What’s Been Happening in the YLP?

This past year has been quite the crazy ride. During this unprecedented time, we appreciate the flexibility, cooperation, understanding, and continued engagement of Kansas families. Participation in our virtual events this spring has been overwhelming and we appreciate your support of our educational programming efforts. We are thankful to see light at the end of the tunnel and look forward to slowly transitioning back to hybrid delivery methods and some traditional programs. It’s uplifting to see hope and some semblance of normalcy on the horizon. We’re hopeful to see your smiling faces live and in 3D at some point in 2021!

Program Recaps

♦ Kansas Virtual Junior Swine Producer Week
♦ Kansas Virtual Junior Meat Goat Producer Week

Upcoming Events

♦ KASLA
♦ “Champions” K-State Livestock Judging Camp
♦ Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic
♦ Social Media
♦ YQCA
♦ State Livestock Nominations
♦ Livestock Sweepstakes

Important Dates

♦ May 1 - Market Beef Nominations Due
♦ June 15 - Small Livestock & Commercial Heifer Nominations Due
Virtual Junior Swine Producer Week

Over 850 youth, parents, and project leaders from 91 Kansas counties and seven states registered for the Kansas Virtual Junior Swine Producer Week February 15-20. Kade Hummel kicked off the Tuesday evening session with a presentation on swine project selection. Next, families chose between a beginner and advanced nutrition breakout room. Brian Hines shared about basic nutrition, while Dr. Joel DeRouchey discussed advanced nutrition. On Thursday, Lane Egger presented on meat science, while Dr. Trevor Martin of the Abilene Animal Hospital followed with a discussion on swine health and diseases. Rafe Royall began Saturday morning with a presentation on equipment and daily care. Dr. Joel DeRouchey followed by sharing information on clipping and show day preparations. Larissa Becker and Payton Dahmer wrapped up the week by discussing showmanship. Lexie Hayes offered a session over the state nomination process in the afternoon for those interested in showing at the state fair or KILS. Junior Swine Producer Week was sponsored by the Kansas Pork Association, Valley Vet Supply, Essential Show Feeds, Lindner Feeds, the K-State Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, K-State Research & Extension, and the KSU Youth Livestock Program. Educational materials, including an updated show guide and videos of the presentations are available on the Youth Livestock Program website, under the “Educational Resources” tab.

Virtual Junior Meat Goat Producer Week

Approximately 725 youth, parents, and project leaders from 91 Kansas counties and one additional state pre-registered for the Kansas Virtual Junior Meat Goat Producer Week hosted March 15-20. Skyler Scotten kicked off the week on Tuesday evening with a presentation on meat goat project selection. Dr. Alison Crane followed with a talk on nutrition. The Thursday evening session began with Dr. Emily Reppert sharing about meat goat health and diseases. Then, Bill Costanzo presented on livestock guardian dogs. Tamra Kott opened the Saturday morning program by discussing equipment, facilities, and daily care. Madison Andrade followed with a presentation on clipping and show day prep. Skyler Scotten and Madison Andrade rounded off the morning discussing showmanship. Youth had the opportunity to attend a breakout room, based on their experience level. Lexie Hayes offered an optional session of the state livestock nomination process in the afternoon. Junior Meat Goat Producer Week was sponsored by Valley Vet Supply, Essential Show Feeds, the Department of Animal Sciences & Industry, K-State Research & Extension, and the KSU Youth Livestock Program. A new meat goat show guide and videos of the presentations are posted on the youth livestock program website, under the “Educational Resources” tab.

Plan to join us in 2022 for the Junior Beef and Sheep Producer Days!
Helpful Handouts

Handouts and project show guides from Junior Producer Events can be found on the Youth Livestock Program website:

www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu

These handouts provide knowledge of how to care for and maintain your youth livestock project. Please refer to these resources for the beginner showman who needs guidance with their project as well as experienced showmen looking to learn new things.

K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy

The K-State Department of Animal Sciences and Industry plans to host the K-State Animal Sciences Leadership Academy (KASLA) June 15-18. This year’s program will offer a hybrid format of virtual instruction, followed by a closing, one-day, in-person experience on campus. Students will participate in tours and workshops virtually June 15-17. Conditions permitting, students will gather on the K-State campus on Friday, June 18 to connect with their cohort, faculty, and industry leaders. Participation is limited to 20 high school students to ensure individualized attention from counselors, professors, and industry leaders. No housing will be provided in 2021 and transportation to and from the event will be the responsibility of the participant. Local and university safety protocols will guide interactions for this event, as participant safety is of utmost importance. The program is sponsored by the Livestock and Meat Industry Council (LMIC) Inc. The academy’s goal is to develop young leaders within the livestock industry and prepare them for a successful future in this field. The application deadline is April 15. Application forms and details are available at https://www.asi.k-state.edu/research-and-extension/youth-programs/k-state-animal-science-leadership-academy/.

K-State “Champions” Livestock Judging Camp

The K-State Livestock Judging Team hopes to host their annual “Champions” livestock judging camp this summer. Please watch the youth livestock program website and Facebook page for more details later this spring! Traditionally, this camp is open to 4-H and FFA members ages 14-18. Numbers will be limited on a first-come, first-served basis.

Dr. Bob Hines Swine Classic

The 2021 Dr. Bob Hines Kansas Youth Swine Classic will be hosted July 9-10 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, as well as a prospect and market hog show. All Kansas youth ages 7 and older are invited to participate. Entries must be submitted online by 5:00pm on June 15. Payment needs to also be postmarked by June 15. The flyer and additional details may be found on the KSU Youth Livestock website later this spring. KSU and local health guidelines at the time of the show will be followed.

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, including one over registered breeding heifers this year! 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 7-21. This annual 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 2021 shows.

Given the COVID-19 situation, the availability of instructor-led (face-to-face) classes are dependent upon local health guidelines and KSU risk mitigation protocols. Youth will need to contact their local extension office for options available in their area.

There is now an option for 7-year-olds to become YQCA certified. However, they must participate in an instructor-led class with a parent or guardian. There is an option in the YQCA system to register this age group in an instructor-led course, so they will receive a certificate and certification number. If families need a web-based option for a 7-year-old, they should contact their local extension office for details. The YQCA requirement will go into effect for 7-year-old KJLS exhibitors for the 2021 show.
2021 State Livestock Nominations & Updates

The 2021 state livestock nomination season has arrived! The current materials have been released and are posted on the KSU Youth Livestock website under “Nomination Information”. Families must use the current year’s forms (2021) for their nominations to be accepted. 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.
⇒ 2021 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 2021, 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).
⇒ Gender has been added for sheep and meat goats. Exhibitors will indicate tag numbers as wether, ewe, or doe. Pigs will continue marking barrow or gilt as well.
⇒ 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.

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Important Dates!

May 1
Nominations Due:
Market Beef

June 15
Nominations Due:
Swine
Sheep
Meat Goat
Commercial Heifer

July 15
KSF Grand Drive Entries Due

August 15
KJLS Entries Due

Resources:
♦ Rookie Guide
♦ 2021 Updates
♦ Specie Checklist
♦ Deadline Table
♦ YQCA Family Memo
♦ #NominationTipTuesday
♦ Grand Drive Rules
♦ KJLS Rules

Nomination Page
QR Code

Deadlines

May 1 - Market Beef Nominations DUE (market steers and market heifers)

June 15 - Swine, Sheep, Meat Goat, and Commercial Heifer Nominations DUE

* Nomination information, forms, checklists, and the Rookie Guide may be found on the KSU Youth Livestock website: www.youthlivestock.ksu.edu.*
Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes

The Kansas 4-H Livestock Sweepstakes is being planned for August 21-22. 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 must be submitted by the local extension office. Watch the KSU YLP website for more details in June!

Meet the YLP Interns

Look for these two new faces at KSU Youth Livestock Program events and activities! We welcome Aubrey Hamilton and Cassidy Cage, who will be serving as our 2021 interns. They have already helped with the junior producer weeks, EID tag distribution, and we are excited to have them be part of the team as we gear up for summer!

Aubrey Hamilton grew up on a commercial cow/calf operation in Spring Hill, KS. Along with raising many species on her family's farm, she also showed livestock in 4-H. Aubrey showed lambs at the county and state levels. Aubrey primarily showed lambs and cattle, but she also showed goats and swine. Aubrey is a sophomore majoring in Animal Sciences and Industry, with a focus in production and management. With her background and involvement within the industry, Aubrey is super excited for this opportunity. She has come to love being actively involved in programming and getting to work with youth livestock members. Through this internship she is excited to get to promote youth in agriculture and gain knowledge on other parts of the industry. Aubrey is grateful for the opportunity and can’t wait to serve the youth of Kansas throughout the duration of the summer.

Cassidy Cage was born and raised in a small town in the panhandle of Texas called Muleshoe, Texas. She grew up in a ranching family who has run commercial beef cattle in southern Texas and across the Flint Hills of Kansas. Cassidy is anxious to follow in her family's footsteps and dedicate herself to a life in agriculture. Growing up, Cassidy showed goats through FFA. She competed in several showmanship round robin shows and learned so many life lessons through the experience. She is currently a junior studying Animal Sciences and Industry with the option of Marketing and Communications. During her time at K-State, Cassidy has become an active member of Sigma Kappa and the National Strategic Selling Institute. She is excited to learn and grow her skills throughout this internship and is looking forward to a great summer!