



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

UPCOMING EVENTS...

May 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 or call (785) 532-1267.

➤ **Developing and Implementing Your Company's HACCP Plan** for meat, poultry, and food processors will be held June 5-7, 2012 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/web/anisci/ANSCEExtensionMeatScienceHACCPInformationandCoursesRegistration>. The workshop fee is \$325 per person, 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 **K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy** is planned for June 6-9 on K-State's Manhattan campus. This academy will spotlight 20 high school students from across the state wishing to learn more about leadership and production in the animal science industry. Students will receive interactive leadership training and tour facilities in K-State's Department of Animal Sciences and Industry. The second portion of the program will allow students the opportunity to tour businesses and organizations within Kansas' livestock industry. More information is available at www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu under K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy.

➤ The **2012 KSU Youth Horse Judging Camps** will be held in Weber Arena on the KSU Campus. The Advanced Section, which will be held June 7-8, is designed for youth that have had some experience judging horses and would like to learn more about note taking and oral reasons. The Beginning Section will be held June 11, and is designed for youth that have had very little experience judging horses. For more information, contact Teresa Douthit (785-532-1268; douthit@ksu.edu).

➤ **"Champions" Livestock Judging Camp** – A three day, intense judging camp designed for 4-H and FFA members (ages 14-18) who are seriously interested in enhancing their livestock judging and oral communication skills. Prior livestock judging experience is necessary for this camp. Workouts will be conducted similar to those at a collegiate level. Dr. Scott Schaake, coach of five consecutive National Collegiate Championships will conduct the training for each camp. The camp will focus primarily on the proper format, terminology, and presentation of oral reasons. Camp participants will also be exposed to livestock evaluation skills and incorporating performance records in the decision making process. The following dates are set for the 2012 camps: June 12-14 (Tuesday-Thursday); June 15-17 (Friday-Sunday); June 19-21 (Tuesday-Thursday).

Registration forms and more information are available at www.asi.ksu.edu/livestockjudgingcamp. The registration deadline is May 14. For more information, contact Scott Schaake (simmi@ksu.edu; 785-532-1242) or Kristi Hagemen (klsmith@ksu.edu; 785-532-2996).



UPCOMING EVENTS...

☞ **Swine, Market Lamb/Commercial Ewe, Market Goat/Commercial Doe and Commercial Heifer Nominations** are due by June 15, 2012. IMPORTANT: Please remember to include Nomination Declaration forms. These are required by all families wishing to nominate. A nomination is considered incomplete until a Nomination Declaration form has been filed. All forms can be found at our website www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu. DNA envelopes must be included for a complete nomination. For more information and questions, contact Kristine Clowers (785-532-1264; clowers@ksu.edu).

☞ The **2012 Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic** is scheduled for July 13-14, 2012, 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, 2012.

This year's Classic will feature a swine photography contest along with an educational program which includes information on showcasing your industry and what is in your pig feed.

For the Swine Photography Contest, youth may submit up to 2 swine photos. Photos should be 8x10 size and should not be framed or matted. Photos will be placed in plastic sleeves and displayed throughout the weekend. Outlined below is a schedule of this year's program.

Friday, July 13

12:00 p.m. *All hogs in place*
 12:30 p.m. *Swine photo check-in by the show ring*
 1:15 p.m. *Showcasing Your Industry*
 1:45 p.m. *What's in Your Pig Feed?*
 3:30 p.m. *Ice cream party by the show ring*
 5:30 p.m. *Showmanship Contests*

Saturday, July 14

8:30 a.m. *Purebred and Crossbred Prospect Hog Show followed by
 Barrow and Gilt Market Hog Show*

Entries close on July 1, 2012 (must be postmarked by June 29, 2012). More information and registration will be coming soon to www.KSUswine.org. For more information, contact Joel DeRouchey (785-532-2280; jderouch@ksu.edu), Jim Nelssen (785-532-1251; jnelssen@ksu.edu), or Kristine Clowers (785-532-1264; clowers@k-state.edu).

☞ The **2012 KSU Beef Conference** has been scheduled for August 9. Mark your calendars and watch for more details.

☞ 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. Registration forms will need to be postmarked by August 1. Complete information for 2012 will be available soon on the Youth Livestock Web page.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
June 5-7, 2012	HAACP Workshop	Manhattan
June 6-9, 2012	K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy	Manhattan
June 7-8, 2012	KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Advanced Section	Manhattan
June 11, 2012	KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Beginning Section	Manhattan
June 12 – 14, 2012	Champions Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
June 15, 2012	Nominations due for Swine, Market Goat/Commercial Doe, Market Lamb/Commercial Ewe and Commercial Heifer	
June 15 – 17, 2012	Champions Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
June 19 – 21, 2012	Champions Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
July 13-14, 2012	Dr. Bob Hines' Kansas Swine Classic	Manhattan
August 9, 2012	KSU Beef Conference	Manhattan
August 25-26, 2012	Kansas Livestock Sweepstakes	Manhattan

WHAT'S NEW

Management Minute **“The Key to Communication”**

↪ **Management Minute** – Chris Reinhardt, Ph.D., Extension Feedlot Specialist **“The Key to Communication”**

We've all seen effective public speakers, and we've all probably met somebody who likes to listen to themselves talk. But in the management context, listening may be the most under-valued skillset of the effective communicator.

A wise man once said, “When the quiet guy in the meeting speaks up, pay attention. While everybody else has been talking, he's been listening and thinking.” How can a team leader really meet the needs of the team if those needs aren't known? And the only way to learn those needs is to listen---all the time.

Many managers tire of being told the value of the periodic review process. The workplace usually affords the manager plenty of opportunities to tell their team what's not going well or what's being done wrong. But without an intentional, purposeful, regular time set aside for 2-way dialog about the workplace, the needs of the team will likely never be heard, until it's too late to effectively address these needs.

The needs could be personal, professional, or work environment-related. There could be problems---or good things---going on at home that the manager should be aware of. There may be potentially unsafe work conditions that a few minor changes could rectify. The team member may have both aspirations and abilities for greater challenge and opportunities; if the leader doesn't capitalize on these abilities, the team member's next employer will.

The point is: Catch people doing something right 7 times for each 1 time you correct them. To do that, you've got to spend time with them. And one way to do that is by regularly scheduling time to discuss issues well before they become crisis.

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

Feedlot Facts **“Heat Stress Interventions”**

↪ **Feedlot Facts** – Chris Reinhardt, Ph.D., Extension Feedlot Specialist **“Heat Stress Interventions”**

Prevention is better than a cure---for virtually any disorder we can think of. But this is especially pertinent if you're a cattle feeder going into summer heat. We know that we can intervene in the event of extreme heat events to prevent cattle death. But by that point cattle have likely been off feed for a protracted period and performance has been lost; we're just happy to save the cattle.

The most effective and surest preventative of extreme heat stress for black-hided cattle is some sort of shade structure. We often see this in pasture cattle: even though extremely hot, humid conditions may exist on pasture, if cattle can find shade during the hottest part of the afternoon, they will be back out grazing after the sun begins to set. Shades can be sturdy, permanent structures, mobile, portable structures, or temporary structures using a frame with cloth overhead. Costs will tend to follow the permanence of the design. Also, the shade portion of the structure does not need to be solid; partial shade is better than no shade.

Another preventative measure is light-colored bedding. Recent K-State research (Rezak et al., 2012) suggests that during high heat days, the surface temperature of chopped hay or straw is 25°F cooler than that of the bare dirt floor and provides a cooler place for cattle to lay down and rest. And resting improves performance.

Other research suggests that wetting the surface of pen mounds in the morning prior to extreme heat can reduce surface temperatures and reduce heat load of cattle. The water essentially is “cooked off” by the radiant heat of the sun, and the evaporating water is taking heat with it from the pen surface. Without the water, the surface would simply absorb this heat and transfer it back to the cattle. However, the downside of this approach is that by adding water we may also be contributing to humidity conditions.

The key in all of these examples is to get interventions in place prior to the extreme heat event, give cattle a chance to utilize and benefit from the relief measures, and be prepared---summer is coming.

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

- ↳ **Local Extension Offices are the Training and Information Channels Preferred by Small-scale U.S. Livestock Operators** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's NAHMS conducted a study of small-scale livestock operators. Study participants were asked to identify their preferred methods of receiving training or additional information regarding the management of their operations and the proper care of their livestock. The local Extension Office was listed by 56% as their preferred delivery channel. This was followed by written publication (49.4%); the internet (29.9%); expert presentations (29.4%) and livestock association/clubs (21.8%). The results were also analyzed by region and three levels of farm sales. In these results, training through their local extension office was preferred over every other form of training regardless of region or farm sales level. (APHIS Info Sheet, April 2012)
- ↳ **Characteristics of Small-scale U.S. Livestock Operations** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's NAHMS conducted the Small-scale U.S. Livestock Operations study in 2011. The study focused on livestock operations with annual sales from \$10,000 to \$499,999 in which the predominant agriculture enterprise was a livestock/animal species. Nearly 9 of 10 operations (87.2%) had cattle and almost half (47.1%) had more than one type of livestock. The percentage of operations by livestock species present during the previous 12 months included: beef cattle (87.2%); horses and other equids (37.7%); chickens and other poultry (16.9%); dairy cattle (8.5%); goats (7.5%); swine (5.1%); sheep (4.3%); and bison (1.1%).
- About one-half of small-scale operations (45.3%) were residential/lifestyle farms in which the operator's primary occupation was off-farm. Farming was the primary occupation for about one-fourth (27.1%) of the farms; and one-fourth (27.3%) were owned by retirees.
- The study also showed that although income is an important reason for farming, many operators on small-scale operations also consider other reasons, such as enjoyment of farming or ranching lifestyle, to be equally or more important. The following reasons for farming were rated very important: lifestyle (63.7%); maintain farm for future generations (61.0%); family tradition/heritage (60.5%); source of income (41.0%); products for personal consumption (34.5%); and tax benefits (33.3%). Overall, operators on 9 of 10 small-scale operations (89.4%) expect to continue farming for the next five years.
- Small-scale U.S. livestock operations make important contributions to emerging regional food systems by helping satisfy the meat and poultry needs of local consumers through direct marketing and by serving growing niche markets such as natural and organic meat and poultry. (APHIS Info Sheet, April, 2012).
- ↳ As we near wheat harvest in Kansas, **watch wheat prices to consider feeding it as a replacement for corn** or milo in swine diets. The economics for wheat are especially good right now because of the high cost of soybean meal because wheat allows for use of more crystalline amino acids and reduces the need for soybean meal. Typically, if wheat is priced at less than 107% of the price of corn, it will price in as a replacement for corn. Wheat could be priced at 112% of the price of milo on a weight basis and be economical. More information on feeding wheat to pigs can be found at:
http://www.pork.org/filelibrary/AnimalScience/Alt_Feed_2.pdf
<http://nutrition.ansci.illinois.edu/sites/default/files/SwineFocus002.pdf>
- ↳ If you missed the **Entomology Update Webinar** sponsored by the Livestock PFT, you can view the recorded version at this link. <http://connect.ksre.ksu.edu/p18834098/>. Those that participated reported that the information presented was very valuable. We had a disconnect with the connection between 1:01 and 1:04:54 on the recording time. There was additional discussion after the break, so skip ahead to get the full program. Direct your veterinarians and producers to the recording by going to the "Hot Topics" on the KSUBeef.org page or providing the link above.
- ↳ **Research Assistant, Muscle Biology/Meat Color Chemistry** – Kansas State University is looking for a Research Assistant, Muscle Biology/Meat Color Chemistry. This is a full-time, 12-month, non-tenure track position. M.S. degree in Animal Science, Biology, Biochemistry or related area is required as well as a basic knowledge or training in molecular biology techniques. Ph.D. degree is preferred. View complete position announcement at: <http://www.asi.ksu.edu/positions>. Review of applications begins June 6, 2012, and continues until a suitable candidate is identified.

- ↪ **Effects of Corn Steep Liquor Supplementation on Intake and Digestion of Tallgrass Prairie Hay Contaminated with Sericea Lespedeza** – Twenty-four mature beef cows were individually fed tallgrass prairie hay contaminated with sericea lespedeza (approximately 30% sericea lespedeza by weight) and were supplemented corn steep liquor at the rates of 0, 1.34, 2.68, or 4.03 lb/day (dry basis), which were equivalent to as-fed feeding rates of 0, 3, 6, and 9 lb/day. All cows were individually fed tallgrass prairie hay contaminated with sericea lespedeza free-choice for 14 days. Beginning on day 15, supplemental corn steep liquor was abruptly introduced into cow diets at assigned feeding levels. Forage intake and nutrient digestion were monitored for 30 days.
Bottom Line...Supplementation with corn steep liquor may increase beef cow tolerance for high-tannin forages. Supplemental corn steep liquor ameliorated the negative consequences of tannin consumption. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday. For more information contact, Dale Blasi (785-532-5427; dblasi@ksu.edu) or KC Olson (785-532-1254; kcolson@ksu.edu).
- ↪ **Influence of Linpro and Dietary Copper on Performance and Meat Quality of Feedlot Cattle** – Supplementation consisted of dietary copper (10 or 100 ppm added copper) and Linpro (0 or 10% of diet, dry matter basis). Linpro (O&T Farms, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada) is an extruded blend of flaxseed and field peas. Basal diets (dry basis) included 35% wet corn gluten feed, 35% cracked corn, 15.8% pelleted soybean hulls, 10% corn silage, and provided 14% crude protein. For Linpro diets, the extrudate was added at 10% of the diet dry matter, replacing soybean hulls. Cattle were harvested in a commercial abattoir where we obtained loin samples from one side of each carcass for evaluation of fat composition. We observed no interaction between Linpro and the level of copper with respect to effects on performance or fatty acid composition of beef. Feeding Linpro decreased dry matter intake compared with animals on the control diet (30.0 and 31.1 lb/day, respectively), and efficiency was improved for cattle fed Linpro.
Bottom Line...Copper was ineffective as a strategy for improving assimilation of omega-3 fatty acids into beef tissue. Linpro can be used effectively as an energy source and to modify tissue concentrations of omega-3 fatty acids in beef. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday. For more information contact, Jim Drouillard (785-532-1204; jdrouill@ksu.edu) or Chris Reinhardt (785-532-1672; cdr3@ksu.edu).
- ↪ **Determining the Effect of the Ratio of Tryptophan to Large Neutral Amino Acids on the Growth Performance of Finishing Pigs** - A total of 96 pigs (PIC TR4 × 1050; initially 77.4 lb) were used in two 14-d studies to determine the effect of standardized ileal digestible (SID) tryptophan to large neutral amino acids (LNAA) ratio on growth performance of finishing pigs. Pens of pigs were balanced by initial weight and randomly allotted to 1 of 4 dietary treatments in a completely randomized design with 4 pigs per pen and 6 replications per treatment. The treatment diets were fed in 2 phases: early finishing phase (77 to 106 lb BW) and late finishing phase (183 to 217 lb BW), with a common diet fed in between. Dietary treatments included: (1) a corn-soybean meal-based diet without DDGS, (2) a corn-soybean meal-based diet with 45% dried distillers grains with solubles (DDGS), (3) a corn-soybean meal-based diet without DDGS but supplemented with similar amounts of LNAA as the diet containing 45% DDGS, and (4) the LNAA-supplemented diet with added crystalline tryptophan to increase the SID tryptophan:LNAA ratio. The diets were formulated in a similar manner for the late finishing phase with the exception that DDGS were lowered to 30% of the diet. In the early finishing period (77 to 106 lb), pigs fed 45% DDGS diet had poorer F/G compared with pigs fed the other diets; however, no differences were found in other response criteria. During the late finishing period (183 to 217 lb), pig growth performance was not affected by dietary treatment.
Bottom Line...These results suggest that the high level of LNAA relative to tryptophan in diets containing 30% DDGS or greater may not be responsible for the apparent increase in the tryptophan requirement of finishing pigs seen in previous studies. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by S. Nitikanchna, M. D. Tokach, S. S. Dritz, J.L. Usry, J. M. DeRouchey, R. D. Goodband, J. R. Bergstrom, and J. L. Nelssen.)
- ↪ **Effects of Lowering Dietary NDF Levels Prior to Marketing on Finishing Pig Growth Performance, Carcass Characteristics, Carcass Fat Quality, and Intestinal Weights** - A total of 264 pigs (PIC 327 × 1050, initially 90.1 lb) were used in a 90-d study to determine the effects of withdrawal of high dietary NDF (provided by wheat middlings [midds] and dried distillers grains with solubles [DDGS]) on growth performance, carcass characteristics, carcass fat quality, and intestinal weights of growing-finishing pigs. Pens of pigs were randomly allotted by initial weight and gender to 1 of 6 dietary treatments with 6 replications per treatment. There were 24 pens with 7 pigs per pen (3 barrows and 4 gilts) and 12 pens with 8 pigs per pen (4 barrows and 4 gilts). A positive control diet

containing no DDGS or midds and a negative control diet containing 30% DDGS and 19% midds was fed the entire study duration (no withdrawal). The other 4 treatments were arranged in a 2 × 2 factorial with the main effects of withdrawal time (23 or 47 d) and NDF level fed during the withdrawal (low or medium). Pigs on these treatments were fed the negative control diet containing 30% DDGS and 19% wheat midds (19% NDF) prior to their withdrawal treatment. The medium fiber withdrawal diet contained 15% DDGS and 9.5% midds (14.2% NDF). The low-fiber withdrawal diet was the positive control diet without DDGS or midds (9.3% NDF). Increasing the duration of the withdrawal lowered overall ADFI and improved F/G; however, overall ADG was not affected. Withdrawing the high-fiber diet for the last 23 d did not influence growth performance. Withdrawing the high-fiber diet improved carcass yield with a greater response when the low-NDF diet was fed during the withdrawal instead of the medium NDF diet; however, increasing the withdrawal time from 23 to 47 d did not further improve yield. Jowl fat iodine value (IV) decreased as withdrawal time increased and was lower for pigs fed the low-NDF diet during the withdrawal period than pigs fed the medium-NDF diet during withdrawal, but increasing the withdrawal time from 23 to 47 d further reduced jowl IV. Increasing the duration that the control diet was fed by extending the withdrawal time increased backfat depth and tended to decrease percentage lean.

Bottom Line...The length of the withdrawal time had minor effects on several organ weights, but the large intestine was the most influenced with a response similar to the yield response. Withdrawing the high-fiber diet decreased full large-intestine weight with a greater response when the low-NDF diet was fed during the withdrawal instead of the medium NDF diet; however, increasing the withdrawal time from 23 to 47 d did not further decrease large-intestine weights. Withdrawing pigs from a high-NDF diet containing DDGS and midds before market can improve F/G, carcass yield, and iodine value, and can reduce large intestine weight; however, the optimal length of withdrawal depends on the response criteria targeted. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by M. D. Asmus, J. M. DeRouchey, J. L. Nelssen, M. D. Tokach, S. S. Dritz, R. D. Goodband, and T. A. Houser.)

↳ **Evaluating the Effects of Pelleting, Corn Dried Distillers Grains with Solubles Source, and Supplementing Sodium Metabisulfite in Nursery Pig Diets Contaminated with Deoxynivalenol -**
A total of 360 barrows (PIC 1050, initially 24.7 lb ± 0.3 lb BW and 35 d of age) were used in a 28-d trial examining the effects of pelleting, pelleting dried distillers grains with solubles (DDGS), and supplementing sodium metabisulfite⁴ (SMB) in diets containing deoxynivalenol (DON) on nursery pig performance. Pigs were allotted to 1 of 10 treatments with 7 replications per treatment (pens) and 5 pigs per pen. Naturally contaminated DDGS were used to incorporate DON at desired concentrations. Ingredients were tested for mycotoxins by the North Dakota State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (NDSU; Fargo, ND) and served as the basis for diet formulation. The 5 experimental diets were fed in meal and pellet form: (1) positive control, (2) negative control (NC, 5.3 ppm DON), (3) NC with 0.5% SMB, (4) pelleted and reground DDGS (5.3 ppm DON), and (5) pelleted and reground DDGS with 2.5% SMB (final diet contained 0.5% SMB). Experimental diets were fed from d 0 to 21 with a common diet fed from d 21 to 28 to evaluate performance after DON was removed. Due to the variability of DON assays when levels exceed 8 ppm, final diets were lower in DON than predicted from analysis of the DDGS. As a result, expected reductions in performance due to DON were not as significant as anticipated, and may have affected results. From d 0 to 21, pigs fed diets with high-DON levels had decreased ADG, but the reduction in ADG was only 4%. Pelleting high-DON diets decreased ADFI and improved F/G compared with diets fed in meal form; however, pelleting DDGS prior to manufacturing final diets had no effect on growth performance. Supplementing SMB tended to decrease ADFI, and had no effect on ADG or F/G.

Bottom Line...Our results indicate that pelleting high-DON nursery pig diets can recover some reduction in feed intake by improving F/G. Although pelleting DDGS and supplementing SMB did not improve performance in DON-contaminated diets, further studies are needed to verify these results. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by H. L. Frobose, M. D. Tokach, E. L. Hansen, J. M. DeRouchey, S. S. Dritz, R. D. Goodband, and J. L. Nelssen.)

AS&I Faculty Spotlight



Abbey Nutsch (anutsch@k-state.edu; 785-532-4549)
Assistant Professor/Food Microbiology

Dr. Abbey Nutsch is an Assistant Professor of food safety and security. A food microbiologist by training, she received B.S. (1994) and Ph.D. (1998) degrees in Food Science from Kansas State University. Her area of expertise is the microbiological safety of meat products, with particular emphasis on the application of antimicrobial interventions for both fresh and processed meat products. After spending five years as the Director of Technical Services for a commercial food testing and research laboratory, Dr. Nutsch returned to K-State in 2002 to serve within the Food Science Institute as a coordinator for a multi-institutional carcass disposal working group. In 2004 she joined the Department of Animal Sciences & Industry as an Assistant Professor of food safety and security, a 100% research appointment. Her current roles and responsibilities include working with the K-State Food Safety and Security program (<http://fss.k-state.edu>) to coordinate and facilitate

interdisciplinary initiatives. Originally from WaKeeney, Kansas, she and her husband, Todd, currently live in Wamego, KS with their two young children, Gracyn and Hayden.



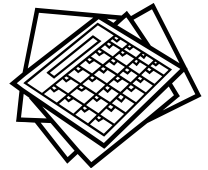
Charles Lee (clee@k-state.edu; 785-532-5734)
Instructor/Extension Specialist, Wildlife Control

Charlie completed a B.S. degree in 1975 at Kansas State University in Wildlife Biology. After several years of business and being involved with the family farm and feedlot he returned to Kansas State where he completed a M.S. degree in 1988 in Animal Science. He is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Animal Science at Kansas State. He previously worked for Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks for 6 years directing private land wildlife management programs and Farm Bill conservation issues. Charlie has been employed by K-State Research and Extension for 13 years, first as an extension assistant and now as Extension Specialist, Wildlife. Responsibilities include conducting a statewide program in wildlife damage control, wildlife enhancement on private lands, youth outdoor environmental programs, and aquaculture. Current areas of interest include prairie dog and cattle interactions, bird damage control at feedlots and rodent damage in conservation tillage systems.

rodent damage in conservation tillage systems.

What Producers Should Be Thinking About.....

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



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

Cowherd Nutrition

- Provide plenty of clean, fresh water.
- Provide free-choice mineral to correct any mineral deficiencies or imbalances.
 - ✓ Monitor intake to insure levels are consistent with label specifications.
- Monitor grazing conditions and rotate pastures if possible and/or practical.
- If ammoniated wheat straw is planned for winter needs, follow these rules:
 - ✓ Best time is immediately after harvest, prior to weather deterioration.
 - ✓ Ammoniation process is temperature sensitive, fastest during hot days.
 - ✓ Apply 3% Anhydrous Ammonia (60 pounds/ton of straw).
 - ✓ Do ***not*** ammoniate wheat hay or any other intermediate or high quality forage; production of imidazole can cause cattle hyperactivity and death.
 - ✓ Will double crude protein content, enhances intake, and be cost effective.
- Consider early weaning if drought conditions develop and persist.
- Consider creep feeding only if cost effective.

Herd Health

- Monitor and treat Pink Eye cases.
- Provide fly control. Consider all options, price and efficiency will dictate the best option(s) to use.
- Monitor and treat foot rot cases.
- Avoid handling and transporting cattle during the hottest part of the day-reduce heat stress.
- Vaccinate replacement heifers for Brucellosis if within proper age range (4 - 10 months).
- Continue anaplasmosis control program (consult local veterinarian).

Forage/Pasture Management

- Check and maintain summer water supplies.
- Place mineral feeders strategically to enhance grazing distribution.
- Check water gaps after possible washouts.
- Harvest hays in a timely manner, think quality and quantity.
- Harvest sudan and sudan hybrids for hay in the boot stage (normally three to four feet in height). It is a good idea to run a routine nitrate test on a field before harvesting hay.
- Plan hay storage placement wisely. Putting hay conveniently near feeding sites reduces labor, time demands, and equipment repair cost.

General Management

- Good fences and good brands make good neighbors.
- Check equipment (sprayers, dust bags, oilers, haying equipment) and repair or replace as needed. Have spare parts on hand, down time 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.*