



Newsletter from the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry  
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## UPCOMING EVENTS...

July 2012

### News from KSU Animal Sciences

#### In This Issue

- Upcoming Events
- Management Minute
- Feedlot Facts
- 2012 KSU Cattlemen's Day Article Featured
- 2011 KSU Swine Day Articles Featured
- Faculty Spotlight
- What Producers Should Be Thinking About...

#### We Need Your Help!

Please send questions, comments or ideas for future newsletter topics to [lschrein@ksu.edu](mailto:lschrein@ksu.edu) or call (785) 532-1267.

- ☛ **Entries for the Kansas State Fair 4H/FFA Show** (Beef, Sheep, Swine, Meat Goats) are due by July 16. Late entry forms will be accepted until July 25 with a late fee of \$10 per head. No entries will be accepted after July 25. For more information, visit [www.kansasstatefair.com](http://www.kansasstatefair.com).
- ☛ The **Kansas State University's 2012 Beef Conference** – *Thriving in the New Beef Economy*, will be held Aug. 9 in Frick Auditorium of K-State's College of Veterinary Medicine in Manhattan. Alternative live remote viewing sites include: Pratt County Fairgrounds, Butler County Community Building, Wakeeney Public Library, Parsons Frontier Farm Credit Office, and the Lucas Area Community Theater. The schedule is as follows:
  - 8:00 a.m. Registration
  - 8:50 a.m. Welcome – *Dr. Ken Odde, Department Head, AS&I*
  - 9:00 a.m. 2012 Farm Bill and U.S. Economic Outlook: It's Impact on the Kansas Ag Sector – *Troy Dumler, KSU Agricultural Economist*
  - 9:45 a.m. Changes in the INS and OUTS of the Cow Business – *Glynn Tonsor, KSU Agricultural Economist*
  - 10:30 a.m. Break
  - 10:45 a.m. Apply Lessons Learned from Drought  
Creative Feeding Strategies – *Justin Waggoner, KSU*  
Growing with a Purpose in Mind – *Bob Weaber, KSU*
  - 12:15 p.m. Lunch
  - 1:15 p.m. Define Your Product  
Plan with the End in Mind – *Chip Ramsey, Rex Ranch, NE*  
Managing for Profit – *Warren Weibert, Decatur Co Feedyard*
  - 2:45 p.m. Break
  - 3:00 p.m. Weather Patterns/Global Warming and Implications for Agriculture – *Evelyn Browning-Garris, Climatologist*
  - 4:00 p.m. Panel Discussion (Questions and Answers)
  - 5:00 p.m. Adjourn

Registration with payment of \$60 per person or \$100 for 2 from the same family, ranch or organization is due by Friday, August 3 to the location you will be attending. Noon meal, morning and afternoon refreshments are provided. For more, go to [www.asi.ksu.edu/beefconference](http://www.asi.ksu.edu/beefconference) or contact Larry Hollis ([lhollis@ksu.edu](mailto:lhollis@ksu.edu); 785-532-1246) or Eve Clark ([evvec@ksu.edu](mailto:evvec@ksu.edu); 785-532-1280).
- ☛ **Entries for the Kansas Junior Livestock Show** must be postmarked by August 15, 2012. Late entries will be accepted through September 1, 2012, but all late entries will be subject to an entry fee double the stated entry fee amount. For more information, visit [www.kjls.org](http://www.kjls.org).
- ☛ **The Kansas All Breeds Junior Dairy Show** will be held August 16-18, 2012 in Salina, KS. For more details, contact Mike Brouk ([mbrouk@ksu.edu](mailto:mbrouk@ksu.edu); 785-532-1207).



# UPCOMING EVENTS...

- ☞ Make plans now to attend the **Flint Hills Beef Fest** which will be held August 17-19, 2012. Cattle Division Events include a Grass Futurity Contest, Live Stocker Cattle Show, Feedlot Contest and Carcass Competition. Events will take place on the Lyon County Fairground in Emporia, Kansas. The Flint Hills Beef Fest is an annual celebration of the grass cattle industry for which the Flint Hills region in Kansas is known. For more details and a complete schedule of events, please visit <http://www.beefest.com>.
- ☞ The **Kansas Livestock Sweepstakes** has been scheduled for August 25-26, 2012. 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](http://www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu). Registration forms need to be postmarked by August 1. Complete information for 2012 is available on the Youth Livestock Web page. For more information, contact Kristine Clowers ([kclowers@ksu.edu](mailto:kclowers@ksu.edu); 785-532-1264).
- ☞ Kansas State University will host **Building Better Heifers – Selecting, Growing and Breeding Heifers Using Today's Science field days** on August 28 in Eureka, KS, and August 29 in Phillipsburg, KS. The Aug. 28 field day will be hosted by the Perrier Family, Dalebanks Angus at 820 River Road, Eureka. The Aug. 29 event will be hosted by the Stuart Jarvis family at Bar Arrow Cattle Company at 26 E. Limestone Road, Phillipsburg. The field day at both locations begins with registration at 4:00 p.m. and the program starting at 4:30 p.m. Presentations and speakers include:

  - Heifer Development Systems – *Rick Funston, University of Nebraska-Lincoln*
  - Heifer Selection Tools – *Bob Weaber, KSU*
  - Post-breeding Nutrition and Early Pregnancies – *Scott Lake, University of Wyoming*
  - Healthy Heifers to Healthy Cows – *Dale Grotelueschen, Pfizer Animal Health*
  - Early Pregnancy Diagnosis – *Sandy Johnson, KSU*
  - Proper Collection of DNA samples – *Kara Wilson, CAB and Tonya Amen, American Angus*

The field days are sponsored by K-State Research and Extension, Pfizer Animal Health and Certified Angus Beef. An evening meal is included in the event. For meal planning purposes, organizers request that all participants RSVP before August 13 by contacting Anna Curry ([akcurry@ksu.edu](mailto:akcurry@ksu.edu); 620-583-7455), Rachael Boyle ([rboyle@ksu.edu](mailto:rboyle@ksu.edu); 785-425-6851) or Sandy Johnson ([sandyj@ksu.edu](mailto:sandyj@ksu.edu); 785-462-6281).
- ☞ The **2012 KSU Beef Stocker Field Day** will be held on Thursday, September 27 at the KSU Beef Stocker Unit in Manhattan. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the day will conclude with a good old-fashioned Prairie Oyster Fry. Watch for complete details on [www.KSUbeef.org](http://www.KSUbeef.org). For more information, contact Dale Blasi ([dblasi@ksu.edu](mailto:dblasi@ksu.edu); 785-532-5427).
- ☞ **Developing and Implementing Your Company's HACCP Plan for Meat, Poultry, and Food Processors** will be held October 3-5, 2012, at the Kansas State University Olathe Campus, 22201 West Innovation Drive, Olathe. Registration for the 2.5 day International HACCP Alliance accredited workshop is online at <http://HACCP.unl.edu>. The workshop fee is \$325, and meets USDA training requirements to become a HACCP trained individual. For more information, contact Liz Boyle ([lboyle@ksu.edu](mailto:lboyle@ksu.edu); 785-532-1247).
- ☞ The **2012 KSU Swine Day** will be held Thursday, November 15, at the KSU Alumni Center. Mark the date on your calendar and watch for more details.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS		
Date	Event	Location
July 16, 2012	Entries due for Kansas State Fair ( <a href="http://www.kansasstatefair.com">www.kansasstatefair.com</a> )	
August 9, 2012	KSU Beef Conference	Manhattan
August 15, 2012	Entries due for Kansas Junior Livestock Show ( <a href="http://www.kjls.org">www.kjls.org</a> )	
August 16-18, 2012	Kansas All Breeds Junior Dairy Show	Salina, KS
August 17-19, 2012	Flint Hills Beef Fest	Emporia, KS
August 25-26, 2012	Kansas Livestock Sweepstakes	Manhattan
August 28, 2012	Building Better Heifers Field Day	Eureka, KS
August 29, 2012	Building Better Heifers Field Day	Phillipsburg, KS
September 27, 2012	KSU Beef Stocker Field Day	Manhattan
October 3-5, 2012	Developing and Implementing Your Company's HACCP Plan	Olathe, KS
November 15, 2012	KSU Swine Day	Manhattan

# WHAT'S NEW . . . .

## **Management Minute** **“Criticism: The Elusive Ingredient”**

## **Feedlot Facts** **“Early Weaning Nutrition”**

### ↪ **Management Minute** – Chris Reinhardt, Ph.D., Extension Feedlot Specialist **“Criticism: The Elusive Ingredient”**

Criticism: If you're like most people that word doesn't exactly conjure up images of a warm-and-fuzzy workplace. But when delivered properly, and in the appropriate context, criticism (the “constructive” part is implied) may be the missing ingredient from many dysfunctional teams.

Once again, we'll use the manager-as-coach analogy. Imagine a basketball coach, who spends every day in the office, signing invoices, paying bills, and calling season ticket holders, but once a quarter, brings each player in for a performance review. Although it's ridiculous to consider, that's how some managers try to manage a team.

How can anyone manage, and provide timely, useful criticism, in appropriate context, if that manager doesn't spend an abundance of time learning about each teammate and what they do on a daily basis and how they do it. This is the very reason some management theories hold that each manager should have no greater than 6-7 direct reports. More than that and the opportunity to spend abundant time with each person shrinks drastically.

Now imagine a different coach, who has won countless games and multiple championships, and has mentored hundreds of successful athletes, spending 2 hours every day on the floor with the players, leading drills and breaking down performance in real-time. This coach spends hours every day critiquing footwork, shooting technique, defensive body position, and on and on. This coach spends hour after hour, day after day, hammering away at the details of fundamental techniques that are taught to 8-year olds.

This coach is successful, not because of phone time and face time with the fan base, but because of intentional, unhurried, one-on-one time with each player, and a relentless pursuit of excellence in the fundamentals of the game.

Criticism can only be an effective component of teaching if the coach fully comprehends the needs of the student, and if the student trusts that the teacher fully comprehends the needs of the team. This blend can only be achieved by investing that most precious of resources: time.

For more information, contact Chris at 785-532-1672 or [cdr3@ksu.edu](mailto:cdr3@ksu.edu).

### ↪ **Feedlot Facts** – Chris Reinhardt, Ph.D., Extension Feedlot Specialist **“Early Weaning Nutrition”**

The hits just keep on coming. The promise of a long, green summer have evaporated with the moisture. It's time to consider early weaning.

After the summer of 2011, the range needs rest to recover. Pulling calves off the cows now will not only reduce lactation drain on precious cow nutrients, but pulling those calves off the range will reduce the grazing pressure on the grass. Many ranchers have already reduced cow numbers through strategic culling, so pulling calves off early may be the best option to maintain cow numbers and improve range condition next spring.

The nutritional needs of those early-weaned calves are not greatly different from a conventionally weaned calf. If possible on the day of weaning, attract calves to the bunk by spreading 2-3 lbs of good-quality, long-stemmed hay loose in the bunk. On top of the loose hay spread 2-3 lbs of either a complete starter pellet or a mixed ration. The ration should be about 50:50 blend of good quality chopped hay:concentrate. The concentrate can be a blend of processed grain, grain by-products, and a complete balanced supplement. Make sure the diet stays well-mixed and calves can't easily separate the grain from the hay. As soon as calves are all readily coming to the bunk and consuming the mixed ration, the loose hay is no longer needed.

If mixing facilities are not available, a complete starter feed can be used for the first few weeks after weaning.

### **Feedlot Facts – “Early Weaning Nutrition” (cont.)**

Target protein concentration of the starter diet should be 15% crude protein, and most of that protein should come from natural plant sources, such as distiller’s grains or corn gluten feed. If the only forage available is dry, chopped hay, wet byproducts can be beneficial in “conditioning” the ration, which will help keep individual ingredients from separating out in the bunk. Silage or haylage can accomplish this same purpose. If needed, this can also be accomplished by adding water to the mixer during mixing.

Monitor consumption and step up the amount of feed carefully. Healthy calves should normally consume about 3% of their body weight of this 50% forage diet, on a dry matter basis. So a group of calves which average 300 lbs should ultimately eat about 9 lbs of dry matter, which would be 12-13 lbs of a 70% dry matter ration.

Continue to monitor the calves for symptoms of respiratory disease (depression, nasal discharge, lack of appetite) and coccidiosis (diarrhea). Calves which don’t readily come to the bunk at the morning feeding time are likely candidates for further observation. However, rectal temperature can be misleading in the summer, especially after 9 or 10:00 a.m., so just because a calf has a rectal temperature greater than 103.5°F doesn’t necessarily indicate respiratory disease.

Early weaning definitely challenges conventional thinking, facilities, and logistics. But it can be very effective at preserving range condition, cow condition, and calf performance.

For more information, contact Chris at 785-532-1672 or [cdr3@ksu.edu](mailto:cdr3@ksu.edu).

↳ **Heat Can Lead to Toxic Water Sources** - Hot weather, as many producers know, can cause several problems for livestock. Due to high temperatures, even the best way to cope with the heat – water – can be hazardous. Cyanobacteria, also known as blue-green algae, are present in many Kansas waters. Under certain conditions, harmful algal blooms (also called HABs) can produce toxins that pose a health risk to people and animals. It favors warm, stagnant water, especially if it’s nutrient-laden, so ponds that collect runoff from farm fields are at higher risk. Compounding the threat is the fact that many ponds started the spring with low water levels because of less winter and springtime precipitation than average, thus creating conditions that make the threat of blue-green algae higher. Blue-green algae looks like a pale greenish oil scum on the top of the water, except around the edges where it’s more a cobalt blue color. Because of the recent hot, dry conditions, producers should check their ponds frequently to see if they see the scum developing. Algae blooms can happen within just a couple of days.

Management options for producers who suspect a blue-green algae problem include:

- Do not wade, swim in or drink from these water sources.
- Provide alternate drinking sources for livestock.
- Fence cattle away from affected ponds.
- If you have to use ponds as a water source, fence cattle away from downwind areas where accumulation of the bacteria is likely to occur.
- Test pond scum to see if blue-green algae are present. The Kansas Vet Diagnostic Lab and other area labs can test water samples for producers who suspect a problem.

More information about blue-green algae is available at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment website at <http://www.kdheks.gov/algae-illness/index.htm>. For more information, contact Larry Hollis ([lhollis@ksu.edu](mailto:lhollis@ksu.edu); 785-532-1246).

↳ **Assistant Professor, Food Science, Food Safety and Quality** – Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry is looking for an Assistant Professor, Food Science, Food Safety and Quality. This is a full-time, 12-month, tenure track position with 0.6 teaching and 0.4 research. This position will be located on the K-State Olathe campus. Ph.D. or equivalent at time of hire in Food Science, Animal Science, or related discipline focused on food safety and quality is required as well as a commitment to excellence in teaching and demonstrated excellence in research. The successful candidate will be appointed in the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry and participate in teaching programs in both Animal Sciences and Food Science. Food Scientists are also part of the Food Science Institute. View complete position announcement at: <http://www.asi.ksu.edu/positions>. Review of applications begins August 17, 2012, and continues until a suitable candidate is identified.

↳ **Dosing Heifers with *Megasphaera elsdenii* Allows for Rapid Step-Up to Finisher Diets** – Heifers were gathered from pastures in Cody, WY, and transported to the Kansas State University Beef Cattle Research Center. Cattle were processed 24 hours after arrival and assigned to 1 of 6 step-up regimens. Step-up diets contained 50 (step 1), 40 (step 2), 30 (step 3), and 20% corn silage (step 4). The final finishing diet contained 10% corn silage. The corn silage was replaced with dry-rolled corn in each successive step.

Step-up regimens included the following diet sequences: steps 1, 2, 3, 4, finisher (1234F); steps 2, 3, 4, and finisher (234F); steps 3, 4, and finisher (34F); step 3 and finisher (3F); step 4 and finisher (4F); and started directly on the finisher diet (F). Heifers on the 234F, 34F, 3F, 4F, and F were orally dosed with 100 mL of Lactipro at processing.

**Bottom Line...**Heifers orally dosed with Lactipro at processing can be stepped up to finishing diets more rapidly with no adverse effects on performance, health, or carcass traits. Aggressive step-up regimens may be warranted to realize the full potential of Lactipro. View the complete research report at [www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday](http://www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday). For more information contact, Jim Drouillard (785-532-1204; [jdrouill@ksu.edu](mailto:jdrouill@ksu.edu)) or Larry Hollis (785-532-1246; [lhollis@ksu.edu](mailto:lhollis@ksu.edu)).

↪ **Effects of Corn Steep Liquor Supplementation on Voluntary Selection of Tallgrass Prairie Hay Contaminated with Sericea Lespedeza and Uncontaminated Tallgrass Prairie Hay** – Sixteen mature beef cows were housed in individual pens and were fed tallgrass prairie hay contaminated with sericea lespedeza (approximately 30% sericea lespedeza by weight) and uncontaminated tallgrass prairie hay simultaneously. Both sources of hay had similar crude protein (5.5 vs. 5.4%) and acid detergent fiber (41.0 vs 39.8%) concentrations. Cows were either unsupplemented or supplemented with 1.32 lb/day corn steep liquor (dry basis; equivalent to 3 lb/day as-fed). Forage intake and diet digestion were monitored.

**Bottom Line...**Results from our study were interpreted to suggest that low-level supplementation of corn steep liquor increases acceptance of and tolerance for high-tannin forages by beef cows. Corn steep liquor ameliorated some of the negative consequences of tannin consumption on digestible dry matter intake. In addition, voluntary consumption of high-tannin forage increased by 25% in supplemented compared with unsupplemented beef cows. View the complete research report at [www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday](http://www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday). For more information contact, Bob Weaber (785-532-1460; [bweaber@ksu.edu](mailto:bweaber@ksu.edu)) or KC Olson (785-532-1254; [kcolson@ksu.edu](mailto:kcolson@ksu.edu)).

↪ **Most Feedlot Mortalities Can Be Diagnosed Without a Necropsy** – Cause of death for 54 feedlot mortalities was diagnosed by feedlot health personnel prior to completion of a necropsy, and subsequently by Kansas State University investigators who conducted the necropsy but had not history of the dead animal's health history. Agreement between the feedlot personnel and the investigators in diagnosis of bovine respiratory disease and bloat was 100%. Feedlot personnel are capable of accurately diagnosing bovine respiratory disease or bloat without performing a necropsy. Necropsy should be performed on animals that are found dead in their pen with no history of bloat.

**Bottom Line...**Necropsy is not necessary for cattle with known history of advanced bovine respiratory disease or bloat. View the complete research report at [www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday](http://www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday). For more information contact, Dan Thomson (785-532-4844; [dthomson@vet.ksu.edu](mailto:dthomson@vet.ksu.edu)) or Chris Reinhardt (785-532-1672; [cdr3@ksu.edu](mailto:cdr3@ksu.edu)).

↪ **Effects of Abrupt Changes between Mash and Pellet Diets on Growth Performance in Finishing Pigs** - A total of 200 finishing pigs (average initial BW of 132.3 lb) were used in a 58-d growth assay to determine the effects of an abrupt change from mash to pellets and pellets to mash on growth performance and carcass measurements. The experiment was designed as a randomized complete block with 5 pigs per pen and 10 pens per treatment. There were 4 treatments with 2 phases of diets utilized. Treatments were mash to mash, mash to pellets, pellets to mash, and pellets to pellets for Phases 1 and 2 of the experiment. For Phase 1 (d 0 to 36), pigs fed the pelleted diet had 4% greater ADG and F/G was improved by 8% compared to pigs fed mash. For Phase 2 (d 36 to 58) and overall (d 0 to 58), pigs fed the mash diet had poorer F/G than pigs fed the pelleted treatments. Indeed, pigs fed pellets the entire experiment had ADG and F/G 5 and 8% better, respectively, than pigs fed mash the entire experiment. Pigs fed mash during Phase 1 then pellets during Phase 2 had improved ADG and F/G for Phase 2 compared with pigs fed pellets then mash. Overall pigs fed pellets for either Phase 1 or 2, but not both, tended to have poorer ADG and F/G compared with pigs fed pellets for the entire experiment. With HCW used as a covariate, no differences were observed in dressing percentage, fat thickness, loin depth, or percentage fat-free lean index (FFLI).

**Bottom Line...** Pigs fed pellets tended to have the greatest growth performance, pigs fed mash the worst, with pigs fed pellets for only part of the grow-finish phase rating intermediate. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at [www.KSUswine.org](http://www.KSUswine.org). (This study conducted by C. B. Paulk, J. D. Hancock, J. C. Ebert, and J. J. Ohlde.)

↳ **Effects of Diet Mix Time on Growth Performance of Finishing Pigs Fed Ractopamine HCl** - Two experiments were conducted to determine the effects of mix uniformity for diets with Ractopamine HCl (RAC) (Paylean; Elanco Animal Health, Greenfield, IN) when fed to finishing pigs. In Exp. 1, a total of 200 pigs (PIC TR4 × 1050; average BW of 198.4 lb) were used in a 33-d growth assay arranged in a randomized complete-block design with 5 pigs per pen and 8 pens per treatment. Treatments were a corn-soybean meal-based control diet mixed for 360 sec and the mixed control diet with 9 g/ton RAC added before additional mixing for 0, 30, 120, and 360 sec. Thus, this experiment was designed to determine the effects of nutrient utilization from a thoroughly mixed diet with a potential non-uniform distribution of RAC. Pigs fed diets with RAC had improved ADG, F/G, final BW, HCW, dressing percentage, backfat thickness, loin depth, and percentage carcass lean compared with control pigs. Increasing mix time from 0 to 360 sec decreased CV for Chromium (Cr) from 67 to 12%, but had no effect on the response to RAC for any growth or carcass measurement. In Exp. 2, a total of 160 pigs (PIC TR4 × 1050; average BW of 205 lb) were used in a 27-d growth assay arranged in a completely randomized design with 2 pigs per pen and 16 pens per treatment. Treatments were a corn-soybean meal-based control mixed for 360 sec and control diets with 9 g/ton RAC mixed for 0, 30, 120, and 360 sec. Thus, this experiment was designed to determine the combined effects of potentially non-uniform distribution of both nutrients and RAC. The use of RAC increased ADG, F/G, final BW, HCW, dressing percentage, percentage lean, and loin depth. Increasing mix times from 0 to 360 sec decreased CV for salt from 51 to 12% with no significant effect on ADG, F/G, HCW, dressing percentage, backfat thickness, loin depth, or percentage lean.

**Bottom Line...** In conclusion, increasing mix time of diets from 0 to 360 sec did not significantly affect the response of finishing pigs to RAC, but in Exp. 2 a mix time of 120 sec for the complete diet and RAC (CV of 15%) resulted in the numerically lowest F/G. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at [www.KSUswine.org](http://www.KSUswine.org). (This study conducted by C. B. Paulk, L. J. McKinney, J. D. Hancock, S. M. Williams, S. Issa, and T. L. Gugle.)

↳ **Determining the Effects of Tryptophan:Lysine Ratios in Diets Containing 30% Dried Distillers Grains with Solubles on Growth Performance of 157- to 285-lb Pigs** - A total of 2,298 pigs (half gilts and half barrows, PIC TR4 × 1050; initially 157 lb) were used in a 52-d study to determine the effects of increasing tryptophan:lysine ratios in diets containing 30% dried distillers grains with solubles (DDGS) on the growth performance of finishing pigs raised in a commercial environment. Pens of pigs were balanced by initial weight and randomly allotted to 1 of 6 dietary treatments in a completely randomized design within gender; each pen contained 23 pigs and each treatment had 16 to 17 replications. Treatments were arranged as a 2 × 6 factorial with main effects of gender (gilts or barrows) and standardized ileal digestible (SID) tryptophan:lysine ratio (2 positive control diets with no DDGS containing SID tryptophan:lysine ratios of 17 or 21% of lysine and 4 diets containing 30% DDGS with SID tryptophan:lysine ratios of 15, 17, 19, or 21% lysine). Overall (d 0 to 52), no gender × treatment interactions were measured. Pigs fed 30% DDGS had poorer ADG, ADFI, and F/G compared with those fed the corn-soybean meal diet. In pigs fed diets without DDGS, those fed the 17% SID tryptophan:lysine ratio tended to have better F/G compared with pigs fed the 20% SID tryptophan:lysine ratio. Increasing SID tryptophan:lysine ratio from 15 to 21% in diets containing 30% DDGS had no effect on ADG, ADFI, or F/G. For carcass characteristics, feeding 30% DDGS reduced HCW, loin depth, and lean percentage. For carcass traits, in pigs fed diets without DDGS, those fed the 21% SID tryptophan:lysine ratio had decreased backfat and greater lean percentage compared with pigs fed 17% SID tryptophan:lysine ratio. Increasing the SID tryptophan:lysine ratio from 15 to 21% in the 30% DDGS diets increased percentage carcass yield and had a tendency to increase HCW.

**Bottom Line...** These results suggest an opportunity to improve carcass traits and carcass value by increasing the SID tryptophan:lysine ratio for late finishing pigs that are fed high levels of DDGS. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at [www.KSUswine.org](http://www.KSUswine.org). (This study conducted by S. Nitikanchana, M. D. Tokach, J. L. Usry, S. S. Dritz, R.D. Boyd, C.E. Zier-Rush, and M. McGrath.)

# AS&I Faculty Spotlight



**Brian Faris (brfaris@k-state.edu; 785-532-1255)**  
**Assistant Professor/Sheep and Meat Goat Extension 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 will involve conducting educational programs for purebred and commercial sheep and meat goat producers throughout Kansas. He will also work 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 Science. Additional teaching responsibilities will include overseeing the Sheep & Meat Goat Teaching and Research Unit along with coaching the Intercollegiate Wool Judging Team.

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.



**Christopher Reinhardt (cdr3@k-state.edu; 785-532-1672)**  
**Associate Professor/Feedlot Extension Specialist**

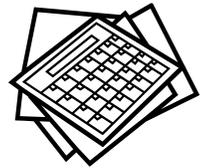
A native of Wisconsin, Dr. Reinhardt received a B.S. in Meat and Animal Science from the University of Wisconsin, an M.S. in Nutrition from Texas A&M University, and a Ph.D. in Nutrition from good ol' Kansas State.

Dr. Reinhardt was hired on at Kansas State University in the Fall of 2005 as the Extension Feedlot Specialist with a 20% research and 80% extension appointment. Chris' focus has been on the effects of management on body composition and beef quality. He previously spent 11 years in the feed and animal health industries working throughout the Great Plains cattle industry. Now he and his wife Nicoel, their youngest son David, and their Corgi and two Greyhounds are settled here in Manhattan.

In his spare time Chris enjoys hunting with his sons, church activities, playing guitar with friends, and his family.

# What Producers Should Be Thinking About.....

## WHAT PRODUCERS SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT IN SEPTEMBER.....



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

September is when forages are maturing rapidly, weaning time can be appropriate, and weather dictates several key management decisions.

#### **Breeding Season**

Out of concern for trichomoniasis, an economically devastating reproductive disease, do not introduce untested bulls to your herd. Remove bulls after 60 days with cows, 45 days with heifers (Never run bulls for more than a 90-day breeding season).

#### **Cowherd Nutrition**

- Provide ample amounts of clean, fresh drinking water.
- Consider limited-intake creep feeding if:
  - ◆ Drought conditions develop and persist.
  - ◆ Range conditions limit milk production.
  - ◆ Creep feed/grain prices are relatively low.
  - ◆ Value of gain allows for economic benefits.
- Tips for successful limited-intake creep feeding:
  - ◆ Limit duration to last 30 to 75 days before weaning.
  - ◆ Limit intake to less than 2 pounds/head/day.
  - ◆ Use an ionophore or other feed additive to maximize efficiency.
  - ◆ Protein level should be equal to or greater than 16%.
  - ◆ High salt levels may help limit intake, but can be tough on feeders.
- Prepurchase bulk rate winter supplementation needs prior to seasonal price increases.

#### **Herd Health**

- If pinkeye is likely to be a problem, consider the following preventive and therapeutic measures.

##### *Preventive:*

- ◆ Make sure the herd is receiving adequate vitamins and trace mineral in their diet.
- ◆ Consider using a medicated trace mineral package.
- ◆ Consider vaccination for pinkeye and IBR.
- ◆ Control face flies.
- ◆ Clip pastures with tall, coarse grasses that may irritate eyes.
- ◆ Provide ample shade.

##### *Therapy:*

- ◆ Administer a long-acting antibiotic subcutaneously when symptoms are first noticed.
  - ◆ Shut out irritating sunlight by patching eyes, shade, etc.
  - ◆ Control flies.
  - ◆ Consult your veterinarian.
- Consider revaccinating for the respiratory diseases any animals that will be taken to livestock shows.
  - Vaccinate suckling calves for IBR, BVD, PI3, BRSV, and possibly pasteurella at least 3 weeks prior to weaning.
  - Revaccinate all calves for blackleg.
  - Vaccinate replacement heifers for brucellosis (4 to 10 months of age).
  - Monitor and treat footrot.

### **Forage/Pasture Management**

- ☑ Enhance grazing distribution with mineral mixture placement away from water sources.
- ☑ Observe pasture weed problems to aid in planning control methods needed next spring.
- ☑ Monitor grazing conditions and rotate pastures if possible and(or) practical.
- ☑ If pastures will run out in late summer, get ready to provide emergency feeds. Start supplemental feeding before pastures are gone to extend grazing.
- ☑ Harvest and store forages properly. Minimize waste by reducing spoilage.
- ☑ Sample harvested forages and have them analyzed for nitrate and nutrient composition.
- ☑ Plan winter nutritional program through pasture and forage management.
- ☑ For stocker cattle and replacement heifers, supplement maturing grasses with an acceptable degradable intake protein/ionophore (feed additive) type supplement.

### **Reproductive Management**

- ☑ Remove bulls to consolidate calving season.
- ☑ Pregnancy check and age pregnancies 60 days after the end of the breeding season. Consider culling cows that are short-bred.

These methods contribute to a more uniform calf crop, make winter nutritional management easier, and increase the success rate of next year's breeding season.

### **General Management**

- ☑ Avoid unnecessary heat stress - Don't handle and(or) truck cattle during the heat of the day.
- ☑ Repair, replace and improve facilities needed for fall processing.
- ☑ Order supplies, vaccines, tags, and other products needed at weaning time.
- ☑ Consider early weaning if:
  - ◆ Drought conditions develop and persist.
  - ◆ Range conditions limit milk production.
  - ◆ Cows are losing body condition.
  - ◆ Calf and cull cow prices indicate maximum profit.
  - ◆ Facilities and management is available to handle lightweight calves.
    - ✓ *First calf heifers have the most to gain.*
    - ✓ *Resist the temptation to feed the cows without weaning; feeding early-weaned calves is more efficient.*
- ☑ Look for unsound cows that need to be culled from the herd.
- ☑ Prepare to have your calf crop weighed and analyzed through your state, regional, or breed performance-testing program.
- ☑ Plan your marketing program, including private treaty, consignment sales, test stations, production sales, etc.

*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](mailto:lschrein@ksu.edu), or phone 785-532-1267.*