

# Animal Science Weekly

April 7, 2008

## Inside this issue:

- Wu to be Presented With Association of Former Students® Award for Research
- Parents' Weekend Activities Slated for April 11-12
- Randel Receives Distinguished Graduate Award
- Paschal Presents at the King Ranch
- Gill, Paschal, & Williams Speak at Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association Cattlemen's College
- Carpenter Presents at Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show
- Pasture & Livestock Management Workshops Held in Overton
- Paschal Attends Fever Tick Task Force Meeting
- Spencer Appointed to National Study Section
- Recent Publications
- Upcoming Events

### Wu to be Presented With Association of Former Students® Award for Research

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS (Date) - Dr. Guoyao Wu has been named a recipient of the 2008 Distinguished Achievement Award in Research from the Association of Former Students. This award recognizes, encourages, and rewards those individuals whose research efforts have been particularly significant and outstanding, and are so recognized locally, nationally, and internationally. The results of these research efforts should have added substantially to the basic body of knowledge, contributed to the improvement of the quality of life, and/or encouraged research. The award presentation will take place on Tuesday, April 29, in Rudder Theatre.

### Parents' Weekend Activities Slated for April 11-12

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS (April 11-12, 2008) - The Department of Animal Science and Saddle & Sirloin Club will host several activities during this year's Parents' Weekend on April 12-13. Parents' Weekend provides an opportunity for current and retired faculty members to visit and interact with students and their parents. Tickets for the awards banquet will go on sale this week for \$15 in advance or \$17 at the door. The schedule is as follows:

#### April 11

5:00 p.m. - Little Southwestern (*Pearce Pavilion*)  
(Goats, Hogs, Faculty Showmanship, Cookout, and Ham Auction)

#### April 12

8:00 a.m. - Little Southwestern (*Pearce Pavilion*)  
(Cattle, Sheep, and Horse Showmanship)  
5:00 p.m. - Scholarship Reception (*Memorial Student Center*)  
6:00 p.m. - Awards Banquet (*Memorial Student Center*)



Pictured above: 2007 Saddle & Sirloin Club Officers elected at last year's spring banquet.

### Randel Receives Distinguished Graduate Award

Dr. Ron Randel has received a Distinguished Graduate Award from the Washington State University Department of Animal Sciences. Each year, the department recognizes outstanding alumni and friends by selecting meritorious persons. Dr. Randel received his B.S. degree from Washington State University in 1965 and his Ph.D. from Purdue University in 1971. He has conducted research on reproductive efficiency, endocrine

control of reproduction, and the nutrition-reproduction interaction in cattle (59 graduate students, 1999 refereed publications, 290 technical reports, 471 abstracts, and an estimated 1.7 million dollars in direct research funding).

### Paschal Presents at the King Ranch

KINGSVILLE, TEXAS (March 28, 2008) - Dr. Joe Paschal arranged for a Texas Beef Quality Credit program for the King Ranch on March 28. Speakers (including Paschal) discussed range animal nutrition, beef cattle reproduction, grazing management, and cattle handling and behavior with division managers and cowboys. Many of the points made in the presentations were from data collected or research conducted at the King Ranch over the past 69 years.



Pictured left: Dr. Joe Paschal arranged for a Texas Beef Quality Credit program for the King Ranch.

### **Gill, Paschal, & Williams Speak at Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association Cattlemen's College**

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS (March 13, 2008) - Drs. Ron Gill, Joe Paschal, and Gary Williams gave presentations at the 14th Annual Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association (TSCRA) Cattlemen's College on March 13. Williams presented information on reproduction and new and old technologies in beef cattle while Gill spoke on cattle behavior, handling and management, and Paschal presented information on nutrition and grazing management. Over 200 participants attended the presentations.

### **Carpenter Presents at Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show**

MERCEDES, TEXAS (March 13, 2008) - Dr. Bruce Carpenter spoke on beef cattle artificial insemination and reproductive technologies to a group of over 130 Mexican and Texas cattlemen at the 2008 International Day at the 69th Annual Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show held in Mercedes.

### **Pasture & Livestock Management Workshops Held in Overton**

OVERTON, TEXAS (March 25-27 & April 1-3, 2008) - The 2008 Pasture and Livestock Management Workshops were held at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center at Overton. More than 90 beef cattle producers from Texas and three other states attended the annual workshops which are a collaborative effort of animal science and soil and crop sciences faculty. Drs. Jason Banta and Jason Cleere gave seven presentations/demonstrations on beef cattle production practices during each of the three-day workshops.



**Pictured above:** Dr. Bruce Carpenter spoke at the 2008 International Day at the 69th Annual Rio Grande Valley Livestock Show held in Mercedes.

### **Pasture & Livestock Management Workshops Held in Overton**

LAREDO, TEXAS (March 27, 2008) - Dr. Joe Paschal attended the Fever Tick Task Force Meeting called at the request of the Texas Animal Health Commission along with local ranchers and officials from USDA-APHIS, NRCS, TCFA, ICA, TPWS, and USDW. The fever tick has been found outside the 852 square mile quarantine zone along the Texas-Mexico border from Brownsville to Eagle Pass established in 1943. An additional 1,000 square miles of ranch land in Starr and Zapata and contiguous areas in Maverick, Dimmit, and Webb counties are under a temporary extended quarantine. The tick is a carrier of the parasite *Babesia*, which causes death in cattle. There is no *Babesia* in Texas, but there is in Mexico. Cattle on infested premises must be treated every 14 days for 9 months or treated twice and vacated immediately. Wildlife, particularly white tail and red deer and nilgai, but not feral hogs, dogs, or horses, have been implicated. The purpose of the meeting was to determine what was needed in terms of research, policing, and treatments. At one time, the fever tick infested most of the southern United States, and by spreading the fever caused billions of dollars in damage from cattle deaths.

### **Spencer Appointed to National Study Section**

Dr. Tom Spencer has accepted a four-year appointment as a member of the Pregnancy and Neonatology Study Section, Center for Scientific Review, National Institutes of Health. Study Sections review grant applications submitted to the NIH, make recommendations on these applications to the appropriate NIH national advisory council or board, and survey the status of research in their fields of science. Members of the Study Section are selected on the basis of their demonstrated competence and achievement in their scientific discipline as evidenced by the quality of research accomplishments, publications in scientific journals, and other significant scientific activities, achievements and honors. Dr. Spencer's appointment will begin July 1, 2008 and run through June 30, 2012.

## Recent Publications

- Mateo, R. D., G. Wu, H. K. Moon, J. A. Carroll, and S. W. Kim. 2008. Effects of dietary arginine supplementation during gestation and lactation on the performance of lactating primiparous sows and nursing piglets. *J. Anim. Sci.* 86: 827-835.
- Delp, M. D., B. J. Behnke, S. A. Spier, G. Wu, and J. M. Muller-Delp. 2008. Aging diminishes endothelium-dependent vasodilation and tetrahydrobiopterin content in rat skeletal muscle arterioles. *J. Physiol.* 586: 1161-1168.
- Jobgen, W. S., S. P. Ford, S. C. Jobgen, C. P. Feng, B. W. Hess, P. W. Nathanielsz, P. Li, and G. Wu. 2008. Baggs ewes adapt to maternal undernutrition and maintain conceptus growth by maintaining fetal plasma concentrations of amino acids. *J. Anim. Sci.* 86: 820-826.

## Upcoming Events

Interdisciplinary Faculty of Reproductive Biology Forum (April 11 - 12:00 p.m. - Room 210 VMS) - Dr. Jules B. Puschett will present. For more information, please contact Dr. Fuller Bazer at 979-845-5929.

Parents' Weekend Activities (April 12-13, 2008) - Please see detailed agenda provided on the first page.

Department of Animal Science Seminar Series (April 16 - 11:30 a.m. - Kleberg Faculty Lounge) - Dr. William Pinchak will present. Please RSVP to Kristi Smith <k\_hemann@tamu.edu> no later than Friday, April 11. For more information regarding the seminar series, please contact Dr. Tryon Wickersham at 979-845-5065.

Equine Symposium & Sale (May 3 - Freeman Arena - College Station, TX) - For more information, please contact Kathy Martinez at 979-845-1562.

Beef Cattle Handling Workshop (May 8 - Beeville, Texas) - For more information, please contact Dr. Gary Williams <glwilliams@tamu.edu> at 361-358-6390.

Show Cattle Camp (May 30-31 or June 6-7 - College Station, TX) - For more information, please contact Mr. Paul Maulsby <beefcenter@tamu.edu> at 979-862-4736 or visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/main/academics/beef/show-cattle-camp/08.pdf>.

Livestock Judging Camps (June 15-18 or June 22-25 - College Station, TX) - For more information, please contact Dr. Chris Skaggs <cskaggs@tamu.edu> at 979-845-7616 or visit [http://animalscience.tamu.edu/main/academics/livestock\\_camp/index.html](http://animalscience.tamu.edu/main/academics/livestock_camp/index.html).

Horse Judging Camp (July 9-11 - College Station, TX) - For more information, please contact Dr. Clay Cavinder <cac@tamu.edu> at 979-845-1562 or visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/main/academics/equine/judging-camp.html>.

Aggieland Lamb & Goat Camps (July 25-27 - College Station, TX) - For more information, please contact Dr. Shawn Ramsey <sramsey@tamu.edu> at 979-845-7616 or visit <http://animalscience.tamu.edu/main/08-lg-camp.pdf>.



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