PUBLICATIONS

Recent departmental publications include:


TRAVELS

Milt Thomas attended the IBBA meeting in Houston on March 3-7 where he presented the DNA Technology Committee report. Also, at the meeting, NMSU was awarded the Brahman-NMSU7057 “Show Bull of the Year” award.

Attending the Western Weed Science meeting in Kona, Hawaii on March 7-12 was Kirk McDaniel.

Gail Silver and Kasey DeAtley will attend the New Mexico Bioinformatics Symposium in Santa Fe on March 25-26.

ACADEMIC QUADRATHLON

Three teams competed in the local Academic Quadrathlon for the chance to represent NMSU at the Western Regional competition in Logan, Utah. “The Northern Connection” team (Jim Armendariz, Leslie Barmann, Scott Gutierrez, and Patric Pachta) won the competition with second place going to “The Upper Half of the Lower Third” team (Jared Sharp, Jovani Armendariz, Staci Stangrough, and Kati Hanson). “Collegiate FFA” was the third place team and members were Kelli Goodan, Tate Hoisington, Katy Rosencrans, and Josh Boyd. Team advisor is Sergio Soto-Navarro who was assisted by faculty and graduate students with the local event.
WOOL TEAM

The NMSU Wool Team participated in the Intercollegiate Wool Judging Contest at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo on March 13-18. The team finished 9th overall with Shannon Norris placing as 10th High Individual. Megan Nystrom placed 3rd on the Rail while T. J. Wood was 8th in on the Rail. Also serving as a team member was Sara Rush. Team coach is Patricia Black. The team was accompanied by John Campbell, Judging Team Coordinator, and Gwen Powers, Livestock Judging Team Coach.

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

Morgan Russell, MS graduate student working with Derek Bailey, won First Place in the Oral Competition at the Society for Range Management meetings held in Denver in February with her paper titled “Grazing patterns of Angus, Brangus, and Brahman cows in the Chihuahuan Desert.”

Doctoral student, Ahmed Mohamed placed second in the PhD level poster competition at the SRM meeting with his poster titled “Using high spatial resolution satellite imagery to detect vegetation change in response to precipitation and grazing intensity in Chihuahuan Desert rangelands.” His advisor is Jerry Holechek.

Leah Lankford, master’s student in animal science, presented a poster, “Effects of human chorionic gonadotropin on serum progesterone concentrations, embryonic survival and lambing rates in ewes” at the NMSU Graduate Research and Art Symposium on March 2. Tim Ross serves as her advisor.

Keley Wilcox, a junior animal science major, and her dance partner, Dr. Brian Gilbert, a Las Cruces dentist, won first place in the local “Look Who’s Dancing” competition held at the Pan American Center.

Named Commercial Marketing Director for the North American Limousin Foundation is Mike Horvath, who received his BS and MS degrees at NMSU. He completed his MS degree in May, 2009 under the guidance of Shanna Ivey.

NEW FACULTY

Ryan Ashley has been named as new assistant professor of reproductive physiology, filling the vacant position previously held by Dean Hawkins. Ryan will assume his duties on September 1, 2010. Ryan received his B.S. and M.S. degrees from NMSU and his PhD at Colorado State University. His doctoral dissertation was titled “Identification and characterization of two ovine membrane progesterone receptors.” While at CSU, he received the Larry Ewing Travel award from the Society for the Study of Reproduction in 2007 – 2009. He twice placed 3rd and once 2nd in the Graduate Student/Post Doctoral Oral presentation event in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and has served as NIH fellowship trainee postdoctoral student since 2007. Dr. Ashley’s research interest centers around understanding how pregnancy is established and maintained in ruminants, with
emphasis on maternal immune system.

**ARAGSA BRISKET SALE**

The Animal and Range Sciences Graduate Student Association is currently taking orders for fully cooked and frozen briskets. Whole briskets are $30 while half briskets sell for $18. Slicing is available upon request for an additional $2.00. To place an order, contact Chelsea Felker (575-642-8548 or cfelker@nmsu.edu) by April 17. Briskets will be available for pick-up at the NMSU Meat Lab on Thursday, April 22 and Friday, April 23 from 12 – 7 pm.

**ETC.**

Sympathy is expressed to Stacey Madson on the death of her grandmother in Texas and to Kasey DeAtley on the death of her grandfather in California, both in February.