



News from KSU Animal Sciences

April, 2017

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UPCOMING EVENTS...

- The **103rd annual Hays Roundup** will be Thursday, April 20, 2017. The Roundup will be held in the Auditorium at the KSU Agricultural Research Center – Hays. Registration for KSU-ARCH Roundup is free at the door beginning at 9:00 a.m. The Trade Show and educational exhibits will open at 9:00 a.m., with the program beginning at 10:00 a.m. A complete schedule is available on www.KSUBeef.org. Morning refreshments and lunch are included with registration. If you have any questions, please contact John Jaeger (jrjaeger@ksu.edu; 785-625-3425 x211).
- **State Market Beef Nominations - Due May 1** - The 2017 state livestock nomination season has started! All market beef nominations are due May 1, 2017. This includes market steers and market heifers. The deadline is a postmark deadline, but families are encouraged to submit their nominations as early as possible. Nomination information may be found on the KSU youth livestock program website (www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu). In order to make sure nominations are complete upon initial submission, double check that all fields of the declaration and nomination forms are complete and signed by all of the appropriate individuals, include a DNA sample for each animal nominated, cross-reference the tag numbers between the DNA envelopes and forms, and include payment payable to the appropriate entity. The checklist attached to the updated 2017 forms, which is also posted separately on the website and includes all species, is a valuable tool to guide families in submitting complete nominations.
- **2017 Livestock Nomination Materials** - The updated 2017 state livestock nomination materials have been released. Information, updates, and forms may be found on the youth livestock website (www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu) under “Nominated Livestock”. This information was also emailed directly to counties and extension units via the KSRE listserv in March. **All state livestock nominations MUST be submitted using the updated 2017 forms in order to be accepted.** There are a handful of changes and updates to the process for 2017, including form-fillable PDF forms and clarifying the sheep and goat scrapie tag number requirement. Families should submit the full scrapie tag number, including Flock/Premise ID and individual animal number for sheep and goats. Also, swine nominations will continue to require ear notch submission, including the number and drawing the notches on the diagram provided on the form. All species will continue requiring DNA as part of the nomination process. The “Rookie Guide” has been updated to include example completed forms. First-time nominating families are encouraged to use this resource to understand the process and make it go as smoothly as possible. Market Beef nominations must be postmarked by May 1, 2017 to be accepted. All other specie nominations will be due on June 15, 2017. If you have questions about eID tags, please contact Dave Kehler at dkehler@ksu.edu. Official DNA envelopes may be ordered through the KSRE bookstore. If you have questions about youth livestock nominations, please contact Lexie Hayes at adhayes@ksu.edu or 785-532-1264.



- ↪ **Youth Spring Livestock Shows** - Counties that have spring show opportunities for Kansas youth are invited to share that information with the youth livestock program by emailing Lexie Hayes at adhayes@ksu.edu.
- ↪ **Developing and Implementing a HACCP Plan for Meat and Poultry Workshop will be held June 6-8, 2017**, in Weber Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS. This 3-day workshop uses curriculum recognized by the International HACCP Alliance for meat and poultry processors and is led by an International HACCP Alliance Lead Instructor. The workshop fee is \$450 per person, and participants will be presented with a certificate with an International HACCP Alliance seal upon completion of the course. Registration is limited to 25 participants. For more information, contact Dr. Liz Boyle (lboyle@ksu.edu; 785-532-1247). Registration is online at <http://haccp.unl.edu>.
- ↪ The **KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Beginners Section** will be held June 6, 2017 and the **KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Advanced Section** will be held June 7-8, 2017. Both camps will be held in Weber Arena on the KSU Campus. Registration for both camps must be paid by May 12, 2017. Camp will be limited to the first 30 participants. For more information, camp agenda and registration forms, visit the website <http://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/judging-camps.html>. You can also contact James Lattimer, (785-532-2840; jlattimer@ksu.edu) or Katie Jordan at (katiejordan@ksu.edu).
- ↪ **K-State Livestock Judging Camps scheduled** – The camp is 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. [Chris Mullinix](#), coach of more than 30 national contest winning teams and KSU Livestock Judging Team Coach, 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 2017 camps will be held: June 7-9 (Wednesday-Friday); June 12-14 (Monday-Wednesday); or June 16-18 (Friday-Sunday).
For a complete schedule and registration information, visit <http://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/judging-camps.html>. The registration deadline is May 22. For more information, contact Chris Mullinix (785-532-1917; cmullinix@k-state.edu).
- ↪ **K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy** - Kansas State University will host the K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy June 14-17, 2017, for young livestock industry leaders. This four-day event will focus on increasing young leaders' knowledge of Kansas' diverse livestock industry as well as building participant's leadership skills. Students will stay in university housing with event staff for the duration of the event. Twenty high school students (current 9th-12th graders) have been selected to participate. For more information, please contact academy director, Sharon Breiner at sbreiner@ksu.edu.
- ↪ **KASLA Premier Program** - We are excited to offer K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy Alumni a new program to continue their education and personal growth this summer. We will be hosting the first KASLA Premier Program that will offer past participants an additional opportunity for exclusive tours and leadership content.
The first K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy Premier Program is scheduled for July 12-14, 2017. Students who have successfully completed the KASLA program and who are 20 years old and younger at the time of the event, are encouraged to apply. This exciting new program will allow students the opportunity to continue building their personal leadership development and expand their industry knowledge.
KASLA Premier will kickoff in Greensburg, Kansas, at the Kiowa County Extension office. Attendees will then travel as a group to operations and organizations essential to livestock production in southwest Kansas. Students will travel by bus accompanied by KASLA staff for the duration of the three-day event with lodging throughout the area. Potential applicants should note that there will likely be considerable bus travel time involved in this opportunity. Please also note that due to the location of these tours, species variety may be limited and not all species will be represented.
Applications must be postmarked by May 15. Please contact Sharon Breiner, program director, at sbreiner@ksu.edu with questions.

- ↪ The **2017 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Swine Classic** is scheduled for July 7-8, 2017, 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, 2017. This year's Classic will feature a swine photography contest along with a swine skillathon. 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. Entries must be postmarked by June 25, 2017. More information and registration will be coming soon to www.KSUswine.org. For more information, contact Joel DeRouchey (785-532-2280; jderouch@ksu.edu) or Lexie Hayes (785-532-1264; adhayes@ksu.edu).
- ↪ **Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes August 19-20!** - The 2017 Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes will be held August 19-20, 2017, in Weber Hall on the K-State campus. Livestock Sweepstakes is an event that includes the state 4-H livestock judging contest, meat judging contest, livestock skillathon, and livestock quiz bowl over the course of a weekend. This is a great opportunity for 4-H member to display their knowledge of the livestock industry in a variety of ways. The young people who will be representing Kansas 4-H at each of the four national 4-H livestock contests will also be selected during this weekend, through the state contests. Rules and registration information will be distributed to agents and posted to the K-State Youth Livestock Program website (<http://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/4-h-livestock-sweepstakes.html>) by early summer. Please make sure to share this information with any 4-H members, coaches, or project leaders who may be interested. Members are highly encouraged to ask any questions about eligibility prior to the registration deadline. The deadline to register will be August 1, 2017. All 4-H'ers must go through their local Extension Office to register.
- ↪ The 2017 **Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Conference** will be held August 29-30, 2017, at the Hilton Garden Inn and Conference Center, Manhattan. The workshop is designed to improve your knowledge of physiological processes; management decisions that impact reproductive success; and the application of reproductive technologies. Program details will be available soon at www.AppliedReproStrategies.com or contact Sandy Johnson (sandy@ksu.edu; 785-462-6281).
- ↪ Join us for the 3rd annual **AS&I Family and Friends Reunion to be held on Friday, October 13, 2017**, from 6:00 – 9:30 p.m. at the Stanley Stout Center, 2200 Denison Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas. Last year's event was truly amazing with more than 1,000 family and friends reuniting at the event. This year the Don L. Good Impact Award will be presented to Sharon Schwartz. Other activities will include great food, live music, Junior Wildcat Barn Yard and more surprises!! Watch for more information and a registration form, coming soon to www.asi.ksu.edu/familyandfriendsreunion.html.

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS		
Date	Event	Location
April 20, 2017	Hays Roundup	Hays, KS
May 1, 2017	State Market Beef Nominations due	
June 6-8, 2017	HACCP Workshop	Manhattan
June 6, 2017	KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Beginners Section	Manhattan
June 7-8, 2017	KSU Youth Horse Judging Camp – Advanced Section	Manhattan
June 7-9, 2017	K-State Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
June 12-14, 2017	K-State Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
June 14-17, 2017	AS&I Leadership Academy	Manhattan
June 15, 2017	State Livestock Nominations Due (Swine, Sheep, Goats, and Commercial Heifers)	
June 16-18, 2017	K-State Livestock Judging Camp	Manhattan
July 7-8, 2017	Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Swine Classic	Manhattan
July 12-14, 2017	KASLA Premier Program	
August 19-20, 2017	Kansas Livestock Sweepstakes	Manhattan
August 29-30, 2017	Applied Reproductive Strategies in Beef Cattle Conference	Manhattan
October 13, 2017	AS&I Family and Friends Reunion	Manhattan

WHAT'S NEW.....

Management Minute
“What’s the Culture of Your Organization – Is it Always Safety First?”

↙ **Management Minute** – Justin Waggoner, Ph.D., Beef Systems Specialist

“What’s the Culture of Your Organization – Is it Always Safety First?”

The data tells us that agriculture is a high risk industry, where “near misses,” accidents and even fatalities unfortunately occur. What is the culture of your organization or business? Is employee safety at the forefront? I certainly hope so. However if it is not, how do we change that and create a culture of safety? Some say that the safety culture within an organization starts with the organization’s leaders and trickles down. Other sources indicate that training has to be a continual and ongoing process to create an organizational culture of safety. These are both correct. However with safety, it is very easy to find examples of “here is how we do it when the boss isn’t looking” and examples of great people who had the proper training and still made a bad decision. In both of these situations, the formal leaders of the organization were engaged in the process and the employees had the proper training, so how can we make progress? Leadership is an essential component of creating a safety culture, but the formal leaders within the organization are not the leaders who are likely the greatest influencers. Safety is an everyday, in the minute issue on most operations. Thus, the informal leaders within the organization or business are those that can have the greatest impact in creating a culture of safety. Leading by example, in those in the minute situations, is critical. Who are the informal leaders in your organization? Do they exemplify the core values of your safety culture? Identifying and engaging informal leaders is an essential and powerful component of initiating any change within an organization.

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

Feedlot Facts
“Receiving Protocols”

↙ **Feedlot Facts** – Justin Waggoner, Ph.D., Beef Systems Specialist

“Receiving Protocols”

Receiving cattle management and the process of adapting cattle to grain-based finishing diets are important components of managing feedlot cattle that can ultimately impact cattle performance for the remainder of the finishing period. What does a typical industry receiving protocol look like and how does the feeding industry transition cattle to a finishing diet? A recent survey of consulting nutritionists conducted by Samuelson et al., (2016), which summarized responses from 24 consulting nutritionists (servicing more than 14,000,000 head annually) reported that that 66% of the feed yards they service allow cattle to rest 12 to 24 hours prior to initial processing, and nearly 30% allow cattle to rest more than 24 hours. The majority of the consulting nutritionists (64%) suggested that cattle should be provided access to hay for 4 days after arrival. Approximately 56% of the nutritionists surveyed used multiple step -up diets with an average forage concentration of 40.7% roughage. On average, four transition diets were used with diets being fed for six days before moving to the next diet. Thus cattle on average are transitioned to the finishing diet within 24 days of feeding the first step-up diet. Alternatively, approximately 40% of the nutritionists utilize a two-ration blending program to adapt cattle (effectively a starter and finisher diet). Those that used a two-ration program recommended 38% roughage in the starter ration and cattle adapted to the finishing diet within approximately 27 days.

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

↪ **Prevalence of Horns in a Pen Does Not Affect Incidence of Carcass Bruising in Feedlot Cattle** – The objective was to evaluate the effect of horn prevalence within groups of slaughter animals and the incidence of bruising on the carcasses of those same cattle. Carcasses from beef cattle (n = 4,287; 27 lots) originating from 13 different feedlots in Texas and Kansas were observed at a commercial abattoir in southwest Kansas. The population included steers, heifers, and a combination of Holstein and beef breeds. Observations were made over three separate days and data collections took place during February, March and December of 2014. All cattle were evaluated for presence or absence of horns, and horns were measured for length and diameter. Measurements included the length of the longest horn from base to tip and the tip-to-tip distance between the tips of both horns. Prevalence of horns was determined by dividing the total number of horned cattle within each lot by the total number of all cattle in the same lot. Carcasses were subsequently evaluated for presence and location of bruising after the hides had been completely removed. Bruise location and severity were scored on each carcass. Prevalence of bruising within a lot was determined by dividing the number of cattle in a lot with bruises by the total number of cattle in the lot. Lot number, horns (yes or no), and harvest date data were evaluated as categorical responses using the GLIMMIX procedure of SAS and a binomial distribution was assumed. A simple linear regression using the PROC REG procedure of SAS was used to evaluate the prevalence of bruises versus the prevalence of horns.

Bottom Line... The current study did not find a relationship between the prevalence of horned cattle within a lot and subsequent prevalence of carcass bruising within those same lots. The most prevalent location of bruises within these data were along the top of the animals' backs indicating other likely sources of bruising. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday. For more information contact, Dan Thomson (785-532-4254; dthomson@ksu.edu) or Bob Weaber (785-532-1460; bweaber@ksu.edu).

↪ **Feeding a Novel Trace Mineral at Lower Levels to Grazing Stocker Cattle Does Not Impair Performance** – The purpose of this grazing study was to evaluate the effects of feeding zinc, copper and manganese from either a sulfur or hydroxy mineral source. Heifers (n = 276; initial body weight 645 lb) were sorted by body weight and randomly assigned to one of two pasture treatments in a 90-day grazing study that was initiated in May of 2015. The SULFATE and HYDROXY treatments consisted of a free-choice mineral supplement that contained the trace minerals zinc, copper and manganese from sulfate or hydroxy (IntelliBond®) sources. The hydroxy minerals were fed at a 40% reduced level. Calves were weighed at the beginning and end of the study, and mineral intake and daily gain were determined for each paddock of calves. There were no significant differences in average daily gain or mineral intake during the 90-day grazing trial. Heifer daily gains based on previous years' research results were sub-par, which was likely the result of the degree of fleshiness created during the receiving phase and initial body size when introduced to pasture.

Bottom Line... Heifers provided the hydroxy free-choice mineral supplement with the trace minerals zinc, copper and manganese formulated to 40% of the sulfate supplement performed similarly to the sulfate-based mineral supplement. For more information contact, Dale Blasi (785-532-5427; dblasi@ksu.edu).

↪ **Control of Sericea Lespedeza with Growing Season Prescribed Burning Gets Stronger Over Time** - The objective was to monitor the effects of three consecutive years of growing-season prescribed burning on vigor of the noxious weed sericea lespedeza (*Lespedeza cuneata*) in the Kansas Flint Hills. Nine fire-management units (12 ± 6 acres) were burned at one of three prescribed-burning times: early spring (control; April 1), mid-summer (August 1), or late summer (September 1).

Bottom Line... Compared to traditional spring burning, burning during the summer months for three consecutive years resulted in major decreases in sericea lespedeza canopy frequency, plant weight, and seed production. Growing-season prescribed burning is an inexpensive and comprehensive means to control sericea lespedeza infestations. View the complete research report at www.asi.ksu.edu/cattlemensday. For more information contact, KC Olson (785-532-1254; kcolson@ksu.edu) or Bob Weaber (785-532-1460; bweaber@ksu.edu).

↪ **Effects of Increasing Dietary Standardized Ileal Digestible Lysine on 15 to 24 lb Nursery Pigs** - A total of 300 nursery pigs (PIC 327 × 1050, initially 14.8 lb BW) were used in a 28-d growth trial to evaluate the effects of increasing dietary standardized ileal digestible (SID) lysine (Lys) on nursery pig growth performance. Pigs were weaned at approximately 21 d of age and allotted to the pens according to BW and gender. A common starter diet was fed for 6 d, then pens were allotted to 1 of 6 dietary treatments in a completely randomized design. Experimental diets were fed for 14 d followed by a common diet for 14 d. The six dietary treatments were formulated to contain 1.10, 1.20, 1.30, 1.40, 1.50, and 1.60% SID Lys.

Increasing SID Lys resulted in improved ADG and F/G during d 0 to 14 when experimental diets were fed, with no differences observed in ADFI. For ADG, broken line linear (BLL) and quadratic polynomial (QP) models demonstrated similar fits, with maximum ADG at 1.45% and above 1.60% for BLL and QP models, respectively. Similar estimates were found when modeling feed efficiency.

Bottom Line... In conclusion, this experiment determined that the SID Lys requirement for 15 to 24 lb nursery pigs was at least 1.45% SID Lys for both ADG and feed efficiency. More information is available on this experiment at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by A.B. Clark, M.D. Tokach, J.M. DeRouchey, S.S. Dritz, R.D. Goodband, J.C. Woodworth, and K.J. Touchette.)

↪ **Effects of Increasing Salt Concentration for 15 to 22 lb Nursery Pigs** - A total of 325 maternal line barrows (Line 200 × 400; DNA, Columbus, NE; initially 14.6 lb BW) were used in a 14-day growth trial to determine the optimal inclusion rate of dietary salt for growth performance of nursery pigs weighing approximately 15 to 22 lb. Upon entry of the nursery, pigs were allotted by BW and fed a common starter diet (6 lb/ton added salt and 25% dried whey) for 7 days after weaning. At day 7 after weaning, considered d 0 in the trial, pigs were allotted by pen weight and assigned to one of five dietary treatments. Treatments included a diet containing 10% dried whey with no added salt, or 4, 8, 12, and 16 lb/ton of added salt. A common Phase 3 diet, containing 7 lb/ton added salt, was then fed from d 14 to d 21. From d 0 to 14, increasing salt increased ADG and ADFI. Feed efficiency improved as added salt increased from 0 to 12 lb with no further benefits observed thereafter. From day 14 to 21, when pigs were fed a common Phase 3 diet (7 lb/ton added salt), those previously fed no added salt had 20% greater ADG than those previously fed 4 to 16 lb added salt. The compensatory ADG observed from d 14 to 21 resulted in no overall differences in ADG, ADFI, or F/G from d 0 to 21.

Bottom Line... In conclusion, it appears that 12 lb/ton of added salt in a diet containing 10% dried whey optimizes ADG, ADFI, and F/G in 15 to 22 lb nursery pigs. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by D.J. Shawk, J.M. DeRouchey, M.D. Tokach, R.D. Goodband, S.S. Dritz, J.C. Woodworth, H.E. Williams, and A.B. Clark.)

↪ **Evaluation of Added Sodium and Chloride for 15 to 24 lb Nursery Pigs** - A total of 360 pigs (Line 241 × 600; DNA, Columbus, NE) were used in a 14-day growth trial to determine if the response to added dietary salt in nursery pigs (15 to 24 lb) was due to either the Na or Cl concentration in the diet. Upon entry to the nursery, pigs were allotted by BW and fed a common starter diet (0.33% Na and 0.76% Cl) for 7 day after weaning. On day 7 after weaning, considered day 0 in the trial, pens were assigned to one of four dietary treatments that were fed from day 0 to 14. The four experimental treatments included a 10% dried whey diet with 12 lb/ton added salt (0.37% Na and 0.75% Cl); or three diets with dried whey replaced by 7.2% lactose containing either: 7 lb/ton added salt (0.18% Na and 0.47% Cl); 15.5 lb/ton added salt (0.35% Na and 0.72% Cl); or 23 lb/ton sodium bicarbonate and 8 lb/ton potassium chloride (0.35% Na and 0.45% Cl), respectively. From day 0 to 14, pigs fed the 10% dried whey diet with 12 lb/ton added salt or the diet with lactose and 15.5 lb/ton added salt had improved ADG compared to pigs fed the lactose diet with 7 lb/ton added salt, with pigs fed the lactose diet with 23 lb/ton sodium bicarbonate and 8 lb/ton potassium chloride intermediate. Pigs fed the 10% dried whey diet with 12 lb/ton added salt had greater ADFI than those fed the lactose diet with 7 lb/ton added salt, with pigs fed the lactose diet with 15.5 lb/ton added salt and the lactose diet with 23 lb/ton sodium bicarbonate and 8 lb/ton potassium chloride intermediate. However, F/G tended to be poorest for pigs fed 10% dried whey compared with pigs fed 7.2% lactose and 15.5 lb/ton added salt, with others intermediate.

Bottom Line... In conclusion, diets should be formulated with enough added salt in order to meet NRC (2012) recommendation of dietary Na concentration of 0.35%, which is higher in Na than many nursery diets for 15 to 25 lb pigs. More information is available on this experiment and others in the KSU Swine Day Report at www.KSUswine.org. (This study conducted by D.J. Shawk, M.M. Moniz, A.B. Clark, R.D. Goodband, J.C. Woodworth, M.D. Tokach, S.S. Dritz, and J.M. DeRouchey.)

AS&I Faculty Spotlight



Casey Winn (ccwinn@k-state.edu; 785-532-5044)
Instructor/Rodeo Coach

Casey was raised in Nephi, Utah. He grew up working on the family horse and cattle ranch. He also worked on a local dairy farm. Upon graduation from Utah State University in 1993, he began a teaching and coaching career in Lake Los Angeles, California, then to Duchesne County Utah, and eventually to his hometown at Juab High School.

In high school Casey was actively involved in 4-H, FFA, wrestling, and rodeo. He was the 1981 Juab County Beef Carcass Contest winner, 1982 Utah state 4-H champion horseman, 1984 state champion FFA individual soil judge, on the 1985 region champion wrestling team, and a 1985 NHSRA national finals qualifier in the bullriding. He also served on the 4-H youth council, FFA officer team, and in leadership positions with his church youth group.

At Utah State University, Casey was a member of the rodeo team, twice earning a year-end 3rd place position in the bullriding and finishing among the top 10 team ropers. Casey also competed in open and professional events, earning reserve champion in the RMRA bullriding in 1988.

Casey coached wrestling for 20 years. He led Duchesne High School to a 5th place in the 2A classification in 1999. Then at Juab Jr. High they won 5 region team titles, finished 2nd twice in the 2A classification, and were 3rd at state in 3A. Also, on those teams were numerous individual region and state champions.

Casey along with his wife, Wendy, and their children Dixon, Shad, and Kyleigh spend their time training horses, practicing for, and competing in rodeos. They own Winn Rodeo Livestock raising rodeo cattle and training horses. Along with this they have produced, managed, and contracted stock for several junior rodeo associations. Casey served as the director for the Utah State 5 and under Rodeo Association and on the UHSRA livestock committee. He has also judged junior high, high school, and open rodeos.

Casey joined Kansas State University in the summer of 2015 as the Head Rodeo Coach and Equine Instructor.



John Jaeger (jrjaeger@k-state.edu; 785-625-3425 x211)
Professor/Extension Specialist

John grew up in north central Oregon and was actively involved in 4-H for 10 years. He worked for family and area winter white wheat and cow/calf ranches until completing his bachelor degree at Oregon State University. He then earned his Master's degree at Oregon State University specializing in reproductive physiology.

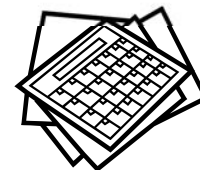
John began working at K-State Research and Extension's Agricultural Research Center in Hays in 1986 as the cow/calf herdsman and assistant scientist. He returned to Oregon in 1994 and worked as the ranch manager – assistant scientist at the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center – Union Station for Oregon State University until 2000. He completed his PhD. in reproductive physiology, focusing on bull fertility, from Oregon State University in 2004.

John began work at K-State Research and Extension's Agricultural Research Center in Hays in 2005 as the Beef Cattle Scientist. He is particularly interested in cow-calf production systems that will reduce production costs and result in value-added beef carcasses. Early weaning of calves may be a low-cost sustainable system that will reduce cow maintenance costs, increase the pounds of beef raised per grazed acre, as well as improving cow performance and carcass quality of offspring.

John along with his wife, Elizabeth, and their children Cora, Amelia, Tygh and Levi enjoy their 4-H cattle, family deer hunting, and riding their mustang Reno. Cora is currently pursuing a Master's degree in English at KSU following the completion of her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. John and Elizabeth enjoy watching their three younger children complete in swimming and traveling to swim meets.

What Producers Should Be Thinking About.....

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



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

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

Cow-herd nutrition

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

Herd health

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

Forage and pasture management

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

Reproductive management

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

Genetic management

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

General management

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

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