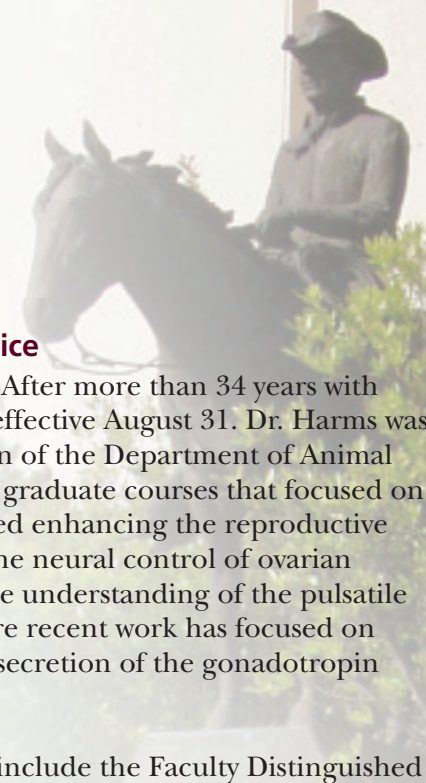


# Animal Science Weekly

September 1, 2008



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### Dr. Paul Harms Retires After 34 Years of Service

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS (August 20, 2008) - After more than 34 years with Texas A&M University, Dr. Paul G. Harms retired effective August 31. Dr. Harms was professor in the physiology of reproduction section of the Department of Animal Science where he taught both undergraduate and graduate courses that focused on reproductive biotechnologies. His research involved enhancing the reproductive efficiency of domestic animals by understanding the neural control of ovarian function. Dr. Harms' early effort contributed to the understanding of the pulsatile nature of gonadotropin secretion in mammals. More recent work has focused on the cellular mechanisms and factors affecting the secretion of the gonadotropin releasing-hormone.

Dr. Harms' recognitions at Texas A&M University include the Faculty Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching from the Association of Former Students, and the College of Agriculture & Life Sciences Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence for Team Research. He has been recognized for his service to numerous professional societies including President of the Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science.

The Department of Animal Science hosted a retirement celebration in honor of Dr. Harms; pictures from the event may be viewed below.





### Savell Receives Association of Former Students Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS (August 27, 2008) - Dr. Jeff Savell will be honored with the Association of Former Students Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching. Dr. Mark Hussey, Interim Vice Chancellor and Dean for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences; Marty Holmes, Assistant Executive Director of the Association of Former Students; Dr. Gary Acuff, Professor & Head, Department of Animal Science; Dr. Ronnie Edwards, Associate Department Head for Teaching, Department of Animal Science; and Patricia Gerling, Assistant Vice Chancellor for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences made the surprise announcement during Dr. Savell's Animal Science 307 class. The award will be presented during the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Fall 2008 Faculty and Alumni Awards Convocation on Thursday October 9, 2008.

Dr. Savell is professor and leader of the meat science section in the Department of Animal Science, and holds the E. M. "Manny" Rosenthal Chair in Animal Science. He teaches the introductory course in meat science where he has taught over 5,000 Aggies since 1992, as well as a course in carcass composition and quality, and team teaches a graduate and undergraduate course in HACCP. In addition, he conducts research on the quality, quantity, safety, and usefulness of meat and meat products through his appointment with Texas Agrilife Research.

The distinguished teaching honor is intended to recognize, encourage and reward superior classroom teachers – those individuals whose command of their respective discipline, teaching methodologies, pervasive caring, communication skills, and commitment to the learning process exemplify the meaning of teacher/mentor in its highest sense. Distinguished teachers recognize their responsibility in motivating and contributing to the overall development of the student. The award is designed to distinguish those teachers who maintain high expectations of their students and who insure academic rigor in their courses.



*Pictured:* Dr. Jeff Savell is presented the Association of Former Students Distinguished Achievement Award for Teaching.

### 54th Annual Beef Cattle Short Course Dedicated to Dr. Zerle Carpenter

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS (August 4-6, 2008)- The 54th Annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course, held on the campus of Texas A&M University, was dedicated to Dr. Zerle Carpenter for his service to the beef cattle industry, Texas Agriculture, and Texas A&M University. The event brought together over 1,500 participants during the three-day conference. In addition to Texas beef cattle producers in attendance, there were also participants from 15 states and 6 countries. This year's short course had one of the largest trade shows ever with 128 companies and industry groups participating. A total of 62 speakers from the Department of Animal Science, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, other universities and the beef industry spoke at 20 different Cattleman's College sessions. The annual conference is coordinated by Texas AgriLife Extension Beef and Livestock Specialists and hosted by the Department of Animal Science. Plans are already underway for next year's Beef Cattle Short Course which is scheduled for August 3-5, 2009.



*Pictured above:* The 54th Annual Texas A&M Beef Cattle Short Course was dedicated to Dr. Zerle Carpenter.

### J. Wayne Stark Galleries to Exhibit Livestock in Art

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS - J. Wayne Stark Galleries will feature an exhibition entitled "A Breed Apart: The Heritage of Livestock in Art" on September 17-October 30, 2008. The exhibition will highlight works in the Texas A&M University permanent collection that pay homage to livestock's contribution to civilization and society. Dr. Jodi Sterle will present the gallery talk on Thursday, September, 18 on 6:30 p.m. Her talk is entitled, "All Around: Livestock's Impact on Society." Students in Dr. Sterle's Animal Science 207 Art & Heritage of Livestock class will research and write the label text for the exhibition. The Stark Galleries is located at the northeast corner of the Memorial Student Center on the main campus of Texas A&M University. Tours are available upon request. For more information on this exhibit, please visit the Stark Galleries web site: <http://stark.tamu.edu>

*Pictured right:* Invitation to "A Breed Apart: The Heritage of Livestock in Art"

Image: Mondel Rogers, Horse Shoeing, oil on canvas, TAMU Perm. Coll. 1976.02.001, Gift of Mr. & Mrs. Joe Hiram Moore.

### 35th Annual Sheep & Goat Field Day Slated for September 4

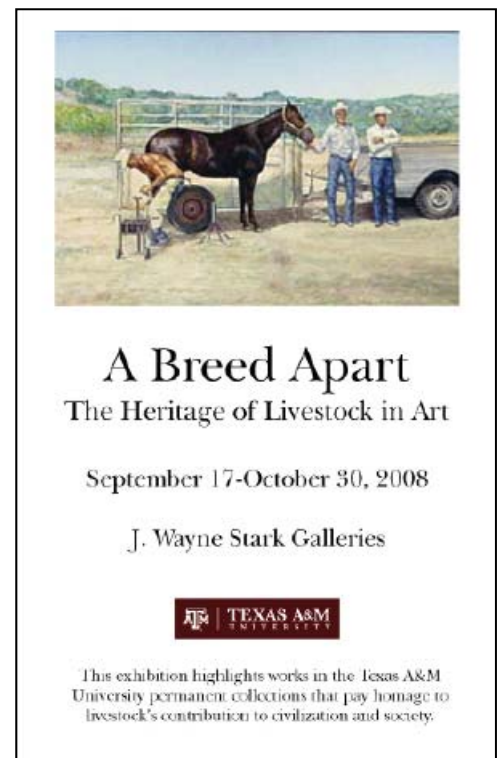
SAN ANGELO, TEXAS (September 1, 2008) - The 35th Annual Sheep & Goat Field Day at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center in San Angelo will focus on factors impacting the sheep and goat industry including the control of pricklypear, poor 2008 lamb/kid crops, new tools for reducing predation, and comparisons of Dorper and Rambouillet sheep. This year's event will be dedicated to Dr. Billy Warrick, Texas AgriLife Extension Service agronomist headquartered at the center, who retired in August after 32 years of Extension service. A catered lunch will be served followed by a presentation from Dr. Hudson Glimp, Professor Emeritus, University of Nevada, Reno on changes in the U.S. sheep industry and making the transition from tradition. The event will conclude with industry updates and an optional field tour. Three Texas Department of Agriculture continuing education units will be available for those with a private applicators license. For more information, please contact the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center in San Angelo at 325-653-4576.

### Aggieland Lamb & Goat Camp Educates Youth

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS (July 25-27, 2008) - Pearce Pavilion hosted over 450 youth interested in raising sheep and goat projects at the Aggieland Lamb & Goat Camp. Professors and experts in the sheep and goat industry gave invited presentations on topics pertaining to raising these projects, with special emphasis on the areas of health, nutrition, carcass evaluation, selection, and preparation for show. Instructors from around the state demonstrated and taught correct showmanship techniques that will help the youth successfully present their animals in the show ring. Campers were presented a certificate of achievement to document their time spent Aggieland. Eighteen campers were honored by winning prizes in the showmanship contest held during the camp with the the first, second and third place prizes in each age group receiving lamb and goat blankets donated by SureFed Feeds. A top hand award was also given in each age group in both the lamb and goat camps with these winners receiving an overnight bag with the Aggieland Lamb and Goat camp emblem, also sponsored by SureFed Feeds. For more information regarding the Aggieland Lamb & Goat Camp, please contact Dr. Shawn Ramsey <[sramsey@tamu.edu](mailto:sramsey@tamu.edu)> at 979-845-7616.

### Recent Publications

- Huerta-Montauti, D., R.K. Miller, C.E. Schuehle Pfeiffer, K.D. Pfeiffer, K.L. Nicholson, W.N. Osburn, and J.W. Savell. 2008. Identifying muscle and processing combinations suitable for use as beef for fajitas. *Meat Sci.* 80:259-271.
- Jeyabalan, G., J.R. Klune, A. Nakao, N. Martik, G. Wu. A. Tsung, and D.A. Geller. 2008. Arginase blockade protects against hepatic damage in warm ischemia-reperfusion. *Nitric Oxide* 19:29-35.
- Laster, M. A., R. D. Smith, K. L. Nicholson, J. D. W. Nicholson, R. K. Miller, D. B. Griffin, K. B. Harris, and J. W. Savell. 2008. Dry versus wet aging of beef: Retail cutting yields and consumer sensory attribute evaluations of steaks from ribeyes, strip loins, and top sirloins from two quality grade groups. *Meat Sci.* 80:795-804.



### Recent Publications Continued

- Rhoads, J.M., X.M. Niu, S. Surendran, Y.Y. Liu, and G. Wu. 2008. Arginine stimulates intestinal epithelial cell migration via a mechanism requiring both nitric oxide and p70s6k signaling. *Journal of Nutrition* 138:1652-1657.
- Shook, J. N., D. L. VanOverbeke, J. A. Scanga, K. E. Belk, J. W. Savell, T. E. Lawrence, J. B. Morgan, D. B. Griffin, D. S. Hale, and G. C. Smith. 2008. The National Beef Quality Audit-2005, Phase I: Views of producers, packers, and merchandisers on current quality characteristics of the beef industry. *Prof. Animal Scientist* 24:189-197.
- Wang, J.J., L.X. Chen, P. Li, X.L. Li, H.J. Zhou, F.L. Wang, D.F. Li, Y.L. Yin, and G. Wu. 2008. Gene expression is altered in piglet small intestine by weaning and dietary glutamine supplementation. *Journal of Nutrition* 138:1025-1032.
- Wei, L.H., Y. Yang, G. Wu, and L.J. Ignarro. 2008. IL-4 and IL-13 upregulate ornithine decarboxylase expression by P13K and MAP kinase pathways in vascular smooth muscle cells. *American Journal of Physiology* 294:C1198-C1205.
- Yao, K., Y.L. Yin, W.Y. Chu, Z.Q. Liu, D. Deng, T.J. Li, R.L. Huang, J.S. Zhang, B.E. Tan, W. Wang, and G. Wu. 2008. Dietary arginine supplementation increases mTOR signaling activity in skeletal muscle of neonatal pigs. *Journal of Nutrition* 138:867-872.
- Zeng, X.F., F.L. Wang, X. Fan, W.J. Yang, B. Zhou, P.F. Li, Y.L. Yin, G. Wu, and J.J. Wang. 2008. Dietary arginine supplementation during early pregnancy enhances embryonic survival in rats. *Journal of Nutrition* 138:1421-1425.

### Upcoming Events

Saddle & Sirloin Club First Meeting (September 2, 2008 - Room 115 Kleberg - 7:00 p.m.)

Saddle & Sirloin Club Back to School Bash (September 16, 2008 - Pearce Pavilion - 7:00 p.m.)

Departmental Seminar Series (September 24, 2008 - Kleberg Faculty Lounge - 11:30 a.m.) - Dr. Ron Gill, Texas A&M Department of Animal Science, will present. Please RSVP to Dr. Tryon Wickersham <tryon@tamu.edu> no later than Wednesday, September, 17, 2008.

Rosenthal Lecture Series (September 26, 2008) - For more information, please contact Dr. Jeff Savell <j-savell@tamu.edu> at 979-845-3935.

Fall BBQ (October 7, 2008 - Beef Center - 6:00 p.m.) - Details to be provided soon.

Aggiefest Livestock Judging Contest (October 25, 2008) - For more information, please contact Dr. Chris Skaggs <cskaggs@tamu.edu> at 979-845-7616

Aggiefest Horse Judging Workshop (November 15, 2008) - For more information, please contact Dr. Pete Gibbs or Teri Antilley at 979-8745-1562



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*Please forward additions to the mailing list and future requests and events to Lauren Schroeder <schroeder@mail.ansc.ad.tamu.edu>*