What’s Been Happening in the YLP?

The K-State Youth Livestock Program has completed another busy summer. Kicking it off with livestock nominations, to Discovery Days, K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy, Swine Classic, county fairs, Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes, and wrapping it up with the Kansas State Fair and the Kansas Junior Livestock Show, it has certainly been an exciting few months! Thank you to all youth who have participated in Youth Livestock Program events and to parents, leaders, Extension Agents, and those who have influenced their participation and dedication to Kansas 4-H and FFA. It is always fantastic to see so many smiling faces, of all ages, at our events throughout the year. We appreciate your eagerness to learn and lead as young members of the livestock industry. Looking forward to another great year!

Program Recaps

- Discovery Days
- K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy
- Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Youth Swine Classic
- County Fairs
- Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes
- Kansas State Fair
- Kansas Junior Livestock Show
Discovery Days

Kansas 4-H Discovery Days were held May 29-June 1 in Manhattan, KS. Members from across Kansas came together to learn about a variety of topics in classes led by K-State faculty, KSRE professionals, and other volunteers. This included several animal science-related workshops.

Dr. Dale Blasi, professor and state beef extension specialist, led two sessions over chuck wagon cooking. After educating youth on the historical connection between chuck wagon cooking and the cattle industry, the 4-H’ers learned how chuck wagon cooking evolved, as well as etiquette. Following the discussion, youth were divided into teams and put what they learned into action by making a variety of dishes in Dutch ovens. This included corn fritters, chili, Spanish rice, Zippity Do Dah Chicken, peach cake, and blackberry cobbler.

Swine graduate student Lori Thomas offered a workshop on swine production. This session included educating youth on the importance of biosecurity, and then participants had the opportunity to tour the K-State Swine Farm.

Dr. AJ Tarpoff, the beef extension veterinarian, hosted a Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) class. Youth participated in a discussion regarding BQA principles and saw an injection site demonstration. Then, they viewed some examples of the consequences that can arise when the BQA protocol is not followed.

Dr. Travis O’Quinn and the meat science graduate students led a workshop on meat judging. Members were introduced to the criteria and standards for judging meats and implemented their new skills by evaluating meat products. The meat science graduate students also collaborated with Meat Lab Manager John Wolf to provide a bratwurst making workshop.

Youth Livestock Coordinator, Lexie Hayes, and intern Rachel Waggie, conducted a certification class for the new national, multi-species youth quality assurance program, Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA). Participants learned about the nutrient needs of livestock, how to properly read a feed tag, proper feed storage and handling, maintaining a healthy animal, animal behavior, biosecurity, and the importance of telling their ag story.

Look for 2019 4-H Discovery Days classes hosted by the Youth Livestock Program and the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.
K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy

High school students gathered on the Kansas State University campus to take part in the K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy (KASLA) June 6-9, 2018. During their time at the K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy, students were given tours of the farms, the College of Veterinary Medicine and engaged in interactive leadership development sessions. The day of industry tours included stops at Hildebrand Farms Dairy, Seaboard Foods, Bichelmeyer Meats, and the American Royal. For their final project, students were divided into groups during the week to focus on current issues in the livestock industry. Faculty mentors from the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry assisted each group. Using information they learned throughout the academy, each group was asked to present their subject as part of the closing reception on the final day.

Former KASLA participants also had the opportunity to continue building their leadership skills through the K-State Animal Science Leadership Academy Premier Program. This program allowed KASLA alumni to put their leadership in motion in southwest Kansas.

Both events were sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) and coordinated by the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.

Plans are being made for the 2019 programs! KASLA will be June 5-8, 2019, with applications being due April 1, 2019. This program is open to students in 9th-12th grades. The date for KASLA Premier will be released soon. Please watch the KASLA webpage or Facebook page for additional details. KASLA Premier is open to KASLA alumni ages 18-20. Premier applications will be due May 1, 2019.

Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic

The 2018 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Youth Swine Classic was held July 6-7 at Cico Park on the Riley County Fairgrounds in Manhattan. There were 130 youth from 38 counties who brought 310 swine projects. Youth exhibited pigs in the prospect show, market show, and showmanship. There were also 72 participants in the swine skillathon and 23 photos in the “People’s Choice” photography contest. Next year’s event is scheduled for June 28-29, 2019.
Save the Date!

March 9  
Jr. Swine Producer Day  
March 30  
Jr. Meat Goat Producer Day  
April 1  
KASLA Applications Due  
May 1  
Market Beef Nominations Due  
June 15  
Commercial Heifer, Swine, Sheep, & Meat Goat Nominations Due

We're Social!

Facebook: Kansas State Youth Livestock Program @ksuyouthlivestock  
Snapchat: K-State Youth Livestock Program @ksuylp  
Instagram: @ksu_ylp  
Twitter: @KS_YLP

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Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes

The annual Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes was hosted August 18-19 in Manhattan, KS, where youth displayed their livestock knowledge and talent in livestock judging, meat judging, skillathon, and quiz bowl. Approximately 300 4-H members from 56 Kansas counties competed in the state contests. Complete results are available on the youth livestock website, under 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes. Mark your calendars to participate next year - August 24-25, 2019!

Kansas State Fair & Kansas Junior Livestock Show

The 2018 Kansas State Fair and Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS) were hosted during September and October in Hutchinson. Congratulations to the Kansas 4-H and FFA members who exhibited projects at the shows this year. Both shows had over 800 exhibitors! Information about each show, as well as results, may be found on each show’s respective website and social media accounts—The Grand Drive and Kansas Junior Livestock Show. Best of luck as we enter a new program year and youth select livestock projects for next year!

Upcoming Events - Kansas Junior Producer Days

The 2019 Kansas Junior Producer Days will be hosted in March at Kansas State University in the Department of Animal Sciences and Industry’s Weber Hall. The Junior Swine Producer Day will be Saturday, March 9, with Junior Meat Goat Producer Day being Saturday, March 30. All youth, parents, leaders, and Extension Agents are invited to participate in these educational experiences. K-State faculty members, graduate students, vet school professionals, extension agents, guest speakers, and specialists will speak about youth livestock project management. Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certification sessions will also be offered at both junior days. More details and registration information will be released later this fall. Please watch the youth livestock program website and Facebook page for updated information!

If you are a parent, extension agent, or project leader and would like to receive this update via email, please contact Lexie Hayes at adhayes@ksu.edu.