



WEBER HALL
ANIMAL SCIENCE & INDUSTRY



Newsletter from the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry
213 Weber Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506
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WHAT'S NEW...

↪ **Management Minute** – Chris Reinhardt, Ph.D., Extension Feedlot Specialist *“What do YOU need?”*

We all have needs, and my needs are different than yours. Maybe some of our ‘needs’ could be better classified as ‘wants’ when compared to the need for food or shelter. But within the human resources conversation, meeting people’s individual needs will mean the difference between a stable, productive, satisfying workplace and a high-stress workplace which seems to be constantly filling voids in staffing---a costly process all would agree.

The complicating factor is that some needs are more easily communicated and more readily recognized than others. For example, competitive pay and reasonable work hours are obviously desired by all employees; we only need to negotiate and fine tune our respective definitions of ‘competitive’ and ‘reasonable’.

But life throws us curve balls sometimes, and life can be downright messy at other times. These are times when astute managers will be looking out for the changing and often unspoken needs of their employees which most likely were not discussed during the hiring process. A recently single parent; a person recovering from a serious illness; a person grieving the loss of a loved one; these will all likely have unique needs which probably were not addressed during initial hiring conversations.

One skill which separates excellent people managers is their ability to constantly be on the lookout for signs of change which might not be verbally expressed by the employee. These changes will often be transient, but may be very foundational in the life of the employee. If not addressed in terms of what the person needs, these changes may lead to frustration and stress on the part of the employee and their team mates.

This is one more in a long list of reasons why constant, multi-dimensional, communication is so vital to a successful organization. If the manager is not communicating frequently and intentionally with employees to keep in tune with subtle changes in behavior or attitude, radical changes could take place in the team dynamic, leading to yet another possibly preventable, but certainly costly, loss of a valued team member.

For more information, contact Chris at 785-532-1672 or cdr3@ksu.edu.

↪ **“Top Hand” Cattle Feeding Industry Employee Awards** - Here is your chance to tell the story of individuals who make Kansas the best place to feed cattle in the nation. The “Top Hand” Cattle Feeding Industry Employee Awards are being presented by K-State Research and Extension, The Beef Cattle Institute and Intervet Schering Plough Animal Health in conjunction with the K-State Cattle Feeders College. Top hands will be recognized in both the cattle and milling/maintenance divisions. A representative of the nominating feedyard and the award recipient must be present at the K-State Cattle Feeders College to accept the awards.

This is a great opportunity to honor those “Top Hands” who symbolize the values of hard work, honesty, reliability, integrity and animal stewardship that the Kansas Cattle Feeding Industry was built on.

To nominate an employee, please tell us what makes these individuals stand out from the herd in 100 words or less. Nominations are due by May 1, 2010 to Justin Waggoner and may be sent via e-mail (jwaggon@ksu.edu) or by regular mail to Dr Justin Waggoner, K-State Extension Beef Systems Specialist, 4500 E. Mary Street, Garden City, KS 67846.

↵ **Feedlot Facts** by Chris Reinhardt, Ph.D., Extension Feedlot Specialist

“Feet and Legs: Part Two”

First, let me state clearly that I am certainly no expert in feedlot lameness; there are many folks out there much more enlightened in this area than I. But like most nutritionists, I am constantly on the prowl for ways to enhance performance and eliminate sources of lost performance. Lameness can come from many potential causes: footrot, swollen joints, toe abscesses, or mechanical injury to the hoof, joints, or muscles.

Data presented at the 2010 Cattlemen’s Day from a recent K-State study conducted in a commercial feedyard confirmed what we may have guessed for a long time; processing feedlot cattle can contribute to a transient increase in the incidence of cattle lameness. Few would argue that lame or sore footed cattle probably do not perform as well as those without discomfort. Whether we blame the facilities, the personnel, or the weather conditions, the data are telling. The good news is that information is power, but only if we use that information wisely and intentionally.

How recently have you evaluated your processing facilities for “comfort” of the cattle’s feet? Are there areas that cattle are required to turn sharp corners where they may likely slip? Slipping can lead to toe abscesses or leg injuries. What is the surface like where cattle exit the chute? Cattle often leap upon exiting the chute; if the area immediately to the front of the chute is hard and/or slippery cattle can fall and injure a joint. Certainly any time there is opportunity for the hooves to slip on concrete there is a chance for toe abscesses to arise.

There are many possible improvements which can be made in these “high impact” areas. One that seems durable and cost-effective is the use of woven tire mats. They provide traction regardless of weather conditions, cushion, eliminate hoof slippage (and the subsequent damage incurred), and are highly durable provided they are properly constructed.

This is one more area we can scrutinize to ensure optimum animal welfare which will lead to optimum performance.

For more information, contact Chris at 785-532-1672 or cdr3@ksu.edu.

↵ **Environmental Management** - Producers should clean feedlots or areas of manure accumulation once cattle are removed for summer grazing. Confined feeding pens or temporary feeding sites for the winter months are prime contributors to odor emissions if not properly cleaned and maintained. Also, fly production from these sites is much greater when manure and wasted feed is present, thus creating a nuisance and a potential reduction in animal performance for the remainder of the summer for their livestock. For more information, contact Joel DeRouchey (jderouch@ksu.edu or 785-532-2280).

↵ The **2010 KSU Cattlemen’s Day** was a huge success with over 1,000 beef producers, allied industry representatives, K-State staff and students registered this year. In upcoming issues of the newsletter, we will be including some of the 2010 Beef Research Highlights. For more information on these trials, visit www.KSUbeef.org. To view videos of the morning presentations by Dr. Pat Michaels on “Climate Changes: Implications for Agriculture” and Dr. Ted Schroeder on “Feeding the World in 2050,” visit www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday.

We appreciate your attendance and support of this educational event and would also appreciate any feedback on suggestions for next year. Please contact Dale Blasi (785-532-5427; dblasi@ksu.edu) or Jim Drouillard (785-532-1204; jdrouill@ksu.edu) with comments and suggestions.

↵ **High Sulfur Content in Distillers Grains Alters Ruminal Fermentation and Diet Digestibility in Beef Steers** - Twelve ruminally cannulated crossbred steers were fed finishing diets based on steam-flaked corn or dry-rolled corn containing 30% (dry matter basis) dried distillers grains with solubles. The dried distillers grains contained either 1% or 1.7% sulfur and yielded finishing diets that contained either moderate (0.42%) or high (0.65%) levels of sulfur (dry matter basis). The study was conducted in two periods, and three animals were assigned to each treatment during each period. Feed intake, diet digestion, ruminal pH, and ruminal concentrations of volatile fatty acids, ammonia, and lactate were measured.

Bottom Line.... High levels of dietary sulfur decreased feed intake, but there was a compensatory increase in diet digestibility. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday. For more information, contact Jim Drouillard (785-532-1204; jdrouill@ksu.edu) or Larry Hollis (785-532-1246; lhollis@ksu.edu).

↪ **Supplementing Feedlot Steers and Heifers with Zilmax Increases Proportions of Strip Loin, Chuck Clod, and Top Sirloin Steaks Exceeding Warner-Bratzler Shear Force Thresholds, Whereas Aging Moderates this Effect** - The designated muscles were obtained from 117 steers and 132 heifers to evaluate the effects of Zilmax feeding duration (7.56 g/907 kg, 100% dry matter basis) and aging on tenderness. Both genders were blocked separately by initial weight into six blocks of four pens. Pens were assigned to treatments of 0 (control), 20, 30, or 40 days on Zilmax with a 3-day withdrawal. Steaks from each subprimal were vacuum aged individually for 7, 14, or 21 days; frozen; thawed, and then cooked to 158°F for Warner-Bratzler shear force (WBSF) determinations.

All muscles from steers and heifers from the 30- and 40-day Zilmax treatments had higher ($P < 0.05$) WBSF than muscles from the control. The WBSF of steer *Longissimus* and heifer *Triceps brachii* from the 20-day Zilmax treatment was higher ($P < 0.05$) than the control. There were no differences ($P > 0.05$) in percentages of intramuscular fat for any muscle due to Zilmax treatment. Percentages of steer *Longissimus* and heifer *Triceps brachii* steaks with WBSF values below a threshold of 10.1 lb from the 20-day Zilmax treatment were high, whereas the percentage of heifer *Gluteus medius* muscles below 10.1 lb was low (55.5%). Correlations among *Longissimus* WBSF values for the three aging times were positive ($P < 0.01$) for steer control and 20- and 40-day Zilmax treatments, all heifer *Longissimus* treatments, and the heifer *Triceps brachii* 20-day Zilmax treatment. Feeding Zilmax for 20 days generally increased WBSF values, but mean WBSF values for steer *Longissimus* and heifer *Triceps brachii* were still acceptable.

Bottom Line... Supplementing feedlot diets with Zilmax for 20, 30, or 40 days will increase WBSF of steer *Longissimus* and heifer *Triceps brachii* muscles, whereas supplementing with Zilmax for 30 or 40 days will increase WBSF of heifer *Longissimus* muscles. Percentages of steer *Longissimus* and heifer *Triceps brachii* muscles below a WBSF threshold of 10.1 lb from the 20-day Zilmax treatment will be quite high, but percentages of heifer *Gluteus medius* muscles below this threshold will be low. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday. For more information, contact Michael Dikeman (785-532-1225; mdikeman@ksu.edu) or Liz Boyle (785-532-1247; lboyle@ksu.edu).

↪ **Implant Programs Affect Performance and Quality Grade** - A total of 83 studies (61 steer studies and 22 heifer studies) were included in a meta-analysis of the effects of implant program on feedlot performance (daily gain, dry matter intake, and feed conversion) and carcass traits (hot carcass weight, yield grade, and marbling score). Individual implant programs were consolidated into groups of similar dose programs. Any combinations of implant groupings used in reimplant programs were coded according to dosage (e.g., none, delayed, low, moderate, intermediate, and high). In instances when multiple implants were used, the initial implant dose appears first, followed by the terminal implant dose (e.g., Synovex-S followed by Synovex-Plus = MOD/HIGH).

Bottom Line... Increasing dose and duration of implant increases performance in both steers and heifers, but because of physiological differences between heifers and steers, implants have a more pronounced effect of marbling score in steers than in heifers. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday. For more information, contact Chris Reinhardt (785-532-1672; cdr3@ksu.edu) or Larry Hollis (785-532-1246; lhollis@ksu.edu).

↪ **Dietary Molasses Increases Ruminal pH and Enhances Ruminal Biohydrogenation During Milk Fat Depression** - Molasses has long been used in animal feeds for palatability and as a binding agent to ensure uniform consumption of essential nutrients. Recent work with molasses in highly fermentable diets has revealed that molasses might offer additional benefits in dairy rations. Feeding high concentrate diets increases the risk of milk fat depression by disrupting the normal pathway of fatty acid biohydrogenation in the rumen. Preliminary research conducted at Kansas State University and other universities has indicated that dietary sugars have the potential to increase milk fat synthesis during milk fat depression. In this study, we sought to understand the reasons for this beneficial effect of molasses on milk fat synthesis. Despite the fact that molasses provides readily fermentable sugar, replacing 5% of dietary corn grain with molasses increased ruminal pH, improved fatty acid biohydrogenation, and shifted the profile of fermentation acids in a manner suggesting that growth of fiber-digesting bacteria was improved. Results of several studies suggest that 5% dietary molasses can increase milk fat yield by 5 to 10%, and the current study indicates that this effect is driven by a stabilization of ruminal pH and biohydrogenation. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/dairy under the *Dairy Publications and Presentations* link. (This study conducted by C.A. Martel, E.C. Titgemeyer, and B.J. Bradford.)

↪ **Effects of Porcine Circovirus Type 2 Vaccine and Increasing Standardized Ileal Digestible Lysine:Calorie Ratio on Growth Performance and Carcass Composition of Growing and Finishing Pigs** - A series of 4 experiments was conducted to determine the effect of porcine circovirus type 2 (PCV2) vaccination on the lysine requirement of growing and finishing pigs. Experiments 1 and 2 evaluated the requirement for 85- to 140-lb gilts and barrows, respectively. Experiments 3 and 4 evaluated the requirement for 225- to 275-lb gilts and 215- to 260-lb barrows, respectively. Data from each trial were analyzed as 2 × 4 factorial designs with 2 PCV2 vaccination treatments (vaccinates and non-vaccinates) and 4 levels of increasing standardized ileal digestible (SID) lysine:ME ratio (2.24, 2.61, 2.99, and 3.36 g/Mcal in Exp. 1 and 2 and 1.49, 1.86, 2.23, and 2.61 g/Mcal in Exp. 3 and 4).

No PCV2 vaccination × SID lysine:ME ratio interactions were observed ($P > 0.14$) in any of the 4 studies. In Exp. 1 and 2, PCV2 vaccinates had increased ($P < 0.04$) ADG, ADFI, final weight, and daily SID lysine intake and tended to have improved ($P < 0.09$) F/G compared with non-vaccinates. In Exp. 1, ADG and F/G improved (quadratic; $P < 0.03$) as the SID lysine:ME ratio increased, with increases through 2.99 g/Mcal. In Exp. 2, increasing the SID lysine:ME ratio improved (linear; $P < 0.001$) F/G and increased (linear; $P < 0.001$) daily SID lysine intake and SID lysine intake per pound of gain. Thus, 3.36 g SID lysine/Mcal ME appears to maximize efficiency for 85- to 140-lb barrows.

In Exp. 3, PCV2 vaccinates had improved ($P < 0.02$) F/G and increased ($P < 0.03$) final weight, SID lysine intake per pound of gain, and backfat thickness compared with non-vaccinates. Both ADG and F/G improved (quadratic; $P < 0.05$) as the SID lysine:ME ratio increased, with ADG improving through 1.86 g/Mcal and F/G improving through 2.23 g/Mcal, indicating the requirement may be between those levels. In Exp. 4, both ADG and ADFI were decreased ($P < 0.04$) in vaccinates compared with non-vaccinates. In this study, ADG, F/G, daily SID lysine intake, and SID lysine intake per pound of gain increased (linear; $P < 0.001$) and F/G improved (linear; $P < 0.001$) through the highest level of 2.61 g lysine/Mcal, with the greatest magnitude of change when lysine was increased from 2.23 to 2.61 g/Mcal. Because of the lack of any interactions between dietary SID lysine level and PCV2 vaccination, it appears that PCV2 vaccination did not increase the lysine requirement for growing and finishing barrows and gilts. On the basis of these studies, which used corn-soybean meal-based diets with 3% added fat, the requirement was 1.04% SID lysine or 1.17% total lysine for 85- to 135-lb gilts, 1.17% SID lysine or 1.31% total lysine for 85- to 140-lb barrows, 0.78% SID lysine or 0.88% total lysine for 225- to 275-lb gilts, and 0.91% SID lysine or 1.02% total lysine for 215- to 260-lb barrows. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by N.W. Shelton, M.D. Tokach, S.S. Dritz, R.D. Goodband, J.L. Nelssen, J.M. DeRouchey, and J.L. Usry.)

↪ **Effects of Increasing Hominy Feed in Diets on Finishing Pig Performance** - A total of 1,035 finishing pigs (initially 79.4 lb) were used in an 84-d growth trial to evaluate the effects of increasing hominy feed on finishing pig growth performance. Pens of pigs were blocked by average initial pig BW and randomly allotted to 1 of 4 dietary treatments (10 pens per treatment) with initial weights balanced across the treatment groups. Treatments were increasing levels (0%, 12.5%, 25%, and 37.5%) of corn hominy feed added to a corn-soybean meal-based diet. All treatment diets were fed in 4 phases, and hominy feed inclusion was constant among phases. Increasing hominy feed resulted in a linear decrease ($P < 0.01$) in ADG and ADFI from d 0 to 84. Regardless of treatment, there was no difference ($P > 0.35$) in F/G. The lower feed consumption and poorer growth performance resulted in pigs fed diets containing any level of hominy feed weighing less than pigs fed standard corn-soybean meal-based diets at the end of the trial.

These data indicate that adding corn hominy feed as an alternative ingredient in swine diets is a viable option; however, a decrease in performance should be considered when deciding if it is cost-effective to include hominy feed in finishing diets. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by M.L. Potter, J.Y. Jacela, S.S. Dritz, M.D. Tokach, J.M. DeRouchey, R.D. Goodband, and J.L. Nelssen.)

↪ **Is your Refrigerator Doing its Job?** The recommended storage temperature for most biologicals is 35 to 45°F. A University of Arkansas study recorded temperatures at 10-min intervals for 48 hours in 191 refrigerators of producers (76%), retail stores (18%), and veterinary clinics (6%). The refrigerator ages were ≤5 yr (22%), 6 to 10 yr (35%), 11 to 15 yr (23%), and >15 yr (20%). Of the 1,800 animal health products in refrigerators of producers, 12% were expired and 29% were opened. There were no differences in average temperatures across refrigerator type and age. Refrigerators located in barns ($25.6 \pm 1.31^\circ\text{F}$; mean ± SE) were colder than those located in mud rooms ($41.7 \pm 2.05^\circ\text{F}$) and kitchens ($40.8 \pm 1.17^\circ\text{F}$). Only 27% of the refrigerators kept the temperature within the acceptable temperature range more than 95 percent of the time. There were no differences due to location, type, or age in the number of recorded temperatures inside the acceptable range. Refrigerators storing animal health products should be carefully monitored to ensure the effectiveness of those products for protecting or improving animal health. For more information contact Sandy Johnson, sandyj@ksu.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ↪ The KSU Poultry Research and Teaching Unit is currently having its **annual spring pullet sale**. KSU students have raised a white leghorn hybrid cross that consumes less feed and lays more eggs than other breeds. These birds are white feathered and produce white eggs. They have been vaccinated and slightly beak trimmed to reduce cannibalism. They are priced at \$6 each, are ready-to-lay and can only be picked up in Manhattan. For more information, contact the farm at (785)539-5041.

- ↪ The **Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Contest** will be held on Friday, April 30, at the Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, Stafford, Kansas. This contest is about teaching young people about wildlife, the needs of wildlife, and their habitat. There are two groups in the completion, 9-13 and 14-18 years of age. You can enter as a member of a team, such as your 4-H group, FFA group, or any group of 3-4 individuals or you can enter the contest as an individual.

There are four main parts to the contest: 1) identifying foods eaten by wildlife; 2) ranking wildlife habitat by observing aerial photographs; 3) choosing wildlife management practices for predetermined species of wildlife and a particular land area; and 4) writing a one-page management plan for a rural setting. If you are interested in participating as a member of a team or as an individual or for more details on the contest, contact Charlie Lee (clee@ksu.edu; 785-532-5734).

- ↪ All **market animals and commercial heifers must be nominated** to be eligible for the Kansas State Fair and/or Kansas Junior Livestock Show. Multiple noseprints for each animal are recommended. This makes finding a legible print much easier. Initial nominations will again require a postmark by May 1 for steers and market heifers and June 15 for lambs, pigs, wether dam ewes, commercial breeding heifers and meat goats. All nominations must be complete within one month of nomination due date. This means all reprints and other corrections must be complete by June 1 for steers and July 15 for lambs, pigs, commercial breeding heifers and meat goats. The Extension Youth Web Site is available to double check your records. It can be accessed at <http://www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu> then click on nominated livestock. For questions, contact Sharon Breiner (sbreiner@ksu.edu).

- ↪ The **K-State Cattle Feeders College** will be held from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. on May 12th at the Gray County Fairgrounds in Cimarron, KS and on May 13th at the Scott County Fairgrounds in Scott City, KS.

Registration begins at 5:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 5:30 p.m. Dr. Bill Mies, Professor Emeritus, Texas A&M University, will present “Cattle feeding: Where have we been and where are we going?” The program will offer participants the opportunity to attend 1 one of 3 break-out sessions. The break-out sessions include: a cattle crew session, a mill and maintenance session, and a session for feedyard and human resources managers. In the Cattle Crew Session, Dr. Dan Thomson of the K-State Beef Cattle Institute will discuss managing high risk cattle and Mr. Scott Daily, a horse clinician, will demonstrate how to become a better horseman. Our featured speakers for the Mill and Maintenance Session will be Dr. Leland McKinney of the K-State Grain Science department, discussing mill maintenance and Mr. Thomas Brungardt, of Garden City Community College who will cover basic welding and equipment safety. In the Managers session David Lehman, K-State College of Business Administration, will discuss “Marketing strategies to discover new customers in a tough environment” and Dr. Chris Reinhardt, K-State Extension Feedlot Specialist will share his thoughts on employee retention and recruitment. The cattle crew and mill/maintenance sessions will be translated into Spanish.

There is no cost to attend, but registration is required by May 7, 2010. To register, please contact Dr. Justin Waggoner (620-275-9164; jwaggon@ksu.edu); Kurt Werth (620-855-3821; kwerth@ksu.edu) or John Beckman (620-872-2930; jbeckman@ksu.edu).

- ↪ A **PQA Plus Training** has been scheduled for Monday, May 17 at Weber Hall. The training will start promptly at 9:00 a.m. and will last until approximately 3:30 p.m. PQA+ Advisors that were trained in 2007 will need to complete training for their three year renewal, either in person or via webinar. For individuals that have never been through the PQA+ Advisor training, the only option is to attend in person.

To register, contact Lois Schreiner (lschrein@ksu.edu; 785-532-1267) by May 7th. The training is sponsored by the Kansas Pork Association and is offered at no cost to participants. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Mike Tokach (785-532-2032; mtokach@ksu.edu) or Joel DeRouchey (785-532-2280; jderouch@ksu.edu).

↪ **Developing and Implementing Your Company's HACCP Plan** for meat, poultry, and food processors will be held June 2-4, 2010 in Weber Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan. Registration for the 2.5 day International HACCP Alliance accredited workshop is online at <http://animalscience.unl.edu/haccp/>. The workshop fee is \$295, and meets USDA training requirements to become a HACCP trained individual. For more information, contact Dr. Liz Boyle at lboyle@ksu.edu or 785.532.1247.

↪ The **KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Beginning Section** will be held Friday, June 4, 2010 and the **KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Advanced Section** will be held June 7-8, 2010. Both camps will be held in Weber Arena on the KSU Campus. For more information, contact Teresa Slough (785-532-1268; tslough@ksu.edu).

↪ The **Second K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy** will be June 9-12, on the Kansas State University campus. This hands-on event is designed for current high school students to gain animal sciences industry knowledge and develop their leadership skills. You can find applications and more information at www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu. Cost to participate is only \$50. A special thank you to the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) for continuing to support this program.

↪ **Make your plans now for the “Champion” Livestock Judging Camp.** – This three day, intense judging camp is designed for 4-H and FFA members (ages 14-18) who are seriously interested in enhancing their livestock judging and oral communication skills. Mini camps will be conducted throughout the month of June. The following dates are set for the 2010 camps: Camp A June 15-17 (Tuesday-Thursday); Camp B June 18-20 (Friday-Sunday); and Camp C June 21-23 (Monday-Wednesday). The registration deadline is May 14. For more information, contact Scott Schaake (simmi@ksu.edu; 785-532-1242) or Kristi Hageman (klsmith@k-state.edu; 785-532-2996).

↪ The **2010 Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic** is scheduled for July 9-10, 2010, at CiCo Park in Manhattan. This two-day event includes educational workshops, showmanship contest, and a prospect and market hog show. It is open to all Kansas youths ages 7 through 18 as of January 1, 2010.

Come and help us celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Swine Classic. This year's Classic will feature a swine photography contest along with the K-State Swine Knowledge Challenge. For more information, contact Joel DeRouche (785-532-2280; jderouch@ksu.edu), Jim Nelssen (785-532-1251; jnelssen@ksu.edu), or Sharon Breiner (785-532-1264; sbreiner@ksu.edu).

↪ Dates have been finalized for the **4-H Livestock Sweepstakes**, August 21-22. This all-around event will feature contests in Livestock Judging, Meats Judging, Livestock Skillathon, and Livestock Quiz Bowl. A special prize will be awarded to the county that does the best in all four contests. Rules and past winners can be found at www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu. Complete information for 2010 will be available on the Youth Livestock Web page in May.

Please Note: The event will be held during K-State Move-in Weekend. Please reserve your rooms as soon as possible. No activities will take place at the hotel. For your convenience two sets of room blocks have been made for August 20-22:

Clarion Hotel - \$90 - "KSU Department of Animal Science and Industry" Block - (785) 539-5311
Quality Inn - \$65 - "KSU Department of Animal Science and Industry" Block - (785) 770-8000

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS		
Date	Event	Location
April 30, 2010	Wildlife Habitat Evaluation Contest	Stafford, KS
May 1, 2010	Initial Nominations due for Steers and Market Heifers	
May 12, 2010	K-State Cattle Feeders College	Cimarron, KS
May 13, 2010	K-State Cattle Feeders College	Scott City, KS
May 17, 2010	PQA+ Certification	Manhattan
June 2-4, 2010	HACCP Training	Manhattan
June 4, 2010	KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Beginning Section	Manhattan
June 7-8, 2010	KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Advanced Section	Manhattan
June 9-12, 2010	K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy	Manhattan
June 15, 2010	Nomination Deadline for all Remaining Species	
June 15-17, 2010	Champion Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
June 18-20, 2010	Champion Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
June 21-23, 2010	Champion Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
July 9-10, 2010	Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic	Manhattan
August 21-22, 2010	4-H Livestock Sweepstakes	Manhattan

AS&I FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Melvin Hunt (hhunt@k-state.edu; 785-532-1232)

Professor/Meats

Melvin Hunt, or Hunter as he is known, has been part of the ASI faculty since 1975. Prior to joining KSU he was a Research Chemist at the Tennessee Eastman Company, Kingsport, TN. His responsibilities include research (50%) and teaching (50%) of undergraduate and graduate meat and food science courses and he currently is Chair of the Food Science and Industry Undergraduate Program. His Ph.D. was in Food (Meat) Science from the University of Missouri.

Class instruction includes: Food Science Senior Seminar, Principles of Meat Science (Distance Learning), Meat Science, Processed Meats Operation, and Advance Meat Science. He has been teaching via distance learning since 1988 and has cooperated with industry in making a series of videos useful for training and customer

relations. In addition, Dr. Hunt has also led a study abroad tour to Italy for both undergraduate and graduate students.

His research at KSU has focused on postmortem meat quality with particular interest of factors affecting meat color and myoglobin chemistry. Specific areas of research included: Cooked meat color and safety, Enhancement of fresh beef and pork, Case-ready packaging (CO-MAP, Lo-O₂ MAP, Hi-O₂ MAP and vacuum), Myoglobin color stability and lighting, Discoloration of bone, Color stabilizing mechanisms in meat, Color measurement methodology, and Dry-aging of beef. Hunter also has worked with low-fat ground beef and sausage, and collagen effects in meat texture and he continues to dabble in muscle histochemistry.

Dr. Hunt has received numerous awards for teaching, research and student services. He has been Chair of the Muscle Foods Division of the Institute of Food Technologists, Chair of the Meat Science-Muscle Biology Section of the American Society of Animal Science, Chair of the Reciprocal Meat Conference, and President of the American Meat Science Association.

In his spare time, he enjoys photography, O-gauge model trains, and travel (either African safaris or attending the International Congress of Meat Science and Technology).

Dr. Hunt will be joining the ranks of professor emeritus in July 2010 as he is planning to retire after 35 years with the Department of Animal Sciences. Best of Luck, Hunter, on your future endeavors!



Brian Faris (brfaris@k-state.edu; 785-532-1255)

Assistant Professor/Sheep and Meat Goat Specialist

Dr. Brian Faris was born in 1975 and grew up raising registered and commercial Rambouillet sheep and Angora goats on the Edwards Plateau in Sonora, Texas. He showed market lambs for 12 years and was extremely active in numerous other 4-H projects throughout his career. He graduated with his B.S. in Animal Science from Texas A&M University in 1997. He received his M.S. in Animal Science from Angelo State University in 2001, and earned his Ph.D. in Animal Science (Repro) from New Mexico State University in 2004. Prior to coming to Kansas, Brian served as the Extension 4-H Youth Livestock Specialist at North Carolina State University. Dr. Faris now serves K-State as the Sheep & Meat Goat Specialist with a 70% Extension and 30% Teaching appointment.

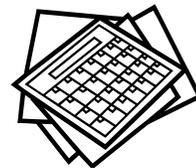
Brian's extension appointment involves conducting educational programs for purebred and commercial sheep and meat goat producers throughout Kansas. He also works closely with county extension agents to bring the latest research information and production practices to the counties so it may be relayed to the producers.

Dr. Faris teaches ASI 385 (Fall) Wool Grading and Evaluation and ASI 524 (Fall) Sheep & Meat Goat Science. Additional teaching responsibilities will include overseeing the Sheep & Meat Goat Teaching and Research Unit along with coaching the Intercollegiate Wool Judging Team. Brian is currently working towards building a new K-State Sheep & Meat Goat Unit.

Brian enjoys spending time with his wife, Reyna, and their three children, Raylee, Craddock, and Preslee. He also enjoys hunting, playing sports, and judging sheep and goat shows. The Faris family lives on a small farm near Fostoria, KS, where they raise meat goats and sheep.

WHAT PRODUCERS SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT...

WHAT PRODUCERS SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT IN JUNE.....



BEEF -- *Tips by Dale Blasi, Extension Beef Specialist*

June is a month to let Mother Nature take her course. Native grasses are usually at peak production; therefore, little supplementation is needed, with the exception of some minerals.

Cow-herd nutrition

- Provide plenty of clean, fresh water.
- Provide free-choice minerals to correct any mineral deficiencies or imbalances.
- Monitor grazing conditions and rotate pastures if possible and practical.
- Consider creep-feeding if it's cost-effective.

Herd health

- Monitor and treat pinkeye cases.
- Provide fly control. Consider all options; price and efficiency will dictate the best options to use.
- Monitor and treat for foot rot.
- To reduce heat stress, avoid handling and transporting cattle during the hottest times of the day.

Forage and pasture management

- Check and maintain summer water supplies.
- Place mineral feeders strategically to enhance grazing distribution.
- Check water gaps after possible washouts.
- Harvest hay in a timely manner; think quality and quantity.

Reproductive management

- If using AI, do not expect all females to conceive. A common practice is to breed once or twice with AI, then turn out cleanup bulls for the balance of a 65-day breeding season. A 42-day AI season with estrus synchronization at the front end gives most females three chances to conceive by AI.
- Watch bulls for libido, mounting and breeding function.
- Record breeding dates to determine calving dates.
- By imposing reproductive pressure (45-day breeding season) on yearling heifers, no late-calving 2-year-olds will result. This will increase lifetime productivity and profits.

Genetic management

- Monitor herd performance. Then identify candidates to cull because of poor performance.

General management

- Check equipment (sprayers, dust bags, oilers, haying equipment, etc.), and repair or replace as needed. Have spare parts on hand because downtime can make a big difference in hay quality.

*We need your input! If you have any suggestions or comments on **News from KSU Animal Sciences**, please let us know by e-mail to lschrein@ksu.edu, or phone 785-532-1267.*