What’s Been Happening in the YLP?

The KSU Youth Livestock Program kicked off 2020 with a bang by hosting Kansas Junior Beef Producer Day. It was an awesome opportunity to host families on campus and share our passion for the beef industry with the next generation of leaders. As we approached mid-March, the COVID-19 situation became a world pandemic and we had to make some tough decisions to protect the health and safety of our Kansas families. As a result, the Kansas Junior Sheep Producer Day was moved to a video-based format and several other programs have been postponed or cancelled across the state. The situation has been incredibly fluid, and we realize the uncertainty has been frustrating for everyone. However, we challenge families to enjoy this extra time together, expand your horizons within the livestock industry, and tap into your creative side. Stay positive, safe, and healthy! We can’t wait for the next time we get to see our Kansas families!

Program Recaps

- Kansas Junior Beef Producer Day

Upcoming Events

- 4-H Discovery Days
- KASLA
- K-State Horse Judging Camp
- “Champions” K-State Livestock Judging Camp
- Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic
- Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes
- Social Media
- YQCA

Important Dates

- Market Beef Nominations Due May 1
- Small Livestock & Commercial Heifer Nominations Due June 15
The YLP Offers:
- Jr. Beef Producer Day
- Jr. Sheep Producer Day
- KASLA
- 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes
- State Livestock Nominations
- Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic
- ASI @ Discovery Days
- Local Show & Clinic Links
- Educational Materials

Check out the materials posted on the KSU Youth Livestock Program website!

Junior Beef Producer Day
Over 615 youth, parents, and project leaders from 70 counties attended the Kansas Junior Beef Producer Day on Saturday, February 29, 2020 at Kansas State University’s Weber Arena in Manhattan, KS. Dr. Mike Day, the new Animal Sciences and Industry department head, welcomed everyone to K-State. Chris Mullinix and Dr. Jaymelynn Farney kicked off the morning with a presentation on maximizing the potential of a show steer, which included selecting the right project for a family’s goals and feeding the animal properly to achieve the appropriate market weight and condition. Next, families chose breakout sessions to attend that met their interests. Topics included learning to read a feed tag with Dr. Jaymelynn Farney, alternative protein sources led by Dr. Ann Brackenridge, and hair care and grooming by the K-State Livestock Judging Team. The afternoon activities began with a low stress cattle handling demonstration by Barb Downey and Joe Carpenter. K-State veterinarian Dr. Emily Reppert led a breakout session on beef project health, while Dr. David Grieger shared about cattle reproduction, and the K-State Livestock Judging Team hosted a workshop on showmanship. Lexie Hayes also discussed the state livestock nomination process. After the program, youth had the opportunity to become certified in Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) during an instructor-led course taught by Lexie Hayes and Charlene Miller. Junior Beef Producer Day was sponsored by Valley Vet Supply, Essential Show Feeds, Kansas Beef Council, Fink Beef Genetics, Moser Ranch, LLC, Cargill, Downey Ranch, the K-State Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, K-State Research & Extension, and the KSU Youth Livestock Program.

Junior Sheep Producer Day
Approximately 175 youth, parents, and project leaders from 38 counties were registered for Junior Sheep Producer Day. To protect the health of our participants and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 through social distancing practices, the in-person program was cancelled and materials were provided in a video format to registered participants. Bart Cardwell, instructor and Sheep Center Director at Northern Oklahoma College, provided presentations on selection, facilities, and showmanship. K-State Sheep & Meat Goat Extension Specialist Dr. Alison Crane led sessions on nutrition and wool judging. Glenn Brunkow, from the Kansas Sheep Association, spoke about transitioning show ewes to breeding ewes and shared information on the KSA’s starter flock program. A video on sheep health and wellness was led by Dr. Leslie Wagner, from the K-State vet school. Lexie Hayes discussed the state livestock nomination process, while Ally Leslie and Karrie Van Winkle submitted videos over clipping and grooming. Kansas Junior Sheep Producer Day was sponsored by Valley Vet Supply, Essential Show Feeds, Kansas Sheep Association, Kansas Sheep Council, Harris Show Lambs, Superior Farms, Northern Oklahoma College Sheep Center, K-State Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, K-State Research & Extension, and the KSU Youth Livestock Program.

Plan to join us in 2021 for the Junior Swine and Meat Goat Producer Days!
K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy

Kansas State University plans to host the K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy (KASLA) June 24-27, 2020, for young livestock leaders. This four-day event will focus on increasing young leaders’ knowledge of Kansas’ diverse livestock industry, as well as building participants’ leadership skills. The program’s itinerary will feature interactive workshops, tours and faculty mentor time with animal sciences and industry professors. Throughout the week, participants will work in teams to evaluate current events within the livestock industry. This experience will culminate with team presentations and a closing reception on Saturday morning. Twenty high school students (current 9th-12th graders) will be selected to participate. The application deadline is April 15, 2020. Application forms and details are available at www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/k-state-animal-science-leadership-academy/. This event is sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) and coordinated by the K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry.

4-H Discovery Days

The Department of Animal Sciences and Industry and the Youth Livestock Program are offering several classes during the 2020 Kansas 4-H Discovery Days. Members in livestock projects are encouraged to check out the animal science and livestock-related workshop options. Classes will include chuckwagon cooking, meat science, swine production, and YQCA certification, just to name a few.

K-State Horse Judging Camp

The K-State Horse Judging Team will host two camps this summer. A beginner’s day camp is scheduled for June 8, 2020 in Weber Hall. Registration is limited to the first 30 students and is $40 per person. The Advanced Camp will be hosted June 9-10, 2020 in Weber Hall. Registration is $130/participant. The registration deadline for both camps is May 11. More information may be found under “K-State Judging Camps” on the KSU Youth Livestock Program website.

K-State "Champions" Livestock Judging Camp

K-State Livestock Judging Coach Chris Mullinix and the K-State Livestock Judging Team will host three sessions of livestock judging camp this summer. The camp will be offered June 2-4, 5-7, and 14-16, 2020. This camp is open to 4-H and FFA members ages 14-18. Each camp will be filled on a first come-first served basis. The cost is $300 and the deadline to register is May 20. More information may be found on the KSU Youth Livestock Program website, under “K-State Judging Camps”.

Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic

The 2020 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Youth Swine Classic will be hosted July 10-11 at the Riley County Fairgrounds in CiCo Park in Manhattan. This two-day event is comprised of educational opportunities, including a swine skillathon, photography contest, showmanship, and a prospect and market hog show. All Kansas youth ages 7 and older are invited to participate. Entry forms and registration will be due June 15 and may be found on the KSU Youth Livestock website later this spring.

To be added to the KSU YLP email listserv, email Lexie at adhayes@ksu.edu.
KSU YLP Social Media

The KSU Youth Livestock Program is continuing our efforts to enhance our social media presence. Make sure to “Like” us on Facebook, “Add” us on Snapchat, and “Follow” us on Instagram and Twitter. We use these platforms to release information, provide updates, and share photos. We also have a Snapchat filter at most youth events, so we want to see your smiling faces in our filter!

We will be releasing a weekly tip for the nomination process on Tuesday evenings. Follow #NominationTipTuesday to learn more about making sure your nominations are complete. There will also be a couple of Facebook Live sessions over the state livestock nomination process this spring. Watch our Facebook page for more details!

The KSU Department of Animal Sciences & Industry also has active social media accounts, so go “Like” their page to follow all events related to KSU ASI!

The Kansas State Fair and KJLS disperse valuable information via their Facebook pages. If you are interested in those events, make sure you are following The Grand Drive and Kansas Junior Livestock Show.

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA)

Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is a national, multi-species livestock quality assurance program available for youth ages 8-21. This annual educational and certification program focuses on food safety, animal well-being, and life skill development for youth producing and/or showing livestock. The curriculum grows with a child, so youth will expand their knowledge by covering new topics every year. Youth may participate in a 60-minute instructor-led training for $3/child, or complete the online certification course for $12/child. Families need to use their 4HOnline credentials on the YQCA website (www.yqca.org) to register for training. FFA Members may create an independent account. The YQCA requirement will continue for all Kansas State Fair Grand Drive and KJLS exhibitors for the 2020 shows. Visit the KSU youth livestock program website or local extension office for more details on the YQCA program.

Given the COVID-19 situation, face-to-face trainings have to be cancelled or postponed until after May 16, 2020. Youth will need to be patient and see if their local area will be able to host an instructor-led course once in-person activities are allowed to resume, or complete the online course. In response to these circumstances, YQCA is offering an opportunity for youth to complete the online course for $9/child, which is a $3 discount, during the month of April only. Families must have a “Flash Sale” coupon to take advantage of the reduced rate. Anyone who logs in and pays with a credit card to take the course will be charged the original $12 fee. Families interested in completing the online course at the reduced rate should contact their local extension office for details on obtaining “Flash Sale” coupons.

There is now an option for 7-year-olds to become YQCA certified. However, they must participate in a junior-only instructor-led class with a parent or guardian. So, these members will need to wait until an instructor-led class can be hosted to obtain certification. They may not participate in an online course. This year will be a transition year for 7-year-olds exhibiting at KJLS, thus it will not be required for that age group until 2021.
2020 State Livestock Nominations & Updates

The 2020 state livestock nomination season has arrived! At this point in time, the state livestock nomination deadlines are in effect and will continue as originally scheduled. Any date changes that might occur in the future due to COVID-19 will be announced to extension offices, by using the KSU YLP email listserv, and on Facebook.

The current materials have been released and are posted on the KSU Youth Livestock website under “Nomination Information”. To be eligible to exhibit in the Kansas State Fair Grand Drive or at KJLS, market animals and commercial females must be formally nominated by the appropriate deadline. Also, there is not a registered breeding doe division at either show, so ALL meat goats (wethers and does) must be nominated to be shown. There are minor updates to the process this year; a list may be found on the youth livestock website. Below is a brief overview of the process. New families are highly encouraged to visit their local extension office and refer to the “Rookie Guide” for further information and specific details.

⇒ All animals that are nominated for the Kansas State Fair and/or KJLS are required to be tagged with a Kansas 4-H EID tag.
⇒ DNA hair samples are required for all nominated animals and must be submitted in an official DNA envelope. The signatures of all exhibitors within the family and a parent/guardian are required on the DNA envelope.
⇒ 2020 Declaration and Specie Nomination Forms must be used. Forms from previous years will not be accepted.
⇒ Attach a copy of the YQCA certificate(s) for each child to the Declaration Form.
⇒ Kansas practices family nominations, so all paperwork needs to be signed by ALL eligible exhibitors within a family, a parent/guardian, and an extension agent (4-H) or FFA advisor. Have all the kids sign everything! Families should not use separate forms and individually nominate specific animals for children within their family.
⇒ The nomination fee of $8.00/animal must be submitted with nomination materials, payable to KJLS.
⇒ Continuing in 2020, all swine nominations are required to include ear notches, both written and drawn, and sheep and goats must submit full scrapie tag numbers, including flock ID and animal number (correct format: KSS0035 18151).
⇒ Exhibitors will need to contact their local extension office to get their animals tagged and obtain DNA envelopes. Only extension agents and FFA advisors have the organizational authority to sign nomination paperwork.
⇒ Deadlines are postmark deadlines, which are strictly enforced. No late nominations will be accepted.
⇒ Nomination is NOT entry. After the nomination process is complete, families must officially enter each child for the show in which they would like to participate! Follow each show’s website and social media pages (Grand Drive, Kansas Junior Livestock Show) for details. Only online entries will be accepted for both shows.
Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes

The Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes will be hosted on the K-State campus in Manhattan, August 22-23, 2020. This event includes the state 4-H livestock judging contest, meat judging contest, livestock skillathon, and quiz bowl, all in one, action-packed weekend. In addition to being the Kansas qualifier for the national 4-H contests, sweepstakes awards will also be tabulated for teams and individuals who participate in all of the contests throughout the weekend. Registration is due August 1, and must be submitted by local extension units. More details will be released on the youth livestock website in June!

Meet the YLP Interns

Look for these two smiling faces at KSU Youth Livestock Program events and activities! I am pleased to introduce Madison Andrade and Jaclyn Heinrich, who will be serving as our 2020 interns. They have already helped with the junior producer days, and we are excited to have them be part of the team as we gear up for this summer!

Madison Andrade

Madison Andrade grew up on a Charolais Cow-Calf operation on the central coast of California in a small town named San Juan Bautista. Along with raising and showing cattle of many different breeds, she has also shown goats, hogs, and sheep at all levels. After high school Madison attended Butler Community College where she earned her associate degree, was a member of the Ag Ambassadors and Collegiate Farm Bureau clubs, and competed on the collegiate livestock judging team. During this time, she was also on the American International Junior Charolais Association Board of Directors as Area 1 director for two years and treasurer for one year. Madison currently is a junior at Kansas State University where is majoring in animal science and minoring in ag communications along with being a member of the Block and Bridle Club and the livestock judging team.

Jaclyn Heinrich

Although she was born and raised in Nebraska, Jaclyn Heinrich quickly became a part of the K-State family. She is currently a sophomore studying animal science in the agricultural communications option. Growing up Jaclyn was heavily involved in 4-H and FFA. Through these activities she was able to show and evaluate cattle and hogs at the local, state, and national levels. Jaclyn quickly became involved with some of the activities K-State has to offer, such as Block and Bridle, Swine Club, and Pi Beta Phi sorority. With her background and involvement within the industry Jaclyn obtained an internship with Legacy Livestock Imaging. Through this internship, she has developed a passion for the promotion of youth agriculture events, specifically through photography, advertisement, and social media. Jaclyn is excited to work with the Kansas Youth Livestock Program and can’t wait to serve the youth and families of Kansas this summer.