Register Now - Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Swine Classic

The 2026 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Swine Classic is scheduled for July 10-11 at the Riley County Fairgrounds in CiCo Park in Manhattan. This two-day event includes an educational swine skillathon, photography contest, showmanship, and a prospect and market hog show. It is open to Kansas youth ages 7-18 as of January 1, 2026. Entries must be submitted online by 5 pm on June 22, with payment postmarked the same day. The flyer is available www.asi.ksu.edu/swineclassic. For more information, contact Joel DeRouchey (785-532-2280 or jderouch@ksu.edu) or Lexie Hayes (785-532-1264 or adhayes@ksu.edu).

KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp will be Hosted June 22

The KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp will be hosted on June 22 at the Stanley Stout Center in Manhattan, KS. This is for 4-H and FFA youth with experience in giving reasons or participating in horse judging competitions who are looking to enhance their knowledge and will offer both a beginner and advanced session. The day begins with registration at 7:30 a.m., followed by a seminars from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration is $85 per individual or if you have 4 team members, $75 per person. This fee includes lunch, judging materials and a t-shirt. This camp is filled on a first-come, first serve basis and pre-registration is required. For more information or to register visit asi.k-state.edu/judgingcamps or contact Celsey Crabtree (celseyb@ksu.edu).

K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy

K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy (KASLA) Program will offer one session on June 10-13, 2026. 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 session will focus on increasing knowledge of Kansas' diverse livestock industry, as well as building participants' leadership skills. For questions about the academy, visit http://www.asi.ksu.edu/KASLA or contact Ashley Hartman, Director (arhartma@ksu.edu or 785-532-1272).

HACCP Workshop in September

Implementing Your Company's HACCP Plan will be hosted September 23-25 2026, in Manhattan, KS. This workshop uses curriculum recognized by the International HACCP Alliance for meat and poultry processors. The registration fee is $450 per person and is available online at http://bit.ly/HACCPCourse. For more information, contact Dr. Liz Boyle (lboyle@ksu.edu or 785-532-1247).

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Upcoming Events

June 1-3, 2026
Champions Livestock Judging Camp 1

June 8-10, 2026
Champions Livestock Judging Camp 2

June 10-13, 2026
KASLA

June 22, 2026
KSU Horse Judging Camp

July 10 - 11, 2026
Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Swine Classic

August 22-23, 2026
Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes

September 23-25, 2026
HACCP Workshop - Manhattan, KS

September 24, 2026
Beef Stocker Field Day

Upcoming Events

Kansas State Livestock Nomination Deadlines Approaching

All small livestock and commercial breeding heifer state nominations are due June 15. This includes commercial breeding heifers, market swine, commercial breeding gilts, market lambs, commercial breeding ewes, and ALL meat goats. The deadline to order DNA envelopes for these species is June 5. Late nominations are not accepted. Families are encouraged to plan ahead and order their DNA envelopes early to allow plenty of time for them to be received, collect samples, input their nominations online, and return the signed DNA envelopes to the KSU youth livestock program office. For nominations to be accepted, animals must be submitted online through ShoWorks by June 15, as well as have a corresponding completed and signed DNA hair sample envelopes postmarked by that date. Families also need to mail a copy of their receipt showing the list of all animals and tag numbers entered in the system under each child for their family. Every exhibitor who would like to show at the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and/or KJLS needs their own ShoWorks account. Families must submit animals under each child within the family for all kids to be eligible to show the animal. Otherwise, animals will only be available to be entered under the exhibitor who submitted it online under their name. All youth must also sign the DNA envelope for each animal. Only one completed DNA envelope per animal needs submitted, as long as it includes the signatures of all eligible exhibitors within the family and a parent/guardian.

The 2026 state livestock information is available from the KSU Youth Livestock Program website (https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/). No paper forms will be accepted; all nominations must be submitted online. Several resources are available to guide families in successfully completing their nominations, including the Rookie Guide, specie checklists, and Zoom session recordings. Families must plan ahead. New families who will be nominating for the first time need to request a family name and number before beginning the process. Returning families need to use their originally assigned number. There is a list posted on the website that includes that information. All exhibitors must create a new account this year through the Kansas nomination link.

All exhibitors are also required to upload two documents upon entering their first animal in the system – their new 2026 YQCA certificate and the 2026 family Declaration Form. The system accepts PDF documents, as well as image files. Both forms must be uploaded at the same time and cannot be edited once uploaded. Ear notches are required for swine nominations and full scrapie tag numbers are required for sheep and meat goats. The scrapie tag number must include the Flock ID and individual animal number (example: KSS0035 16121) to be accepted. Resources on reading ear notches and submitting scrapie tag numbers are available on the website.

Families must use the Kansas nomination link to submit animals and order DNA envelopes: https://kansasnom.fairwire.com/. For more information about the state livestock nomination process and the helpful resources, visit the KSU Youth Livestock Program website: https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/youth-programs/nominated-livestock/.

Save the Date - Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes Scheduled for August 22-23

Save the date for the 2026 Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes! It will be hosted August 22-23 in Manhattan. The deadline to register will continue to be August 1. All participants must be entered by their local extension unit.

The contest rules, schedule, and information will be posted on the Livestock Sweepstakes page of the youth livestock website later this spring (by June 1).

Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes is an event that encompasses the Kansas 4-H state livestock judging contest, meat judging contest, livestock skillathon, and quiz bowl in one, action-packed weekend. These state-level contests are the national qualifying events for Kansas 4-H members. Youth may participate in as many or as few contests as they would like over the course of the weekend. Individuals who compete in livestock judging, skillathon, and senior/open meat judging will be eligible for the sweepstakes award. Teams who compete in livestock judging, skillathon, senior/open meat judging, and quiz bowl will be eligible for the sweepstakes team award.

What's New

Management Minute

"Hiring the Right Person"

Justin Waggoner
KSU Extension Beef Cattle Specialist
Garden City, KS

Whether you are a small business with just a few employees or a larger enterprise with several employees, hiring the right person for a position is essential. Making a good hiring decision can inspire others and improve the operations productivity. The unfortunate truth is that the number of qualified applicants for most skilled position isn't large "Good people are truly hard to find". So, what can you as a potential employer do to attract and hire the best person for a position? There are many thoughts on this topic. However, most experts agree that knowing what you are looking for and clearly stating the roles and responsibilities of the position is a great place to start. Applicants want/need to know what the expectations of the position are. Another point of consensus on the topic is to involve others in the hiring process. Allowing the candidates to interact with others in the organization through tours, or an informal dinner, can be great way to know whether a person is a good fit. An informal setting often allows an employer to gather more information about the applicant than the traditional interview questions can allow. People spend a great deal of time at work, thus co-workers, colleagues and the culture of the organization is important to both parties. Additionally, different people have different perspectives on the applicants, and usually there is some degree of consensus. Lastly, be prepared to move quickly with a competitive offer. The best people will usually have multiple opportunities.

Feedlot Facts

"Early Weaning...Some Common Questions"

Justin Waggoner
KSU Extension Beef Cattle Specialist
Garden City, KS

A couple of questions have come up recently regarding early weaning; 1) How early can I wean a calf and 2) What is the expected benefit of early-weaning? Early weaning is not a term that is well defined, but in general refers to weaning a calf at less than 200 days of age (conventional weaning 180-220 days of age). Calves raised in conventional extensive environments have a functional rumen at approximately 45 days of age and are capable of using dry feeds. However, various research suggests that 120-150 days of age is optimal for implementing an early program. In terms of what can be gained by early weaning. Early weaning reduces energy requirements of the cow by 25-30% and daily demand for forage resources. A 450 lb spring-born calf is capable of consuming approximately 7 lbs of forage per day. A dry 1400 lb cow can easily consume 28 lbs of dry forage per day (2% bodyweight). If we divide the 28 lbs of forage needed to maintain the cow by the 7 lbs spared in a pasture by removing the calf, we learn that for every 4 days that a calf is not grazing with the cow we get one grazing day for the cow. If we wean calves approximately 30-60 days early, we gain an additional 1-2 weeks of forage to support the cow. Additionally, research at Kansas State University (Bolte et al, 2007) documented that weaning calves at 100 to 145 days of age increased body condition scores of cows grazing native pastures from an average of 5.46 to 5.85 in 120 days. The change in cow body condition score ranged from 0.25 to 0.50 of a condition score on this study. These results are more impressive if we also consider that forage quality was likely declining and yet these cows were still able to increase body condition. The results of this study demonstrate that the optimum time improve body condition on cows is immediately following weaning as the nutrient requirements of pregnant cows are lowest during this time.

Furthermore, what is the value of improving cow condition in the Fall to the ranch in a tough year or increasing the breed up rates and subsequent retention of younger females in the herd? A lot! Especially when we consider the replacement cost of females at current prices.

For more information, contact Justin Waggoner at jwaggon@ksu.edu

KSU Cow-Calf Checklist - May 2026

"Management Considerations for July 2026"

By Jason M. Warner, Ph.D., Extension Cow-Calf Specialist

Cow Herd Management

- For spring-calving cowherds:
  - Score cows for BCS concurrent with grass growth.
  - 2-4 year old females and thin females will respond most to early-weaning.
  - If you plan to early-wean:
    - Develop your plan for feeding and marketing calves.
    - Prepare weaning/receiving pens and waterers in advance.
    - If feeding early-weaned calves, test your forages and have your ration plan and ingredients in place 2-3 weeks prior to weaning.
  - Schedule early pregnancy checking activities if not already done.
- For late-summer and early-fall calving cowherds:
  - Evaluate cows for BCS and adjust your plan to ensure mature cows are ≥ 5.0 and 2-4 year old females are ≥ 6.0 at calving.
  - The final 60 days prior to calving represents the last opportunity to add BCS economically.
  - Review your calving health protocols as needed.
- Closely manage free-choice salt and mineral programs.
  - Record date and amount of salt and mineral offered and calculate herd consumption on a pasture or group basis.
  - Adjust how you are offering product to cattle if needed to achieve target intake.
  - If consumption is 2X the target intake, then cost will be too!
  - Properly store bags and pallets to avoid damage and product loss.
- Continue to monitor bulls and their activity throughout the breeding season.
  - Monitor BCS, particularly on young bulls.
  - If pulling bulls from cows to manage the length of the breeding season, schedule those dates and have them on the calendar in advance.
  - If bulls are BCS ≤ 5.0 after breeding, consider supplementing to regain BCS going into fall.

Calf Management

- If creep feeding calves, closely monitor intake and calf condition/fleshiness.
- Monitor calves for summer respiratory illness.
- Schedule any pre-weaning vaccination or processing activities.

General Management

- Visit KSUBeef.org (https://www.asi.k-state.edu/extension/beef/) for info and events!
- Evaluate grass growth and adjust your grazing plan as needed.
- Continue efforts to control invasive species in pastures.
- Employ multiple strategies, chemistries for late-season fly/insect control.
- Begin taking inventory of harvested forages for fall feed needs.
- If planning to harvest corn silage, prepare your pile/bunker site and equipment.
- Use the Management Minder tool on KSUBeef.org to plan key management activities for your cowherd for the rest of the year https://cowweb.exnet.iastate.edu/CowWeb/faces/Index.jsp.
- With high feeder calf prices, consider price risk management tools.
- Visit with your local FSA and extension office if you plan to utilize CRP acres for emergency forage use or other assistance programs.

What's New for Swine Producers

Effects of Increasing Dietary Level of ValoproWin in Low ABC-4 Diets on Nursery Pig Performance and Fecal Dry Matter- A total of 360 pigs (initially 13.9 ± 0.58 lb) were used to evaluate the effect of increasing ValoproWin (VLPW) in low acid-binding capacity-4 (ABC-4) diets on nursery performance and fecal dry matter (DM). ValoproWin is a fiber ingredient that contains a purified source of coarse indigestible fiber, oat hulls, and yeast autolysate. At weaning, pigs were randomly assigned within six body weight (BW) blocks to one of the six dietary treatments in a generalized randomized block design. There were five pigs per pen and 12 pens per treatment. Experimental diets were fed for 24 d, and then pigs were fed a common diet for 18 d. The control treatment was a low ABC-4 diet formulated to 200 and 250 meq/kg from d 0 to 10 (phase 1) and d 10 to 24 (phase 2), respectively. ValoproWin was added to the control diet at 1.75, 2.50, 3.75, and 5.00% without making any nutritional adjustments. A positive control, high ABC-4 treatment with pharmacological levels of Zn (3,000 and 2,000 ppm of Zn from ZnO in phases 1 and 2, respectively) was used, yielding ABC-4 values of 487 and 470 meq/kg in phases 1 and 2, respectively. As VLPW increased, BW on d 10 (linear, $P = 0.033$) and 24 (quadratic, $P = 0.049$) decreased, with a marginal reduction (quadratic, $P = 0.082$) in d 42 BW. For the experimental period (d 0 to 24), ADG decreased (quadratic, P = 0.029) as VLPW increased. No response ($P > 0.10$) to VLPW was observed for ADFI. As a result, feed efficiency worsened (quadratic, $P = 0.006$) as VLPW increased. The formulation strategy (low vs. high ABC-4 diets) did not affect ($P > 0.10$) BW or ADG. However, low ABC-4 diets reduced ($P = 0.028$) ADFI and improved ($P = 0.012$) feed efficiency during the experimental period. Overall, increasing VLPW tended to decrease (quadratic, $P = 0.067$) ADG with the lowest ADG at 2.50% VLPW, with performance returning to control levels at 5%. No responses ($P > 0.10$) were observed for ADFI, with feed efficiency responding (quadratic, $P = 0.098$) similarly to ADG. No differences ($P > 0.10$) between low and high ABC-4 diets were observed for any performance criteria. On d 10 and 24, fecal DM increased (linear, $P < 0.005$) with increasing VLPW. Pigs fed low ABC-4 diets had improved ($P = 0.039$) fecal DM on d 10; however, no differences were observed on d 24. The amount of manure observed on the body on d 9 decreased (linear, $P = 0.011$) as VLPW increased; however, no responses ($P > 0.10$) were observed on d 24. A marginal interaction ($P = 0.058$) was observed between sampling day and formulation strategy, where on both days, pigs fed high ABC-4 diets were cleaner; however, on d 24, the differences between both formation strategies were greater than d 9. In conclusion, increasing VLPW linearly increased fecal DM on d 10 and 24, and pig cleanliness on d 9, with overall ADG and feed efficiency responding in a quadratic manner. Low ABC-4 diets improved d 10 fecal DM and feed efficiency during the experimental period; however, no differences were observed for overall performance and d 24 fecal DM. High ABC-4 diets reduced the amount of visible manure observed on the body on d 9 and 23. More information is available on this experiment and others at KSUSwine.org. *(This study conducted by Julian Arroyave, Mike D. Tokach, Jason C. Woodworth, Joel M. DeRouchey, Robert D. Goodband, Katelyn N. Gaffield, Jordan T. Gebhardt, David Guillou, Noëmie Lemoine, and Jim Bryte).*

Evaluation of Sanitation Procedures in Swine Nursery Facilities Utilizing ATP Bioluminescence- Following an *in vivo* animal challenge experiment, 44 pens, which had previously individually housed pigs inoculated with Enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli* F18 (ETEC), were assigned to one of four sanitation treatment protocols. Pens were assigned to treatment in a randomized complete block design over three separate days of cleaning and disinfection. There were 11 replicates per treatment, and the pen served as the experimental unit. Within each pen, five sampling locations included the feeder lip, exterior of the stainless-steel feeder, center of the metal flooring, flooring in the corner of the pen, and a solid plastic pen divider on the corner wall. Treatments included: 1) hot water (HW, 138.6°F) pressure washing followed by Synergize (1:256), 2) cold water (CW, 73.8°F) pressure washing followed by Synergize, 3) HW pressure washing followed by Virkon S (1:128), 4) pre-treatment of BarnStorm (1:64) then HW followed by Synergize. Synergize, Virkon S, and BarnStorm applications all had ≥ 10 min contact time. Adenosine triphosphate (ATP) bioluminescence sampling was taken before and after sanitation treatment at each sampling location within the pen (UltraSnap surface ATP test and Luminometer, Hygenia, Camarillo, CA). No significant sanitation treatment × sampling location interactions were observed. Pens treated with HW followed by Virkon S showed a reduction ($P < 0.001$) in ATP compared to other sanitation treatments. Differences in residual surface ATP were observed between sampling locations ($P < 0.001$), with the highest residual levels post-sanitation detected on the feeder lip and the lowest on the solid plastic pen divider on the corner wall. These results suggest that pressure washing with HW followed by disinfection with Virkon S was the most effective protocol of those evaluated for reducing surface ATP in swine housing facilities contaminated with ETEC. The feeder lip is the most difficult area to sanitize, highlighting that differences in accessibility and surface type affect cleaning efficacy. More information is available on this experiment and others at KSUSwine.org. *(This study conducted by Emily Evans, Jordan T. Gebhardt, Mike D. Tokach, Robert D. Goodband, Joel M. DeRouchey, Jason C. Woodworth, Katelyn N. Gaffield, Harith Salih, Taghreed Mahmood, Raghavendra G. Amachawadi, and Sara Virdis).*

What's New for Cattle Producers

Evaluation of Synovex One Grower Implantation on Pre-weaning Performance of Suckling Beef Steers - To evaluate the administration of Synovex One Grower (Zoetis,Parsippany, NJ) implants to suckling beef steer calves at approximately 50 days of age on pre-weaning growth performance.

Study Description: Over three years, 306 spring-born suckling steer calves were randomly assigned to one of two treatments: 1) non-implanted control (CON) or 2) implanted with Synovex One Grower (IMP). Implants were administered at 49 ± 18 days of age and 194.0 ± 50.7 lb of body weight. Calves grazed on native mixed grass pastures with their dams until weaning at approximately 135 days of age. Calf average daily gain and total weight gain were determined.

The Bottom Line: Administering Synovex One Grower implants to suckling beef steer calves at approximately 50 days of age improves pre-weaning performance during the early phase of hormone release. More information is available on this study and others like it at KSUBeef.org. (*This study conducted by Jonathan Jacquez, John R. Jaeger, Payton L. Dahmer, Keith R. Harmoney, Larry R. Corah, and Jason M. Warner).*

Evaluating the Relationship Between Anogenital Distance, Reproductive Tract Score, and Fertility to Timed-artificial Insemination in Commercial Bos taurus Beef Heifers- This study was to evaluate the relationship between anogenital distance (AGD) and reproductive tract score (RTS) to fertility in commercial beef heifers enrolled in a timed-artificial insemination (TAI) protocol.

Study Description: Replacement heifers (n = 888) from eight locations in Kansas and Tennessee were enrolled in TAI synchronization protocols. Heifers were assigned an RTS and measured for their AGD. Heifers were tested by transrectal ultrasound to determine pregnancy to the TAI, and an analysis of pregnancy based on RTS and AGD was done.

The Bottom Line: The RTS was a better predictor of pregnancy in virgin beef heifers than AGD. However, when both assessments were combined, there was greater prediction power for pregnancy to TAI. More information is available on this study and others like it at KSUBeef.org. (*This study conducted by Allen G. Schwartz, Danielle M. Ellinghuysen, Samuel H. Flax, Saulo M. Zoca, Sandy K. Johnson, and Nicholas W. Dias).*

The Effects of Feeding Strategies on Performance and Liver Abscess Prevalence on Growing Beef × Dairy Steers- The objectives of this study were to evaluate the effects of diet, intake and use of tylosin phosphate on growth performance and liver abscess prevalence on growing beef × dairy steers.

Study Description: A total of 529 beef × dairy crossbred steers were used in a 126-day backgrounding study. Pens were randomly assigned to one of five treatments: a 50 net energy for gain (NEg) diet targeting 2 lb of gain/day (50-2 lb), 60 NEg diet targeting 2 or 3 lb of gain/day (60-2 lb and 60-3 lb, respectively), or a 64 NEg diet fed for ad libitum intake with or without tylosin phosphate (64-ALT and 64-ALNT, respectively; Tylovet 100, Huvepharma, Peachtree City, GA). Steers had an ultrasound on days 0 and 126 to determine liver abscess prevalence.

The Bottom Line: Feeding a 60 NEg diet targeting 3 lb of gain/day reduced LA prevalence without sacrificing efficiency when compared with a high energy ad libitum diet. Additionally, inclusion of tylosin phosphate did not reduce liver abscess prevalence in steers fed 64 NEg diets. More information is available on this study and others like it at KSUBeef.org. (*This study conducted by W. Cole Ellis, Zachary M. Duncan, Colton D. Weir, Macie C. Weigand, Sean P. Montgomery, Justin W. Waggoner, A. J. Tarpoff, William R. Hollenbeck, Evan C. Titgemeyer, and Dale A. Blasi).*

The Cold Chain Question: Effects of Fresh, Frozen, and Thawed Beef Trim on Ground Beef Color and Consumer Perception- The objective of this study was to evaluate the effect of varying cold chain management strategies on beef trim and the resulting effects on quality characteristics of ground beef patties.

Study Description: Beef trim of varying lean percentages (50%, 80%, and 90%) and cold chain strategies (fresh, thawed, and frozen) were ground and combined to create 10 unique treatments of 80% lean ground beef. These treatments were formed into 1/3 lb patties and subjected to 0 + 5 days of simulated retail display. On each day of display, objective color measurements were taken. On day 0 + 3 of retail display, consumer evaluations were conducted as well as Thiobarbituric Acid Reactive Substances (TBARS) assays to measure lipid oxidation.

The Bottom Line: Results from this study suggest grinding trim from a frozen state has a detrimental effect on ground beef color, oxidation, and the resulting consumer perception. More information is available on this study and others like it at KSUBeef.org. (*This study conducted by Samuel F. Stickley, Greta E. Huber, Taylor M. Dieball, Chesney A. Effling, Mason J. Prester, Lauren M. Frink, Stephanie L. Witberler, Katelynn E. Wallace, Morgan D. Zumbaugh, Jessie L. Vipham, Travis G. O'Quinn, and Erin S. Beyer).*

ASI Faculty Highlight

Cassie Jones (jonesc@ksu.edu or 785-532-5289)
Professor / ASI Teaching Coordinator

Dr. Cassie Jones is a Professor and Teaching Coordinator in the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry at Kansas State University, where she helps lead undergraduate teaching, curriculum coordination, and student success initiatives for one of the nation's largest animal science programs. Her teaching and engagement efforts focus on preparing students for leadership in animal agriculture through applied learning, systems thinking, and industry engagement. Dr. Jones' professional interests include workforce development, comparative nutrition, feed safety, and strengthening connections between higher education, industry, and rural communities. She also serves as a Kansas State University Presidential Engagement Fellow. Dr. Jones earned B.S. and M.S. degrees in Animal Science from Kansas State University and a Ph.D. in Nutritional Sciences from Iowa State University. Cassie and her husband, Spencer, have 3 children and raise cattle in Wabaunsee County.

Mike Brouk (mbrouk@ksu.edu or 785-532-1207)
Professor / Extension Specialist

Micheal J. Brouk was born November 15, 1962, in Franklin County, Missouri. He attended Linn R-2 Schools graduating in May 1981. Following high school graduation, he attended the University of Missouri-Columbia majoring in agronomy and dairy science and received the Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture in May 1985. From 1976 to 1984, he was also an active partner in the family grain farm located in Osage County, Missouri. The University of Missouri-Columbia employed Mike as a Research Specialist for two years after he completed his undergraduate program. The research projects involved the utilization of dairy processing plant waste as a fertilizer for forage crops and as a protein and mineral supplement for livestock. He then began a Master of Science degree program under Dr. Ron Belyea at the University of Missouri-Columbia. The title of his thesis was "Chewing Behavior and Digestion of Alfalfa Forage." Following completion of his M.S. degree, Mike accepted a position with Cenex/Land O'Lakes in southwestern Minnesota. He worked as a Livestock Production Specialist developing nutrition and management programs for dairy and beef producers. After two years with LOL, he entered a doctoral program under the direction of Dr. David Schingoethe at South Dakota State University. His dissertation topic was "Net Energy of Lactation and Ruminal Degradability of Wet Corn Distillers Grains." Following completion of the Ph.D. in Animal Sciences he joined the teaching and research staff of South Dakota State University in January 1994. Mike was responsible for teaching undergraduate dairy management, nutrition, breeding and cattle evaluation courses as well as developing a dairy cattle nutrition research project.

Mike returned to the University of Missouri-Columbia in August of 1996 as an Extension Specialist with Commercial Agriculture Program. He was responsible for developing state wide extension programs in the areas of dairy cattle nutrition, forage systems, replacement heifer development and dairy cattle management. He joined the faculty of Kansas State University in December of 1998 as a State Dairy Extension Specialist where he holds a 30% teaching and 70% extension appointment. His current responsibilities include development of programs in dairy cattle nutrition, management, cow comfort, replacement heifer development, dairy expansion and heat stress abatement. He is currently involved in several research projects evaluating various heat stress abatement methods in commercial dairy herds.

We need your input! If you have any suggestions or comments on
News from KSU Animal Sciences,
please let us know by email to katiesmith@ksu.edu