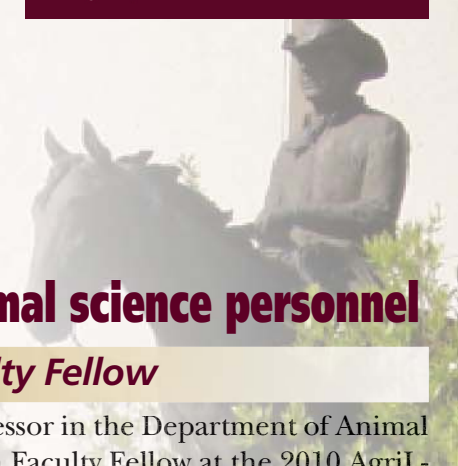


# Animal Science Weekly

January 19, 2010



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## Texas A&M AgriLife honors animal science personnel

### *Friend named AgriLife Research Faculty Fellow*

COLLEGE STATION – Dr. Theodore Friend, professor in the Department of Animal Science, was honored as a Texas AgriLife Research Faculty Fellow at the 2010 AgriLife Conference held Jan. 11-15, 2010.

Friend's research on animal well-being issues has often served as the scientific basis on which legislators and other decision makers rely to respond to public concerns regarding practices in animal agriculture programs.

"Results from his studies have impacted regulations concerning transportation, management, or housing to improve the well-being of horses, swine, cattle, and poultry, as well as circus elephants and tigers," according to his citation.

He has testified before the U.S. Congress regarding animal well-being issues and has been interviewed by ABC, CNN, HBO, and National Geographic Explorer.

In the past five years, he has successfully directed the graduate studies of 13 graduate students, and has authored 20 publications in refereed journals, 16 in non-peer-reviewed publications and authored two book chapters. He has served as the principal investigator on 12 grants totaling or each more than \$700,000 and as investigator on 11 other grants.

On campus, Friend advises the Elephant Walk planning committee on transporting the elephants in a safe and appropriate manner and he advises the Parsons Mounted Cavalry on the transport of horses.



### *Herring receives Vice Chancellor's award for graduate teaching*

COLLEGE STATION – Dr. Andy Herring, assistant department head for academic programs in animal science and beef cattle scientist with Texas AgriLife Research, has received a 2009 Vice Chancellor's Award for graduate teaching.

The Vice Chancellor's Awards recognize outstanding achievements by faculty and staff in Texas A&M AgriLife agencies. The awards were presented at the 2010 AgriLife Conference.

Herring was recognized for outstanding work in graduate teaching of advanced beef production and quantitative genetics. He was also recognized for outstanding research in these areas.

Herring has been with Texas A&M since 2002 as an associate professor in animal science.

(see more awards on page 2)



<http://www.facebook.com/tamuanimalscience>



## Sterle to serve on National Pork Board's Producer Services Committee

Dr. Jodi Sterle, associate professor and Extension swine specialist, has been invited to serve as a member of the National Pork Board's Producer Services Committee.

The purpose of this committee is to develop ideas and promote comprehensive programs of producer information/education that meet the needs of the entire pork producers; to suggest and oversee the design of vehicles to get the information to producers, and to review and critique producer education programs and needs on an on-going basis.

Sterle's three-year term will begin in February.

# 1000 Facebook Fans



The Department of Animal Science Facebook page welcomed it's 1,000th fan in January. Thanks to all of our loyal supporters - our students, faculty, staff, alumni, future students and friends of the department. Stay tuned for more daily announcements, updates and headlines!

<http://www.facebook.com/tamuanimalscience>

# AWARDS

## Beef cattle research team receives Vice Chancellor's Award

COLLEGE STATION – A team of beef researchers in the Department of Animal Science has received a 2009 Vice Chancellor's Award for team research.

The award was presented at the Texas AgriLife Conference.

Receiving the award was the McGregor Bovine Genomics Team comprised of Dr. Clare Gill, Dr. Andy Herring, Dr. Rhonda Miller, Dr. Penny Riggs, Dr. James Sanders and Dr. Jason Sawyer. The team has been recognized nationally and internationally, in both scientific and commercial sectors, for their efforts to identify genes that affect production efficiency in beef cattle, according to the nomination.

## Burdick receives VC graduate student research award

COLLEGE STATION – Nicole Burdick, a graduate research assistant in the Department of Animal Science, has received a 2009 Vice Chancellor's Award for graduate student research.

Burdick is completing her doctorate in animal science with emphasis on physiology and reproduction.

"Her research skills have been a strong asset to the development of several funded grant proposals," according to the nomination.

## Students cited in poster competitions

COLLEGE STATION – Bryan Agado, animal science undergraduate student, received second place in the undergraduate student research poster competition at the Texas AgriLife Conference. Agado's research is entitled, "Evolution of exit velocity in the suckling Brahman calf," and he is conducting research under Dr. Ronald Randel.

Nicole Burdick was awarded honorable mention in the graduate student research poster competition. Burdick is working under the direction of Drs. Tom Welsh and Jeff Carroll. Her research is entitled, "Acute modulation of cytokine gene expression in bovine peripheral blood mononuclear cells (PBMCs) by endogenous cortisol."

Marissa Coral Dworaczyk and Lauren Hulsman also presented in the graduate student poster competition.

Dworaczyk's poster was entitled, "The Effect of Exercise-Induced Heat Stress on Ovarian Dynamics in the Mare," and she is working under the direction of Dr. Martha Vogelsang.

Hulsman's presentation was entitled, "Identification of a Major Gene That Interacts with MC1R to Modify Black Coat Color in a Nellore-Angus F<sub>2</sub> Population." She is working under the direction of Dr. Clare Gill.

Dr. Nancy Ing, associate professor, chaired the student research poster committee. Dr. Marcel Amstalden and Dr. Glenn Holub, both assistant professors, were judges.

# Fit to Finish Show Cattle Camp



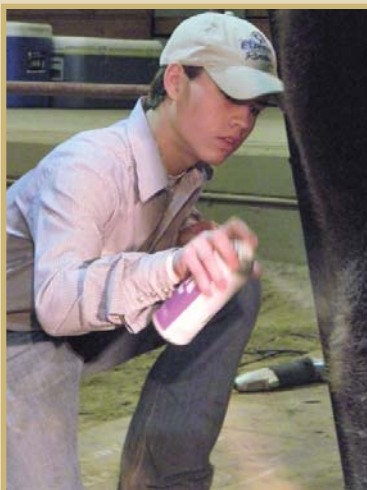
COLLEGE STATION -- The Texas A&M Beef Center hosted a fitting and grooming camp for youth and families involved with beef cattle show projects on Dec. 12, 2009.

Paul Maulsby, Beef Center manager, and the Beef Center staff presented information targeted at the first time show exhibitor as well as the experienced.

"The intention of this camp was for the Beef Center staff to share the experiences they have gained in presenting and showing champions throughout the state and the nation, and to impact the participants of the camp with the edge they need to find their place in the winner's circle," Maulsby said.

The topics covered were grooming and fitting practices of the beef cattle project including breeding heifers or steers, both haired and slick, and time management for show preparation and showmanship sessions.

This camp served in addition to the Show Cattle Camps held each year in May and June.



## Recent publications

Adams, T. H., R. L. Walzem, D. R. Smith, S. Tseng, and S. B. Smith. 2010. Hamburger high in total, saturated and *trans*-fatty acids decreases HDL cholesterol and LDL particle diameter, and increases plasma TAG, in mildly hypercholesterolaemic men. *Br. J. Nutr.* 103:91-98.

Amstalden, M, Coolen L. M., Hemmerle A.M., Billings H.J., Connors J.M, Goodman R,L,, Lehman M,N. Neurokinin 3 Receptor Immunoreactivity in the Septal Region, Preoptic Area and Hypothalamus of the Female Sheep: Colocalisation in Neurokinin B Cells of the Arcuate Nucleus but not in Gonadotrophin-Releasing Hormone Neurones. *J Neuroendocrinol.* 2010 22:1-12.

Note: An illustration from this article was featured on the cover of the January issue.



## Upcoming events

**The Department of Animal Science and Anipro Xtraformance Feeds** will host a reception at the 2010 Cattle Industry Annual Convention and NCBA Trade Show (January 28, 2010 - 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. - Grand Hyatt Hotel, San Antonio) - For more information, please contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham <[tryon@tamu.edu](mailto:tryon@tamu.edu)>.

**Southwest Beef Symposium** (January 20-21, 2010 - Tucumcari, NM) - For more information, please contact Dr. Bruce Carpenter <[BCarpent@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:BCarpent@ag.tamu.edu)> at 432-336-8585.

**Mare/Foal Workshop** (February 24, 2010) - For more information, please contact Dr. Brett Scott <[bdscott@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:bdscott@ag.tamu.edu)> at 979-845-1562.

**Horse Management 101** (February 25, 2010) - For more information, please contact Dr. Brett Scott <[bdscott@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:bdscott@ag.tamu.edu)> at 979-845-1562.

**Spirit of Aggieland Inaugural Sale** (April 18, 2010 - 1 p.m. - TAMU Beef Center) - For more information, please contact Paul Maulsby at 979-862-4736 or at <[beefcenter@tamu.edu](mailto:beefcenter@tamu.edu)>.



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*Please forward additions to the mailing list and future requests and events to Courtney Coufal <[cacoufal@tamu.edu](mailto:cacoufal@tamu.edu)>*