

# Randy Prather

Kansas State University  
Animal Sciences & Industry  
*Distinguished Alumnus Award 2022*



Dr. Randy Prather obtained his bachelor's (1982) and master's (1984) degrees from Kansas State University, and his doctorate and postdoc from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Since 1982, his research has focused on the early mammalian embryo.

While at Wisconsin, he cloned the first pigs, and some of the first cattle, by nuclear transfer. His group at the University of Missouri created miniature pigs that have the alpha 1,3 galactosyltransferase gene knocked out, thus paving the way for xenotransplantation. His group helped to develop pigs that develop cystic fibrosis, thus providing the first whole-animal model that can be used to study the disease. More recently, his lab created pigs that are not susceptible to porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus and other pigs resistant to the transmissible gastroenteritis virus and Senecavirus A.

His lab at Mizzou has made more than 90 different genetic modifications for agriculture and medicine. He is the the NIH-funded National Swine Resource and Research Center Director and co-PI of the NIH-funded Swine Testing Center for the Somatic Cell Gene Editing effort. He is currently a Curators' Distinguished Professor in the Division of Animal Science at the University of Missouri.

Dr. Prather and his wife, Jami, have seven children and 11 grandchildren.