What’s Been Happening in the YLP?
As we return to some normalcy in 2022, it was exciting to have families back on campus, in person, over the last few months! We missed seeing your smiling faces live and in 3-D just as much as you missed in-person events over the last two years! From being flexible and willing to try traditional activities in a new format to pitching in where we needed an extra set of hands, we appreciated the patience and cooperation of youth, parents, and volunteers as we incorporated modifications that allowed us to safely return to our primary events. We ask for that continued cooperation as we move forward with planning our events and programs in 2022! We look forward to seeing everyone in the new year!

Program Recaps
- Kansas Junior Beef Producer Day
- Kansas Junior Sheep Producer Day

Upcoming Events
- Kansas 4-H Animal Science Webinar Series
- KASLA
- “Champions” K-State Livestock Judging Camp
- Horse Judging Camp
- Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic
- Social Media
- YQCA
- State Livestock Nominations
- Livestock Sweepstakes

Important Dates
- May 1 - Market Beef Nominations Due
- June 15 - Small Livestock & Commercial Heifer Nominations Due
Junior Beef Producer Day

Almost 500 youth, parents, and project leaders from 60 Kansas counties participated in junior beef producer day on March 5, 2022. K-State Livestock Judging Coach, Chris Mullinix, kicked off the program with a presentation on beef project selection. Next, families chose breakout sessions that most closely fit their interests, including nutrition with Dr. Jaymelynn Farney, developing a show heifer into a cow herd, presented by Dr. Bob Weaber, meat science and barbeque with Lane Egger and Erin Beyer, and hair care, clipping, and grooming demonstrated by Chris Mullinix and the K-State Livestock Judging Team. Following lunch, families selected three breakout sessions to attend from health with Dr. Bryan Weaver from the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine, beef cattle reproduction with Dr. David Grieger, meat science and barbeque, and showmanship with Dr. Scott Schaake and the K-State Livestock Judging Team. Lexie Hayes offered a session over the new state livestock nomination process at the conclusion of the program for those interested in showing at the state fair or KJLS, while Charlene Miller and Kelsey Nordyke offered an instructor-led YQCA training. The event was sponsored by Valley Vet Supply, Essential Show Feeds, the Kansas Beef Council, Fink Beef Genetics, Zinpro, the K-State Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, K-State Research & Extension, and the KSU Youth Livestock Program. Educational materials from the program are available on the Youth Livestock Program website, under the Educational Resources tab.

Junior Sheep Producer Day

Over 200 youth, parents, and project leaders from 46 Kansas counties attended Junior Sheep Producer Day hosted March 19 in Weber Arena. K-State graduate student and guest speaker for the day, Payton Dahmer, kicked off the program with a presentation on sheep project selection. Then, families selected two breakout sessions to attend from nutrition with Dr. Alison Crane, a discussion on facilities and equipment with Payton Dahmer, and reproductive technologies with the ReproLogix team of Dr. Kale Johnson, Dr. Elizabeth Ford Johnson, and Dr. Gessica Johannsen. After lunch, Dr. Emily Reppert from the K-State College of Veterinary Medicine shared information about sheep health. To round out the day, families chose three afternoon breakout sessions to attend from wool education and judging with Dr. Alison Crane, showmanship with Payton Dahmer, a clipping and grooming demonstration with Ally Leslie, and a presentation on the South African sheep industry with Albert Nortje. Lexie Hayes offered an optional session over the new state livestock nomination process after the program concluded, while Charlene Miller taught an instructor-led YQCA class. Junior Sheep Producer Day was sponsored by Valley Vet Supply, Essential Show Feeds, the Kansas Sheep Association, Silver Smith Genetics, the Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, K-State Research & Extension, and the KSU Youth Livestock Program. A KSU youth show lamb guide and educational resource are posted on the youth livestock program website, under the Educational Resources tab.
Kansas 4-H Animal Science Webinar Series

The Animal Science Webinar Series is a new program designed to give Kansas 4-H’ers an opportunity to learn more about the livestock industry, career opportunities, and good animal husbandry practices. Webinars will be hosted the fourth Monday of the month at 7:00pm and cover a variety of topics throughout the year. Participants need to register in advance to receive a link to the meeting and materials. For more information, including the registration link, visit the Kansas 4-H Animal Science webpage.

K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy

The K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry plans to host the K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy (KASLA) in June. There will be two sessions offered in 2022. The first session will be June 22-25, with the second scheduled for June 29-July 2. This year’s program will return to an in-person experience on campus. Students will participate in tours and workshops, have mentor time with faculty, and evaluate current events within the industry. Participation is limited to 20 high school students per session to ensure individualized attention from counselors, professors, and industry leaders. The program is sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) Inc. The academy’s goal is to develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field. The application deadline is April 15. Application forms and details are available under the K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy tab of the youth livestock program website.

K-State “Champions” Livestock Judging Camp

The K-State Livestock Judging Team recently released their annual “Champions” livestock judging camp dates for this summer. Camp sessions will be hosted June 6-8, 13-15, and 16-18. In addition to evaluating livestock, this camp focuses on reason development and presentation. It is open to youth 14-18 years old and participation is filled on a first-come, first-served basis. More information and registration forms are posted on the K-State Judging Camps webpage.

K-State Horse Judging Camp

The K-State Horse Judging Team will be hosting two camps this summer. The Beginner Camp will be June 8, with the Advanced Camp offered June 7-8. This year, the Kansas 4-H State Horse Judging Contest will be hosted in Manhattan after the camps on June 9. Additional details and registration information will be released soon and will be located on the K-State Judging Camps webpage.

Helpful Handouts

Handouts and project show guides from Junior Producer Events can be found on the Youth Livestock Program website:

www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu

These handouts provide knowledge of how to care for and maintain your youth livestock project. Please refer to these resources for the beginner showman who needs guidance with their project as well as experienced showmen looking to learn new things.

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Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic

The 2022 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Youth Swine Classic will be hosted July 1-2 at the Riley County Fairgrounds in CiCo Park in Manhattan. This two-day event is comprised of educational opportunities, including a swine skillathon, photography contest, showmanship, and a prospect and market hog show. All Kansas youth ages 7 and older are invited to exhibit. Entries must be submitted online by 5:00pm on June 15. Payment needs to be postmarked by June 15 as well. The brochure, additional details, and the entry link may be found on the Youth Livestock Program website.

KSU YLP Social Media

The KSU Youth Livestock Program uses a variety of social media platforms to make announcements, release program information, distribute updates, and share photos. Make sure to “Like” us on Facebook, “Add” us on Snapchat, and “Follow” us on Instagram and Twitter.

We will be releasing a weekly tip for the nomination process on Tuesday evenings. Follow #NominationTipTuesday to learn more about making sure nominations are complete. There will also be a Zoom session for families on April 7 over the new state livestock nomination process, as well as some specie specific Facebook Lives throughout the spring. Keep your eye on our Facebook page for those events!

The KSU Department of Animal Sciences & Industry also has active social media accounts, so go “Like” their page to follow all events related to KSU ASI!

The Kansas State Fair and KJLS disperse valuable information via their Facebook pages. If you are interested in those events, make sure you are following The Grand Drive and Kansas Junior Livestock Show.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national, multi-species livestock quality assurance program that focuses on food safety, animal well-being, and life skill development for youth producing and/or showing livestock. Youth may participate in a 60-minute instructor-led class for $3/child, or complete the web-based course for $12/child. The YQCA program recently transitioned to a new platform. All families will need to create a new account on this platform to complete and manage certifications for children in their family. The new website is www.yqcaprogram.org. The YQCA requirement will continue for all Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and KJLS exhibitors for the 2022 shows. This includes 7-year-olds exhibiting at KJLS. Youth are encouraged to complete their certification as soon as possible and will upload a copy of their certificate when they submit their state livestock nominations online to verify completion. The training needs to be completed prior to nomination. Nominations received without a valid YQCA certificate will be considered incomplete. Families who are only showing registered breeding females need to complete the requirement by June 15 and will submit their number during show entry. Visit the YQCA program website or local extension office for more details on class options.

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2022 State Livestock Nominations & Updates

The 2022 state livestock nomination season has arrived! The current materials have been released and are posted on the KSU Youth Livestock website under Nomination Information. We are transitioning to an online nomination system this year, so all families are highly encouraged to plan ahead and use the resources available, specifically the Rookie Guide. To be eligible to exhibit in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive &/or KJLS, market animals and commercial females must be formally nominated by the appropriate deadline. Also, there is not a registered breeding doe division at either show, so ALL meat goats (wethers and does) must be nominated to be shown. The new online system includes four major steps. No paper forms will be accepted. Extension Agents and FFA Advisors will also be approving nominations online, so families will not be obtaining these signatures for their materials. An informational Zoom session will be hosted for families April 7 at 7:00pm - register here for the link!

New 4-Step Nomination Process:
1. Purchase Official DNA Envelopes in advance online. Must be purchased in 2022.
   ⊂ Order Deadlines: Market Beef - April 24; Small Livestock - June 8
2. Enter animal & exhibitor data through online system (ShoWorks) by deadline.
3. Mail completed & signed DNA Envelopes, with submission receipt, by deadline.
4. Online approval by Extension Agents (4-H) and FFA Advisors (FFA).

♦ All animals that are nominated for the Kansas State Fair &/or KJLS are required to be tagged with a Kansas 4-H EID tag.
♦ DNA hair samples are required for all nominated animals & must be submitted in an official DNA envelope purchased through the online system. The signatures of all exhibitors within the family & a parent/guardian are required on the DNA envelope. Old DNA Envelopes (purchased prior to 2022) will not be accepted.
♦ The 2022 Declaration Form has been updated will be uploaded into the online system; one copy of the family form used for all exhibitors within the family.
♦ YQCA certificate for each child will be uploaded into system. Get certified early!
♦ Kansas practices family nominations, so all DNA envelopes need to be signed by ALL eligible exhibitors within a family & a parent/guardian. Animals will need to be entered in the system under each child, for each division (market/commercial).
♦ The nomination fee of $12.00/animal will be paid through purchasing official DNA envelopes. No payment will be included when DNA samples are mailed to KSU.
♦ Ear notches are required for all swine; sheep & goats must submit full scrapie tag numbers, including flock ID & animal number (correct format: KSS0035 18151).
♦ Gender has been added to the DNA Envelopes & will be required for all species.
♦ Nomination entries must be submitted online by the deadline & DNA samples must be postmarked by the listed deadline. These dates are strictly enforced. No late nominations will be accepted.
♦ Nomination is NOT entry. After the nomination process is complete, families must officially enter each child for the show in which they would like to participate! Follow each show’s website & social media pages (Grand Drive, Kansas Junior Livestock Show) for details. Only online entries will be accepted for both shows.

Deadlines
May 1 - Market Beef Nominations DUE (market steers & market heifers)
June 15 - Swine, Sheep, Meat Goat, & Commercial Heifer Nominations DUE
Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes

The Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes is being planned for August 20-21. This event includes the state 4-H livestock judging contest, meat judging contest, livestock skillathon, and quiz bowl, all in one, action-packed weekend. In addition to being the Kansas qualifier for the national 4-H contests, sweepstakes awards will also be tabulated for teams and individuals who participate in all of the contests throughout the weekend. Registration must be submitted by the local extension office by August 1. Watch the KSU YLP website for more details in June!

Meet the YLP Intern

Look for this new face at KSU Youth Livestock Program events and activities! We welcome Jacob Schmeidler who will be serving as our 2022 intern. He has already helped with the junior producer days, as well as DNA envelope distribution for state livestock nominations, and we are excited to have him be part of the team as we gear up for summer!

Jacob Schmeidler

Jacob Schmeidler is from Hays, KS. As a recent graduate of Hutchinson Community College, he is currently a junior at Kansas State University studying Animal Sciences & Industry in the Communications option. In addition to working with the Youth Livestock Program, Jacob is also an active member of the livestock judging and meat animal evaluation teams. He grew up on his family’s farm in Ellis County, raising registered and commercial cattle, as well as row crops such as wheat, barley, and milo. Jacob’s background in agriculture, along with his experiences in the industry through 4-H, FFA, and the K-State Youth Livestock Program, fueled his passion for working with youth in agriculture while giving him more opportunities than he could imagine. Jacob served on the Kansas 4-H Youth Leadership Council, and was a founding member of the TMP-Marian FFA Chapter, also serving as their first President. One of his favorite youth livestock experiences was participating in KASLA. As the KSU Youth Livestock Program Intern, Jacob hopes to be a channel for opportunities and educational experiences for children who want to be active in the livestock industry. He is overjoyed to have the opportunity to work with the Youth Livestock Program team and looks forward to interacting with many youth and their families from across the state!

To be added to the KSU YLP email listserv, email Lexie at adhayes@ksu.edu.