on private lands, youth outdoor environmental programs, and aquaculture. Current areas of interest include prairie dog and cattle interactions, bird damage control at feedlots and rodent damage in conservation tillage systems.



**Lexie Hayes ([adhayes@k-state.edu](mailto:adhayes@k-state.edu); 785-532-1264)**  
**Youth Livestock Coordinator**

Lexie Hayes completed a B.S. in Animal Sciences & Industry at Kansas State University in 2007, before earning a M.S. in Animal Science at Texas A&M University in 2009. After completing her Master's degree, Lexie served as the 4-H Youth Development Educator with the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service in Comanche County. As a Kansas native and former 4-H and FFA member, Lexie was excited to return to Kansas State in 2015 as the K-State Youth Livestock Coordinator. In this role, her current responsibilities include managing the state youth livestock nomination process, coordinating the state 4-H livestock and sweepstakes contest, developing the junior specie day events, coordinating the youth livestock educational programs associated with the department, serving as a liaison with the Kansas State

Fair and KJLS, and partnering with other departments to enhance opportunities available to Kansas youth.