What’s Been Happening in the YLP?

The K-State Youth Livestock Program has completed another busy summer. Kicking it off with livestock nominations, to Discovery Days, K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy, Swine Classic, visiting some fantastic county fairs, Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes, and wrapping it up with the Kansas State Fair and the Kansas Junior Livestock Show, it has certainly been an exciting few months! Thank you to all youth who enthusiastically participated in Youth Livestock Program events and to parents, leaders, extension agents, and those influential adults who are dedicated to supporting Kansas 4-H and FFA efforts. It is always fantastic to see so many smiling faces, of all ages, at our events throughout the year. We enjoy the eagerness and excitement youth have about their projects and look forward to another great year!

Program Recaps

- Discovery Days
- K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy
- Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Youth Swine Classic
- County Fairs
- Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes
- Kansas State Fair
- Kansas Junior Livestock Show
Discovery Days

Kansas 4-H Discovery Days were May 29-31 in Manhattan, KS. Members from across Kansas came together to learn about a variety of topics in classes led by K-State faculty, KSRE professionals and other volunteers. This included several animal science-related workshops.

Dr. Dale Blasi, professor and state beef extension specialist, led two sessions about **chuck wagon cooking**. After sharing the historical connection between chuck wagon cooking and the cattle industry, youth were divided into teams and put what they learned into action by making a variety of dishes in Dutch ovens.

Swine graduate student Kelsey Batson offered a workshop on **swine production**. This session included educating youth on the importance of biosecurity, as well as commercial practices and equipment.

Dr. AJ Tarpoff, beef extension veterinarian, hosted a **Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) class**. Youth participated in a discussion regarding BQA principles and saw an injection-site demonstration.

Emily Rice, graduate student in meat science, led a workshop on **meat judging**. Members were introduced to the criteria and standards for judging meats and implemented their new skills by evaluating meat products. The meat science graduate students also collaborated with Meat Lab Manager John Wolf to provide a **bratwurst making workshop**.

Youth Livestock Coordinator Lexie Hayes, along with interns Sierra Day and Kelli Schrag, conducted a certification class for the new national, multi-species youth quality assurance program, **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)**.

**Watch for 2020 4-H Discovery Days classes hosted by the Youth Livestock Program and the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.**

County Fair Visits

The youth livestock program visited several county fairs across the state to support the efforts of youth with their livestock projects. This year, the interns also made a video, which allowed youth to showcase what they learned in their projects. Visit our Facebook page to check out the video and see the great work our 4-H and FFA members are doing across the state! Keep your eyes peeled for us next summer and think about the impact your project may have on others...we may visit your county fair next!
K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy

High school students gathered on the Kansas State University campus to take part in the K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy (KASLA) June 5-8, 2019.

During their time at KASLA, students were given tours of the animal science farms, participated in the K-State Challenge Course and engaged in interactive leadership development sessions. The day of industry tours included Hildebrand Farms Dairy, Kansas Livestock Association, Bichelmeier Meats, and the American Royal. For their final project, students were divided into groups to focus on current issues in the livestock industry. Faculty mentors from the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry assisted each group. Using information they learned throughout the academy, each group was asked to present their subject as part of the closing reception on the final day.

Former KASLA participants also had the opportunity to continue building their leadership skills through the K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy Premier Program. This program allowed KASLA alumni to put their leadership in motion in southwest Kansas.

Both events were sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) and coordinated by the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.

Plans are being made for the 2020 program! KASLA will be hosted in June, with applications being due April 15, 2020. This program is open to students in grades 9-12. Please watch the KASLA webpage or Facebook page for additional details.

Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic

The 2019 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Youth Swine Classic was June 28-29 at CiCo Park on the Riley County Fairgrounds in Manhattan. There were 156 youth from 45 counties who brought 317 swine projects. Youth exhibited pigs in the prospect show, market show, and showmanship. There were also 83 participants who showcased their knowledge in the swine skillathon and 14 photos entered in the “People’s Choice” photography contest. Next year’s event is scheduled for July 10-11, 2020.
Save the Date!

**February 29**
Jr. Beef Producer Day

**March 14**
Jr. Sheep Producer Day

**April 15**
KASLA Applications Due

**May 1**
Market Beef Nominations Due

**June 15**
Commercial Heifer, Swine, Sheep, & Meat Goat Nominations Due

We’re Social!

Facebook: Kansas State Youth Livestock Program @ksuylp
Snapchat: K-State Youth Livestock Program @ksuylp
Instagram: @ksuylp
Twitter: @ksuylp

KSU ASI App

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**Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes**

The annual Kansas 4–H Livestock Sweepstakes was hosted August 24-25 in Manhattan, KS, where youth displayed their livestock knowledge and talent in livestock judging, meat judging, skillathon and quiz bowl. Approximately 300 4–H members from 59 Kansas counties competed in the state contests. Complete results are available on the youth livestock website, under 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes. Mark your calendars to participate next year — August 22-23, 2020!

**Kansas State Fair & Kansas Junior Livestock Show**

The 2019 Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS) were hosted during September in Hutchinson. Congratulations to the Kansas 4-H and FFA members who exhibited projects at the shows this year. Both shows had more than 700 exhibitors! Information about each show, as well as results, may be found on each show’s respective website and social media accounts — The Grand Drive and Kansas Junior Livestock Show. Best of luck as we enter a new program year and youth select livestock projects for next year!

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**Upcoming Events - Kansas Junior Producer Days**

The 2020 Kansas Junior Producer Days will be hosted in February and March at Kansas State University in the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry’s Weber Hall. The **Junior Beef Producer Day** will be Saturday, February 29, with **Junior Sheep Producer Day** being Saturday, March 14. All youth, parents, leaders and extension agents are invited to participate in these educational experiences. K-State faculty members, graduate students, veterinarians, extension agents, guest speakers, and specialists will speak about youth livestock project management. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification sessions will also be offered at the conclusion of both junior days. More details and registration information will be released later this fall. Please watch the youth livestock program website and Facebook page for updated information and a link to register online!

*If you are a parent, extension agent or project leader and would like to be added to the KSU YLP listserv, please contact Lexie Hayes at adhayes@ksu.edu.*