

News from KSU Animal Sciences

January, 2009



Newsletter from the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry
213 Weber Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506
785-532-6131 - www.asi.ksu.edu

WHAT'S NEW....

↪ **Nomination Changes for KJLS and KSF** – The Kansas Junior Livestock Show and Kansas State Fair have recently provided the following information on nomination changes. New in 2009, they will offer family nominations and require a care and housing form for each exhibitor. These two forms will be made available online in March after their final approval by the board of each show. They should not be necessary for county weigh-ins.

Noseprinting and tagging procedures will remain the same for 2009 with the exception of updated forms for hogs and goats. These forms will require the signature of a county agent, FFA advisor, or project leader who has validated that the animal has been tagged. These forms will be available on this web site when finalized. The state shows will not be utilizing photo or electronic identification for the 2009 show season. Both options are being considered for 2010.

All interested parties are invited to the **State Youth Livestock Shows Listening Session** planned for April. Representatives from KSF, KJLS, 4-H, FFA, and others will be available for the discussion. It will be held at the Kansas State Fairgrounds in Hutchinson. We are currently finalizing a date and agenda for this event. Please visit www.asi.ksu.edu/youthprograms for more information.

↪ **BRANDS Spotlight - Suggestions for Elite Users** –

- Make sure the excel spreadsheet is not in a split pane windows mode. In the 2007 version of excel you can find this under the “View” tab.
- When finished selecting the feeds to be used in the intended ration within the Feed Library, select the button application of choice at the top, NOT the bottom tabs.
- Use the feedyard module for receiving and growing diets.
- When using the feedyard module, make sure ALL inputs located within the “Inputs” selection are properly filled in.
 - ALWAYS make sure the “weight @ 50%” input contains a calf weight. To do so, simply click on the question mark button adjacent to it and select the appropriate three inputs that are asked for (implant type, frame size and gender).
 - ALWAYS make sure the Maintenance adj. selection has a “1” added to it.

For more information, contact Dale Blasi (dblasi@ksu.edu; 785-532-5427).

↪ **Heifers Sired by Bulls With Low Residual Feed Intake Estimated Breeding Values Have Lower Residual Feed Intake Than Heifers Sired by Bulls With High Residual Feed Intake Estimated Breeding Values** – Angus bulls with high and low Estimated Breeding Value (EBV) for RFI were selected from the Australian Angus Association sire summary and mated to Angus cross commercial cows. Individual feed intakes were recorded on the resulting heifer calves (n=50) for 42 days using the Calan gate feed intake measuring system. Predicted feed intake based on weight and gain was subtracted from actual intake to calculate RFI for each heifer. The regression of heifer RFI on sire RFI EBV was 0.63 lbs of heifer RFI per lb of sire RFI EBV, which is similar to the 0.50 lbs of heifer RFI per lb of sire RFI EBV that would be expected.

The Bottom Line.... Preliminary results show that differences in daughter RFI were similar to what was predicted by the sire RFI EBV. Further work will be done to determine the correlations between RFI and other traits, such as fertility and carcass traits. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/catlemensday. For more information, contact Jennifer Bormann (785-532-1222; jbormann@k-state.edu).

↳ **Crude Glycerin Increases Performance in Finishing Cattle** – Crossbred yearling heifers (n = 375; 929.5 ± 63 lbs) were fed finishing diets containing 0, 2, 4, 8, 12, or 16% crude glycerin (dry matter basis). Cattle were blocked by initial weight and assigned to one of the six diets with six to seven animals per pen and nine pens per diet. Cattle were housed in 54 concrete-surfaced pens (392.9 ft²) with roofs covering feed bunks and half the pen. Diets consisted of steam-flaked corn with 6% alfalfa hay and 1.2% urea and provided 300 mg monensin, 90 mg tylosin, and 0.5 mg melengestrol acetate per animal daily. Cattle were transitioned from the control diet (no glycerin) to diets containing increasing proportions of glycerin over a period of 10 days. Cattle had free choice access to feed, and diets were delivered once daily throughout the 85-day trial.

The Bottom Line.... Adding glycerin to cattle finishing diets improved weight gain and efficiency, particularly when added at levels of 8% or less of the diet dry matter. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/catlemensday. For more information, Jim Drouillard (785-532-1204; jdrouill@k-state.edu) or Chris Reinhardt (785-532-1672; cdr3@k-state.edu).

↳ **Effects of Increasing Standardized Ileal Digestible Lysine:Calorie Ratio for 120- to 180-lb Gilts Grown in a Commercial Finishing Environment** – A 28-day growth trial was conducted to estimate the lysine requirement for 120- to 180-lb gilts. A total of 1,092 gilts (initially 121.7 lb, PIC 337 × 1050) were allotted to treatment diets with standardized ileal digestible (SID) lysine/ME ratios of 1.89, 2.12, 2.35, 2.58, 2.81, and 3.04 g/Mcal. All diets contained 0.15% L-lysine HCl and 3% choice white grease and were formulated to meet or exceed all other requirements. Seven replicate pens per treatment were used; there were approximately 26 pigs per pen. Gilts were vaccinated with 2 doses of commercial porcine circo virus type 2 (PCV2) vaccine while in the nursery. As the SID lysine content of the diet increased, both ADG and F/G improved (linear, $P < 0.001$) with the greatest values at the SID lysine/ME ratio of 2.58 g/Mcal. Daily SID lysine intake and SID lysine intake per pound of gain increased (linear, $P < 0.001$) as lysine density of the diet increased. Diet did not influence ($P > 0.25$) feed cost per pound of gain; however, there was a tendency for improved (linear, $P < 0.06$) income over marginal feed cost (IOMFC) as SID lysine level increased in the diet. The SID lysine/ME ratio that yielded the greatest IOMFC value, 2.58 g/Mcal, corresponded to the treatment with the greatest growth response. On the basis of this trial, 2.58 g SID lysine/Mcal ME appears to provide the greatest biological and economical response for 120- to 180-lb gilts. More information is available on this experiment 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, and J.M. DeRouchey.)

↳ **Effects of Pepsoygen and Dried Porcine Solubles 50 in Nursery Pig Diets** – Two experiments were conducted to evaluate the effects of dietary specialty protein source on weanling pig growth performance. In Exp. 1, 350 pigs (initially 13.4 lb) were used in a 35-d growth trial to compare the effects of fish meal, PepSoyGen, and dried porcine solubles (DPS 50) on weanling pig performance. Seven dietary treatments were fed: (1) negative control, (2) 3% fish meal, (3) 6% fish meal, (4) 3.75% PepSoyGen, (5) 7.50% PepSoyGen, (6) 1.88% PepSoyGen and 1.88% DPS 50, and (7) 3.75% PepSoyGen and 3.75% DPS 50. From d 0 to 14, pigs fed increasing PepSoyGen and PepSoyGen in combination with DPS 50 had improved F/G. Average daily gain and F/G were improved for pigs fed diets containing PepSoyGen and DPS 50 combinations compared with pigs fed diets containing fish meal. Also, feeding the combination of PepSoyGen and DPS 50 improved ADG and ADFI compared with feeding only PepSoyGen. Overall (d 0 to 35), pigs fed increasing PepSoyGen from d 0 to 14 had improved F/G.

In Exp. 2, 252 pigs (initially 15.0 lb) were used to evaluate the effects of fish meal, PepSoyGen, and DPS 50 on nursery pig performance. A common pelleted starter diet was fed from weaning until the start of the experiment (d 7). Six dietary treatments were fed: (1) negative control, (2) 5% fish meal, (3) 3.5% DPS 50, (4) 6.0% PepSoyGen, (5) 1.75% PepSoyGen and 1.75% DPS 50, and (6) 3.0% PepSoyGen and 2.5% fish meal. During the treatment period (d 0 to 14), pigs fed DPS 50 alone or in combination with PepSoyGen had improved ADG and F/G compared with pigs fed all other diets. Overall (d 0 to 28), pigs fed DPS 50 from d 0 to 14 had improved ADG and F/G compared with pigs fed the control diet. Additionally, pigs fed DPS 50 had improved F/G compared with pigs fed PepSoyGen and fish meal in combination. In conclusion, pigs fed DPS 50 alone or in combination with PepSoyGen had improved performance compared with pigs fed the control diet. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by C.K. Jones, J.M. DeRouchey, J.L. Nelssen, M.D. Tokach, S.S. Dritz, and R.D. Goodband.)

↳ **Hot Topics in Equine Nutrition** – “*Can I feed dried (or wet) distiller’s grains with soluble (DDGS) to my horses?*” -

- Research data.
 - Limited. Available studies fed DDGS for short duration to horses at maintenance.
 - Horses will eat it.
 - No information on long-term effects, working horses, mares or foals.
- Advantages
 - Potentially less expensive source of protein.
 - Horses like it.
- Disadvantage - Mycotoxins
 - Horses are very susceptible to fumonisin poisoning from moldy corn. Fermentation during ethanol production doesn’t destroy the mold, rather it is concentrated.
 - Feeding DDGS contaminated with fumonisin just ONCE could cause death.
- Disadvantage - High phosphorous content.
 - Unless the other feedstuffs in the horse’s diet are very high in calcium, the potential exists to create a diet inversed in its Ca:P ratio and negatively affect bone development.
 - This is of particular concern with broodmares and foals.
- Disadvantage- High sulfur content.
 - Sulfur toxicity in horses, although rare, can result in colic, jaundiced mucous membranes, labored breathing, cyanosis and convulsions, followed by death.

Bottom line – Feeding DDGS to horses is not recommended unless it’s been tested for fumonisin and contains less than 5 ppm, and then it should only comprise a small percentage of the total diet. For more information, contact Teresa Slough, KSU Equine Nutritionist (785-532-1268; tslough@ksu.edu).

↳ **Colostrum and Colostrum Substitutes** – Research has shown passive immunity obtained from colostrum is an important factor in determining the health of calves both pre- and post-weaning, and indirectly influences calf growth rate during those same periods. If for any reason the calf is unable to get colostrum directly from its dam, steps should be taken to ensure it does receive colostrum within 12 hrs of birth.

If no colostrum is available from the dam, the next best source is from mature cows within the same herd. These cows have developed antibodies to the pathogens already present in that environment. Colostrum from dairies is undesirable because of the risk of introducing diseases such as salmonella or Johne’s Disease. In addition due to their volume of milk production, dairy colostrum has a relatively low concentration of immunoglobulins making it difficult to deliver enough antibodies in a reasonable volume of milk.

Many commercial colostrum substitutes often suffer from the same low concentration problem. A calf requires 80 to 150 grams of immunoglobulins which might require multiple bags of some products if the calf will get nothing from the dam. Check labels and visit with your veterinarian when considering options. Look for opportunities to collect colostrum from within the herd to save for future use. Quart sized plastic bags work well for freezer storage since they can be laid flat in the freezer to optimize surface area to speed both freezing and thawing. When thawing, a low or defrost setting on the microwave can be used. Avoid over heating which can damage the protein. A warm water bath works well for thawing provided it is not too warm to hold your bare hand in the water.

Before milking a cow, be sure to clean the udder and teats. This is a good habit to acquire to reduce pathogens the calf might ingest. For calves that must be given colostrum remember that you would still like to encourage the calf to nurse its own dam so don’t over feed. In many situations a quart and a half in one feeding would provide a healthy dose yet leave the calf hungry enough to try nursing on its own.

Producers should have more than one esophageal tube feeder and clean them regularly. The tube feeder you use on sick calves should not be used on otherwise healthy newborns. Likewise, clothes or other equipment used for sick calves can transfer pathogens to healthy calves. Disease resistance is lowered in calves that require assistance at calving so avoid compounding the problem by exposing them to pathogens.

Timely intake of high quality colostrum and reduced exposure to environmental pathogens will help get calves off to a healthy start in life. *Summary by Sandy Johnson from 2009 Calving Management Schools* (sandyj@ksu.edu; 785-462-6281)

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ↳ Additional **BRANDS software training** will be held via Adobe Connect. The meeting room for this training will be <http://connect.oznet.ksu.edu/asi>. Dale Blasi will start the series discussing the “Do’s and Don’ts to Get the Most Out Of Your BRANDS Experience.” Sessions will be held as follows:
- 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 22 – Dale Blasi, moderator
 - 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 29 – Karl Harborth, moderator
 - 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 5 – Justin Waggoner, moderator
- For more information, contact Dale Blasi (dblasi@ksu.edu; 785-532-5427)
- ↳ An informational **Southwest District Sheep School** will be held on Thursday, January 29, 2009 at the Hodgeman County 4-H Building in Jetmore, Kansas. The evening will include a complimentary supper beginning at 6:00 p.m. Speakers for the sheep school will include Justin Waggoner, SW Area Agriculture Livestock Specialist, and Brian Faris, KSU Sheep and Goat Specialist. There will be discussion on various topics and a question and answer session. Reservations appreciated by January 28. For reservations or more information, contact DeWayne Craghead at the Hodgeman County Extension Office (620-357-8321; dcraghea@ksu.edu).
- ↳ The **2009 KSU Swine Profitability Conference** will be held Tuesday, February 3, 2009, in Forum Hall of the K-State Student Union. The program includes:
- 9:30 a.m. *What I’m Telling My Clients About Their Future in the Swine Industry* – Dr. Joe Connor, Cathage Veterinary Clinic
 - 10:30 a.m. *Successfully Controlling Risk in the New Era of Price Volatility* – Bob Taubert, New Horizon Farms
 - 11:15 a.m. *Market Hog and Grain Price Outlook for 2009 and Beyond* – Dr. Darrell Mark, University of Nebraska
 - 12:00 noon Lunch
 - 1:15 p.m. *Change IS coming – What Do We Need to Do?*
Panel discussion including Dr. Joe Connor, Dr. Steve Henry and Bob Taubert
 - 2:15 p.m. *Changing the Culture of a Business/Institution* – Dr. John Wefald, President, Kansas State University
- Registration fee of \$25 per participant is due by January 25, 2009. For a schedule and registration form, visit www.KSUswine.org under “Upcoming Events.” For more information, contact Jim Nelssen (785-532-1251; jnelssen@ksu.edu).
- ↳ An exciting and informative **Meat Processing Workshop** has been planned at Kansas State University in conjunction with the Kansas Meat Processors Association. The 32nd Annual Midwest Processed/Cured Meat Workshop will be held on Saturday, February 7, 2009 at Weber Hall on the KSU Campus. This is a great opportunity to see, hear and ask questions as state award winning meat processors demonstrate the manufacture of their products. Learn about the new pork cuts, artisan meats, new technology for dry aging, and more.
- Registration is \$85.00 per plant and includes lunch for two people if received by January 30, 2009. After that date, the fee will increase to \$90.00 per plant. For a registration form or more information, contact Liz Boyle (lboyle@ksu.edu; 785-532-1247).
- ↳ Dates for the **2009 KSU Dairy Days** have been scheduled as follows:
- **February 12, 2009:** Valentino's Restaurant, Seneca, KS. Questions should be directed to Jody Holthaus at 785-364-4125 or jholthau@ksu.edu.
 - **February 26, 2009:** Whiteside Amish Community Building, Whiteside, KS. Questions should be directed to the: Reno County Extension Office at 620-662-2371 or rn@ksu.edu.
- If you would like to attend one of the Dairy Day meetings you may **RSVP** by calling your **LOCAL** Extension office or you may call one of the offices listed above. Hope to see you at one of the Dairy Days in February. For more information, contact John Smith (785-532-1203; jfsmith@ksu.edu).

- ↪ The **2009 Women Managing the Farm Conference** has been scheduled for February 12-14, 2009 at the Grand Prairie Hotel and Convention Center in Hutchinson, Kansas. “The Changing Face of Agriculture” is the theme for this year’s conference. Any woman who is involved in agriculture as a profession, as a producer, farm partner, or landowner can benefit from this experience. For registration and more information, go to www.togpartners.com/wmf or call 1-866-327-6578.
- ↪ The deadline to participate in the first session of the **2009 PorkBridge Grow-Finish Education Series** is February 20, 2009. The PorkBridge program is designed for those involved in the daily care of growing-finishing pigs including independent and contract growers, employees, owners and technical service providers. Program content deals with daily decisions related to the grow-finish process, including ventilation, handling, health regimens and feed management. The sessions take just one hour, plus question and discussion time, every two months, and you will have access to university and industry professionals with a variety of expertise.

The cost is \$125 is for the series of six sessions, which includes a CD with supporting materials and one phone line per session. For a complete schedule and registration form, visit KSUswine.org. For more information, contact Joel DeRouchey (785-532-2280; jderouch@ksu.edu).
- ↪ **Cattlemen’s Day 2009** –The 96th annual Cattlemen’s Day will be held Friday, March 6, 2009. All events for Cattlemen’s Day will be held in Weber Hall this year including the commercial trade show and educational exhibits. The Trade show and educational exhibits will open at 8:00 a.m.

Registration for KSU Cattlemen’s Day will be \$15 per person in advance or \$25 per person at the door. Morning refreshments and lunch are included with registration. For more information and a schedule, visit www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday or call 785-532-1267.

If you are interested in exhibiting at Cattlemen’s Day or have any questions, please contact Dale Blasi (dblasi@ksu.edu; 785-532-5427) or Jim Drouillard (jdrouill@ksu.edu; 785-532-1204).
- ↪ The **31st annual Special “K” Legacy Bull and Heifer Sale** will be held on March 6, 2009, at the conclusion of KSU Cattlemen’s Day. The sale will begin at 3:30 p.m. at the Purebred Beef Unit. For more information or a sale catalog, contact Ryan Breiner (rbreiner@ksu.edu; 785-532-6127).
- ↪ The **2009 Goat Production and Marketing Conference** will be held on Saturday, March 7th, 2009 at the Phillips County Fairgrounds, Phillipsburg, Kansas. The Conference will run from 9:00 a.m. CST to about 4:00 p.m. and is intended to address current topics within the goat industry. A Trade Show for commercial exhibits will be offered during the conference. For more information, please contact the Phillips – Rooks District Extension Office at (785) 425-6851 or email rboyle@ksu.edu.
- ↪ The **2009 Western Dairy Management Conference** will be held March 11-13, 2009, in Reno, Nevada. This conference offers the latest up-to-date dairy information. The seminar schedule will be March 11 and 12 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and March 13 from 8:00 am to noon. Seminar topics include: Don’t Let Shrink Kill You with High Feed Prices; Heat Detection and AI Technician Evaluation; On-Farm Culturing for Better Milk Quality; and much more. For a complete schedule and registration information, go to www.wdmc.org. Online registration is available this year or you can register by mail or fax. For more information, contact John Smith (jfsmith@ksu.edu; 785-532-1203).
- ↪ Mark your calendars for the upcoming **KSU Youth Goat Day 2009** which will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2009, in Weber Hall. This event will feature hands-on, interactive education designed for youth, adults, project leaders and agents. Please visit www.asi.ksu.edu/youthprograms for forms (coming soon) and other information. For more information, contact Sharon Breiner (sbreiner@ksu.edu; 785-532-1264) or Brian Faris (brfaris@ksu.edu; 785-532-1255).
- ↪ The **Kansas Junior Swine Producer Day** will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2009, in Weber Hall. Mark your calendars and watch for more details. This event will feature hands-on, interactive education designed for youth, adults, project leaders and agents. All participants will receive a show pig information booklet, T-shirt and a complimentary noon lunch. As an added bonus, we will be giving away over \$500 in show equipment as door prizes throughout the day. Please visit www.asi.ksu.edu/youthprograms for forms (coming soon) and other information. For more details, contact Sharon Breiner (sbreiner@ksu.edu; 785-532-1264) or Joel DeRouchey (jderouch@ksu.edu; 785-532-2280).

- ↪ Make plans now to attend the **South Central Goat Conference** to be held on Saturday, March 21, 2009 at the Celebration Center in Lyons, Kansas. Featured speakers for the conference include Dr. Deb Mangelsdorf on “Artificial Insemination and Embryo Transfer” and Dr. Brian Faris on “The FAMACHA System.” The pre-registration deadline is March 13. For registration or more information, contact Jonie James, Harvey County Extension (jjames@ksu.edu; 316-284-6930) or Kent McKinnis, Reno County Extension (mckinnis@ksu.edu; 620-662-2371).
- ↪ Mark the dates on your calendar for the **Spring Action Conference** which is scheduled for April 6-8, 2009 at the Salina Holidome. Watch for more details.
- ↪ The **High Plains Horseman’s Day** will be held on April 18, 2009, at the Farmer Arena in Oakley, Kansas. Watch for more details.
- ↪ **K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy** - Kansas high school youth are invited to apply for participation in a dynamic new program designed to educate students about the livestock industry, through an engaging summer experience hosted by K-State Animal Sciences and Industry. The goal of this academy will be to further develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field.
 The four-day event, June 10-13, will focus on increasing knowledge of Kansas’ diverse livestock industry, as well as building participant’s leadership skills. Twenty-five high school students will be selected to participate based upon educational, community, and agricultural involvement, as reflected through an application process. For application and information visit www.asi.ksu.edu/YouthAcademy or contact Sharon Breiner, Youth Livestock Coordinator at sbreiner@ksu.edu.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS		
Date	Event	Location
January 22, 2009	BRANDS Software Training	
January 29, 2009	BRANDS Software Training	
January 29, 2009	Southwest District Sheep School	Jetmore, Kansas
February 3, 2009	KSU Swine Profitability Conference	Manhattan
February 5, 2009	BRANDS Software Training	
February 7, 2009	Meat Processing Workshop	Manhattan
February 12, 2009	KSU Dairy Day	Seneca, Kansas
February 12-14, 2009	Women Managing the Farm Conference	Hutchinson, Kansas
February 20, 2009	Registration deadline for PorkBridge Grow-Finish Educational Series	
February 26, 2009	KSU Dairy Day	Whiteside, Kansas
March 6, 2009	KSU Cattlemen’s Day	Manhattan
March 6, 2009	Special K Legacy Heifer and Bull Sale	Manhattan
March 7, 2009	Goat Production and Marketing Conference	Phillipsburg, Kansas
March 11-13, 2009	Western Dairy Management Conference	Reno, NV
March 14, 2009	KSU Youth Goat Day	Manhattan
March 21, 2009	Kansas Junior Swine Producer Day	Manhattan
March 21, 2009	South Central Goat Conference	Lyons, Kansas
April 6-8, 2009	Spring Action Conference	Salina, Kansas
April 18, 2009	High Plains Horseman’s Day	Oakley, Kansas
June 10-13, 2009	K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy	Manhattan

AS&I FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



Scott Beyer (sbeyer@k-state.edu; 785-532-1201)

Associate Professor/Extension Specialist - Poultry Nutrition and Management

Originally from Galveston, Texas, Dr. Scott Beyer attended Texas A&M University and received an undergraduate degree in Biochemistry in 1983. He obtained his Masters and Ph.D. degrees in the Animal Nutrition Program from the University of Georgia. He then worked as a Post-Doctoral Research Associate for Harvard University in the Department of Nutrition. In 1993, he accepted an Assistant Professor position at Kansas State University where he currently has a 50% teaching, 25% research and 25% extension appointment.

Dr. Scott Beyer has 20 advisee undergraduate students and 3 graduate students. He teaches 7 different courses in the Department, which includes ASI 106, Dairy/Poultry Science; ASI 107, Companion Animal and Equine Lab; ASI 310, Poultry/Production

Evaluation; ASI 520, Companion Animal Management; ASI 640, Poultry Product Technology; ASI 645, Poultry Management; and ASI 676, Avian Nutrition.

Dr. Beyer is coach of the KSU Collegiate Poultry Judging team, which won the national championship in 2002 and 2003, and has finished in the top of every contest since then. He also works with numerous 4-H volunteers and FFA instructors and teams. He is involved with poultry judging at counties fairs and supervisor of the poultry division at the Kansas State Fair.

Dr. Beyer is also the Poultry Extension Agent for the state of Kansas and maintains extramural funding for his research program related to poultry and companion animals. His research focuses on feed manufacturing and poultry nutrition. He has been an invited speaker at every nutrition conference in the US. He has been an invited speaker at international conferences in Mexico, Tunisia, Egypt, China, Malaysia, South Korea, and Morocco.

Dr. Scott Beyer resides in Manhattan with his wife Amy, and their three boys, Travis, Eric, and Nick, all of whom play baseball on different traveling teams. When he has some spare time and isn't doing something poultry or watching baseball, he enjoys woodworking, fishing, and gardening.



Jim Drouillard (jdrouill@ksu.edu; 785-532-1204)

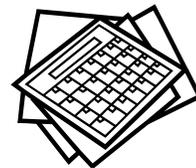
Professor/Beef Cattle Nutrition

Jim Drouillard joined the K-State faculty in 1995, and he, his wife Patti, daughter Kameron, and son Jason are now residents of Olsburg.

A two-time Gator, Jim received his Bachelor's (Animal Science) and Master's (Animal Breeding) degrees from the University of Florida in 1985 and 1986, and his Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska in 1989. Jim has responsibilities in teaching (30%) and research (70%), and is faculty coordinator for the Beef Cattle Research Center. His research has focused on feedlot cattle production, emphasizing grain processing, pre-harvest food safety, byproduct utilization, and the effects of diet on cattle health, performance, carcass quality, and meat composition.

WHAT PRODUCERS SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT...

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



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

- Manage calving pens and pastures to minimize human, cow and calf stress. Stay organized.
- An observation schedule should be implemented for calving first-calf heifers and cows. First-calf heifers should be checked every 2 to 3 hours.
- Sanitation is key to reduce and/or eliminate calf scours. An excellent calving pasture management plan by Dr. David Smith from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln, can be found at <http://beef.unl.edu/beefreports/symp-2003-19-XVIII.pdf>.
- Make sure every calf consumes adequate colostrum during the first 4-12 hours after birth.
- Keep accurate calving records, including cow identification (ID), calf ID, birth date, calving difficulty score and birth weight. Other traits to consider recording are teat and udder scores, calf vigor score, and other pertinent information. This information along with Angus sire information is vital for enrolling cattle into the AngusSourceSM program.
- Calving books are essential sources of information; make sure you have a backup copy.
- Body condition score (BCS) cows. Thin and young cows will need extra energy to maintain yearly calving interval.
- If cow diets are going to be shifted from low- (poor quality forage or dormant grass) to high-quality forage (lush green grass) programs, begin a grass tetany prevention program at least 3 weeks prior to the forage switch.
- Given the high price of mineral supplements, conduct a needs assessment of your cowherd. Moreover, closely monitor daily intake to insure that it is consistent with label directions.
- When making genetic selections, use the most recent National Cattle Evaluation (NCE) and herd records judiciously.
- If new bulls are purchased, now is the time to start preparing them for their first breeding season. Bulls need to be properly vaccinated and conditioned to be athletic. Moderate body condition with abundant exercise is ideal.
- After calving and before breeding, vaccinate cows as recommended by your veterinarian.
- Plan to attend beef production meetings.

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 schrein@ksu.edu, or phone 785-532-1267.