

# Animal Science Weekly

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## Inside this issue:

- Livestock Judging Team wins first place in Wichita
- Save the Date: Howard Hesby Student Atrium Dedication Ceremony
- Extension specialists instrumental in creating youth livestock safety DVD
- New course offers equine marketing, business strategies
- Equine Reproductive Management Short Course scheduled Jan. 11-13 at Texas A&M
- Academic advisors from University of Melbourne visit department
- Straight from the Block: S&S Club News
- Former students remembered
- Recent publication
- Upcoming events

## Livestock Judging Team wins first place in Wichita

WICHITA – The 2011 Texas A&M Senior Livestock Judging Team won first place in the Mid-American Classic Livestock Judging Contest held Sept. 24, 2011 in Wichita, Kansas.

Texas A&M edged out Texas Tech University by nine points, followed by Oklahoma State University, Kansas State University and Colorado State University.

Aggie team members secured four of the top 10 high individual awards. Ryan Smoes, a junior agricultural business major from Hamilton, Mich., won second high individual; Cody Marburger, a junior animal science major from Round Top, finished fourth high; Marty Gifford, a junior animal science and agricultural education double major from Powell, Wyom., came in fifth high; and Erich Schatte, a junior animal science major from Giddings, placed sixth high.

"The senior team is a hardworking, disciplined crew that strives to do their best at each contest," said Jake Franke, team coordinator. "I am proud of our coaches and team members for their tireless and selfless dedication to the department, the college and the university.

"We also appreciate the faculty, staff and Aggie alumni who offer an unsurpassed level of support to our program."

Also competing were John Mayer, a junior from Round Top, Canaan Driebrodt, a junior from Zorn, Brad Brundage, a junior from Princeton, Mo., T.J. Skinner, a junior



Texas A&M Livestock Judging Team members winning high team overall were, left, Jacob Shaw, Cody Marburger, Mike Helle, Ryan Smoes and Caleb Boardman.

from Liberal, Kan., Lance Bauer, a senior from Kerrville, C.J. Mabry, a senior from Port Lavaca, and Mike Helle, a senior from Edinburg, all animal science majors; Caleb Boardman, a junior agriculture business major from Frannie, Wyom.; Jacob Shaw, an agronomy major from Smyer; Wes Regmund, a senior ag business major from Llano; and Bethanie Yeaman, a senior from Rocksprings, and Cody Trimble, a junior from Knox City, both agricultural communications majors.

Coaches are Cody Sloan and Jake Thorne.

The livestock judging team trains in presentation of reasons and livestock evaluation, including the selection of beef cattle, swine, sheep, goats and horses.

The team competes next at the Tulsa State Fair on Oct. 8 and at the State Fair of Texas in Dallas on Oct. 10.

## HOWARD HESBY STUDENT ATRIUM

❖ Save the Date ❖

Progress on the renovation of the Howard Hesby Student Atrium continues. The carpet has been installed and the wood panel wall in the elevator area has been completed. However, due to a few unexpected delays, the Dedication Ceremony will now be held **Dec. 7, 2011 at 1:30**, rather than Nov. 17 as originally announced. More details will be available soon.



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

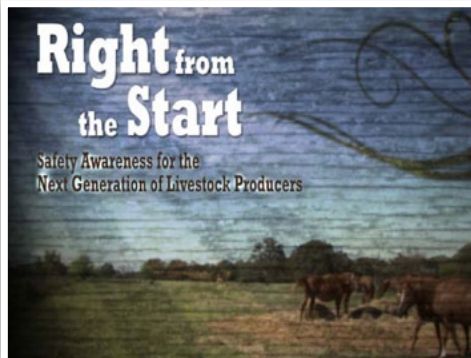
## Extension specialists instrumental in creating youth livestock safety DVD

Texas AgriLife Extension specialists in the Department of Animal Science partnered with the Southwest Center for Agricultural Health, Injury Prevention and Education to create a new DVD about safety around youth livestock projects.

“Right from the start: Safety awareness for the next generation of livestock producers” was unveiled on June 1, 2011 and addresses safety around beef cattle, dairy cattle, horses, goats, sheep and swine. Chapters devoted to trailer safety and production livestock are also included.

The effort to create this DVD was initiated by the Center’s Livestock Advisory Board which consists of experts from Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico and Arkansas, including Dr. Ron Gill, associate department head for Extension; Dr. Jason Cleere, associate professor and beef cattle specialist; Dr. Jodi Sterle, former associate professor and swine specialists; Dr. Ted Friend, professor; and Teri Antilley, horse program specialist, from Texas A&M. This group worked with Amanda Wickman from the Center to write and produce the video.

“Without these individuals’ commitment to this project it



could not have been accomplished within the short development window the Center was given to finish this project,” Gill said. From start to finish, the faculty were involved in developing the DVD including choosing the subject matter areas, creating the outline and story boards for each segment, finding livestock and youth exhibitors that were available and willing to participate in the different segments, appearing as instructors in the safety video, and editing and reviewing the final product.

“What made this a great partnership is the approach taken by our faculty and Amanda Wickman. She did an outstanding job coordinating video crew availability with our specialists’ schedules,” Gill said. “In the end, they all knew what a valuable resource this DVD would be for youth who work with livestock. The educational information offered in this DVD can potentially save lives and prevent accidents and for that reason it was important to the group for this project to get done right.”

“Right from the Start” is ideal for 4-H leaders, Vocational Ag teachers and other youth educators. It is available at no cost and can be viewed online at <http://www.swagcenter.org/resourcesvideos.asp> or call 903-877-5998 to request a copy.

## New course offers equine marketing, business strategies

A new course offered by the Department of Animal Science provides students with a historical perspective on domestic and international equine marketing along with strategies to develop a successful equine business.

Equine Marketing and Development will be taught to undergraduate students during fall semesters by Dr. Clay Cavinder, assistant professor. The three hour course will address current industry concerns as well as marketing, promotion, sales, welfare issues and transportation demands in the United States and abroad.

"The equine industry is a global business that requires those involved to be knowledgeable in all aspects of equine related practices in order to be successful," Cavinder said. "This course will help prepare our students for real world work and business in this vast industry as well as help them identify potential job opportunities and employers in the field."

The course currently is several weeks into its first semester. Cavinder has taught the history, safe handling practices and stress factors of equine transport by air, land and sea; equine welfare issues, liability issues of equine ownership; and the roles and responsibilities of the USDA/APHIS. Students have heard guest lectures from Danny Williamson, animal health inspector with the Texas Health Commission, Jill Elsey from Elsey Equine Law in Houston, and Dr. Tracy Norman, veterinarian at Texas A&M University.



Also, on Sept. 30 the class traveled to the Texas Department of Agriculture location at the George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston. The students met with an equine export company called EZ 2 Spot Export and talked with a USDA veterinarian about transport requirements.

Pictured above, the class stands in front of a transport container holding two stock horses and two mini horses on their way from Houston to Amsterdam. *Front left*, Caroline Brittain, Polly Atchison and Brittany Gifford. *Back left*, Dr. Ted Friend, Dr. Clay Cavinder, Terry Nielsen, owner of EZ 2 Spot Export, and his wife Dianne Nielsen, Kelsey Vyvlecka, Ashley Patton, Ashton Ulch, Ben Ford and Rebecca Muller.

## Equine Reproductive Management Short Course scheduled Jan. 11-13 at Texas A&M

COLLEGE STATION – Horse owners and breeders wanting to learn more about efficiency methods in reproduction and management can attend a three-day short course Jan. 11-13 at Texas A&M University in College Station.

The Equine Reproductive Management Short Course will include classroom sessions on anatomy and physiology of the mare and stallion, control of the estrous cycle, gestation and foaling, feeding the broodmare and young horse, and estrous cycle manipulation of mares.

“Hands-on laboratory activities are scheduled each day and will include semen collection and evaluation, estrous detection, artificial insemination, body condition scoring, perineal conformation evaluation of the mare and foaling management,” said Dr. Martha Vogelsang, senior lecturer for equine science in the Department of Animal Science.

Vogelsang said course content includes a broad range of topics that are useful for horse owners in any segment of the breeding industry.

“We have been offering these courses since 1979,” she said. “Previous attendees have indicated that the knowledge they gained from similar workshops has strengthened their confidence level and improved the relationship with their veterinarian concerning horse-breeding activities.”

Lectures will be held in the Kleberg Animal and Food Sciences Center on the Texas A&M campus, while laboratory sessions will be conducted at the Texas A&M Horse Center on George Bush Dr.

Instructors include several members of the Department of Animal Science: Vogelsang, Dr. Dennis Sigler, Dr. Clay Cavinder, Dr. Josie Coverdale, Dave Golden, Krissy Johnson-Schroeder and graduate students in equine reproduction.

Each short course will have limited enrollment to ensure adequate time and animals to allow every participant to develop the skill they desire, Vogelsang said. Enrollment will be confirmed on a first-come, first-serve basis as registration forms with fee payment are received.

In addition to the lectures and laboratory sessions, the registration fee includes a handbook of the lecture material, information from equipment and supply dealers or vendors, lunches and snacks, and a certificate of course completion.

Cost is \$600. If a registrant requests cancellation 15 days prior to the short course, the refund will be 75 percent (\$450); There will be no refund for cancellations less than 15 days before program starts, Vogelsang said.

For more information, contact Vogelsang at 979-845-5796 or email [m-vogelsang@tamu.edu](mailto:m-vogelsang@tamu.edu).

## Academic advisors from University of Melbourne visit department

Two academic advisors from the University of Melbourne in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia spent Sept. 30 at Texas A&M University to learn more about effective advising and ways to improve advising at their university.

Dr. Catherine Mann, manager of the student advice program, and Neil Robinson, executive director of student services and academic registrar, visited the Texas A&M Career Center and the Visitor's Center, met with advisors in the College of Architecture, had lunch with the University Advisors and Counselors Officer Team and concluded their day with a meeting with the Department of Animal Science academic advising team. The group discussed effective interaction between faculty and professional advisors. Mann and Robinson were especially excited to see the Meats Judging Team photo gallery in the Kleberg Center because their university has a new Meats Judging Team in their School of Land and Environment.

Mann and Robinson traveled to the United States to attend the National Academic Advising Association conference in Denver. In addition to Texas A&M, they visited with academic advisors at the University of Illinois and the University of Texas.



Front left, Neil Robinson and Dr. Catherine Mann from the University of Melbourne. Back left, Dr. Shawn Ramsey, Dr. Glenn Holub, Kelly Essler and Donna Witt, Department of Animal Science academic advising team.

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Straight from the

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TAMU Saddle & Sirloin Club News



The Texas A&M Saddle & Sirloin Club held their annual Back to School Bash on Sept. 21, 2011 at Pearce Pavilion. During the meeting, club members, new and returning, participated in Aggie Olympics and had a lot of fun!

**Ham Sale...** Contact a S&S Club officer now to purchase a ham, bacon or marinated fajita meat. Please order by Nov. 14 to get your purchase in by Thanksgiving. Officers' contact information can be found at <http://saddleandsirloin.tamu.edu/node/6>.

## Former Students Remembered...

We would like to recognize and pay tribute to our former students in Animal Science who recently passed away. We extend our condolences to friends and families of these former students.

- Glenn A. Richardson '35
- Oliver Stengel Grote '49
- James A. Theeck '65
- Harmon Schepps '38
- Ferman Louis Wetz '53
- Abel Noe Gonzalez Jr. '72
- Edgar Kuebel '40
- Jim Larkin Renick Jr. '56
- Stephanie L. Brittingham '93
- Lee Campbell '41

## Recent Publications

Haneklaus, A. N., K. B. Harris, M. P. Cuervo, O. I. Ilhak, L. M. Lucia, A. Castillo, M. D. Hardin, W. N. Osburn, and J. W. Savell. 2011. Evaluation of additional cooking procedures to achieve lethality microbiological performance standards for large, intact meat products. *J. Food Protect.* 74: 1741-1745.

## Upcoming events ☆ Upcoming events ☆ Upcoming events

**Department of Animal Science Seminar Series** (Oct. 7, 2011 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. Glenn Holub, instructional assistant professor in the Department of Animal Science, will present "Attitudes and Perceptions of Students in an Introductory Animal Science Class." Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. with the program beginning at noon. Please contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at <[tryon@tamu.edu](mailto:tryon@tamu.edu)> with questions.

**Saddle & Sirloin Children's Barnyard** (Oct. 26-28, 2011 - Pearce Pavilion) - For more information, contact Katie Fritz at (830) 992-1364 or at <[k2012fritz@neo.tamu.edu](mailto:k2012fritz@neo.tamu.edu)>.

**College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Centennial Tailgate** (Oct. 29, 2011 - Ag and Life Sciences Building Complex) - For more information, go to <http://ext.ag/tailgate-rsvp>.

**4th annual Korea-United States International Joint Symposium** (Nov. 1-2, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/symposium/> or contact Dr. Stephen Smith at (979) 845-3939 or <sbsmith@tamu.edu>.

**2011 Aggiefest Livestock Judging Contest** (Nov. 5, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, contact Jake Franke at <jfranke@tamu.edu> or call (979) 845-6059.

**2011 Aggiefest Horse Judging Workshop** (Nov. 5, 2011 - College Station) - For more information, contact Teri Antilley at <tjantilley@ag.tamu.edu> or go to [http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/aggiefest\\_horsejudging.htm](http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/aggiefest_horsejudging.htm).

**Department of Animal Science Seminar Series** (Dec. 2, 2011 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. Barry Lambert, associate professor in the Department of Animal Science at Tarleton State University, will present "Southwest Regional Dairy Center Update." Lunch will be served at 11:45 a.m. with the program beginning at noon. Please contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at <tryon@tamu.edu> with questions.

**Equine Reproductive Management Short Course** (Jan. 11-13, 2012 - College Station) - For more information, contact Dr. Martha Vogelsang or visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/academics/equine/workshops/equine-repro-short-course.htm>.



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*Please forward additions to the mailing list and future requests and events to Courtney Coufal <cacoufal@tamu.edu>*