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**K-State plans junior beef, sheep days in March**

4-H, FFA youth invited to learn more about production, management

MANHATTAN, Kan. – Kansas youth are urged to register soon for a pair of one-day programs to increase their knowledge of livestock production and management.

Kansas State University will host the Junior Beef Producer Day on Saturday, March 5, and Junior Sheep Producer Day on Saturday, March 19. The events are put on by the K-State youth livestock program, K-State Research and Extension, and the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.

All activities will be held in Weber Arena on the Manhattan campus.

Organizers said the junior day programs are educational opportunities for youth, parents, project leaders, extension agents and others to increase their knowledge of youth livestock production and management.

Tentatively, the agenda includes:

- Project selection.
- Nutrition and feeding.
- Meat science.
- Health, reproduction.
- Grooming.
- Showmanship.
- The state livestock nomination process.

Sessions will be led by K-State faculty members, staff, students, extension agents and guest speakers. All ages are welcome, but all attendees – youth and adults -- must register.
The cost for each event is $15 per person for those who register by Feb. 11 (beef) or Feb. 25 (sheep), and $20 per person for those who register after the deadline. Those registering after the deadline will not receive an event t-shirt.

Registration is available online, or by downloading a flyer at http://bit.ly/ksujrproducerdays.

Both Junior Beef and Junior Sheep days will offer instructor-led training for youth attendees to earn YQCA certification, provided as an optional session after each junior day program concludes. The training is expected to last approximately one hour. YQCA is a national youth livestock quality assurance program in its fourth year.

These are biennial events, with sheep and beef days hosted in even years and swine and meat goat in odd years.

More information is available at www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu. For questions, please contact Lexie Hayes, youth livestock coordinator, at adhayes@ksu.edu or 785-532-1264.

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FOR PRINT PUBLICATIONS: Links used in this story


The Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry serves students, livestock producers and the animal and food industries through teaching, research and education. The K-State ASI department prepares students for careers in the animal and food industries. The curriculum includes the study of nutrition, reproduction, genetics, behavior, meat science and food science with production, management, and agribusiness skills. For more about the K-State’s ASI department visit asi.ksu.edu.

K-State Research and Extension is a short name for the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service, a program designed to generate and distribute useful knowledge for the well-being of Kansans. Supported by county, state, federal and private funds, the program has county extension offices, experiment fields, area extension offices and regional research centers statewide. Its headquarters is on the K-State campus in Manhattan. For more information, visit www.ksre.ksu.edu. K-State Research and Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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