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Animal Science E-Newsletter, March 2020

University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. Department of Animal Sciences

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Animal Science E-Newsletter

March 2020



Students Attend American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association Symposium

In early March, 13 members of the Pre-Veterinary Club, along with two faculty advisors (Jeremy Powell and Lauren Thomas), traveled to Virginia Tech University to participate in the 2020 American Pre-Veterinary Medical Association (APVMA) Symposium.

Hosted by a different school each year, the annual symposium typically draws approximately 500 pre-veterinary students from all over the nation! During this year's two-day event, our students had the opportunity to attend lectures presented by veterinary professionals, participate in hands-on wet labs and meet and greet with veterinary admissions counselors from all over the nation, including international schools! As an added bonus, our students capitalized on the long drive to Virginia Tech by stopping in Knoxville, Tenn. to tour the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine.

All students agree, that while the drive to and from Virginia was rather arduous, the value of the experience was well worth all the effort!}}



Members of the U of A pre-vet club and faculty advisor, Jeremy Powell.

Department of Animal Science Hosts the 2020 Arkansas Beef Quiz Bowl

The Department of Animal Science hosted the annual statewide Beef Quiz Bowl at the Pauline Whitaker Animal Science Center in Fayetteville on Friday, Feb. 28.

Twenty-nine teams, 118 students plus 4-H agents, Ag instructors and parents attended this event. Students were tested on many levels of question difficulty that were compiled by the Animal Science faculty and covered all aspects of beef production. Teams were comprised of four students who competed in a double-elimination tournament.

Congratulations to Greene County 4-H – Green for placing first, while Salem FFA—1 and Greene County 4-H – White finished second and third, respectively.

Preparation for this contest allowed students to sharpen their knowledge of beef cattle production. Additionally, students improved communication, goal setting, critical thinking, team building skills and ultimately enhanced their interest in beef cattle. This program has a great impact on educating students and encouraging a broadened perspective about their role in beef production, food safety and consumer acceptance. These efforts will be continued through the U of A Animal Science, Cooperative Extension Service, Arkansas Beef Council and agriculture teachers across the state.

This program is funded by the Arkansas Beef Council through revenue collected from the

Beef Check-Off. This U of A Cooperative Extension Service activity provides students in Arkansas an incentive to learn more about management, food safety, forage nutrition, quality assurance and end beef product. Educational material was provided for County Extension Agents and Vocational Agriculture Instructors to further the learning process beyond that of their beef 4-H and FFA projects.}



Members of the Green County 4-H--Green team who placed first overall in the quiz bowl.

Four Animal Science Faculty Present at Conferences, ASAS Midwest Section

Four Animal Science faculty members presented at various conferences, meetings and during the 2020 ASAS Midwest Section throughout February and into early March.

John Jennings presented at the Arkansas Forage and Grassland Council meeting on Thursday, Feb.13, held in Conway, Ark. He discussed techniques for managing nitrogen in grass/legume systems.

Shane Gadberry spoke to a standing-room only crowd at the River Valley Beef Conference on Tuesday, Feb. 18, in Ozark, Ark. He discussed GoGreen and other value-added programs.

Jiangchao Zhao presented at the inaugural Charles Maxwell Appreciation Club Symposium on early pig health and nutrition held during the 2020 ASAS Midwest Section / ADSA Midwest Branch Joint Meeting from March 2-4 in Omaha, Neb. Zhao discussed how early-life modulation of the gut microbiome has long-term effects on swine health and

production.

Department of Animal Science head, Michael Looper, spoke to a full house at the first Area Conference on Tuesday, March 3, held in Batesville, Ark. He provided information about the division, the statewide heifer sale and the struggles of producers that the university is conducting research around. The University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture, Department of Animal Science is serving as a signature sponsor for the nine ACA Area Spring Conferences.}



Dr. Zhao speaking at the inaugural Charles Maxwell Appreciation Club Symposium.

Department Awards



Alisun Watson won second place while competing in the undergraduate poster competition held during the ASAS Meetings



The livestock judging team won the 2020 Southeastern Livestock Expo Livestock Judging Contest held Wed., March 11, in

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