

Animal Science Weekly

September 15, 2008



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Livestock Judging Team Garners Third Place Finish at National Barrow Show®

AUSTIN, MINNESOTA (September 8-9, 2008) - Twenty-three points separated the top three teams at the National Barrow Show®, the first competition of the fall livestock judging season. Texas A&M University garnered a third place finish while the University of Illinois and Texas Tech University finished first and second, respectively. Individually, Cody Sloan earned seventh high individual overall honors while Gwen Powers finished tenth. The team is coached by Dr. Chris Skaggs and graduate students Blake Bloomberg and Zach Rambo. Team members include: Dustin Burke, Christian Fridye, Brice Mund, Lucas Neumayr, Ryan Page, Gwen Powers, Faris Simon, Cody Sloan, and Randa Yezak. The team's next competition

will be the Mid-South Fair in Memphis, TN. The livestock judging team has undergone extensive training in livestock evaluation, including selection of beef cattle, swine, sheep, goats, and horses. In each competition, the students evaluate approximately twelve classes of livestock, then present reasonings behind their decisions to a panel of experts, who evaluate the students' speaking ability and evaluation skills. The team members continue to develop their skills throughout the fall, preparing for the national contest in November.

Tomaszewski & Holloway Attend Conference on Cross-Ventilated Dairy Housing

SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA - Dr. Michael Tomaszewski and graduate student Scott Holloway attended a conference on cross-ventilated dairy housing. This concept provides for a facility that is cooled by evaporative cooling. Although there are added costs, there are reported increased production levels primarily due to increased dry matter intake and increased reproductive efficiency. At least two of these facilities have been built in Texas, one in Dublin, and the other in Friona.

Recent Publications

Dekaney, C.M., G. Wu, Y.L. Yin, and L.A. Jaeger. 2008. Regulation of ornithine aminotransferase gene expression and activity by all-trans retinoic acid in Caco-2 intestinal epithelial cells. *Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry*. 19:674-681.

Yin, F.G., Y.L. Yin, X.F. Kong, Y.L. Liu, Q.H. He, T.J. Li, R.L. Huang, Y.Q. Hou, X.G. Shu, L.X. Tan, L.X. Chen, J.H. Gong, S.W. Kim, G. Wu. 2008. Dietary supplementation with *Acanthopanax senticosus* extract modulates gut microflora in weaned piglets. *Asian-Aust. J. Anim. Sci.* 21:1330-1338.

Upcoming Events

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

J. Wayne Stark Galleries Exhibition "A Breed Apart: The Heritage of Livestock in Art" (September 17 - October 30, 2008 - College Station, TX) - Dr. Jodi Sterle will give the gallery talk entitled "All Around You: Livestock's Impact on Society" on September 18, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call 979-845-6081 or visit the Stark Galleries web site: <http://stark.tamu.edu>

Upcoming Events (Continued)

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>