

## UPCOMING MEETINGS/DATES

- **Feb. 18, 2006** – Spring '06 Classes Begin.
- **Feb. 11, 2006** - Pork Classic.
- **Mar 19-22, 2006** – Midwest ASAS Meetings, Des Moines, IA.
- **Mar. 31-Apr. 1, 2006** - Little International.

## 2006 LAMB BONANZA

The 2006 Lamb Bonanza was a huge success! Again, the lamb and wool promotional activities during an evening of "Jackrabbit" basketball worked very well. More than 500 basketball fans enjoyed leg of lamb sandwiches and a lamb spread on crackers courtesy of the South Dakota Sheep Growers Association.

The marquee fund raising activity was the lamb pelt auction held during halftime. Jim and Scott Peterson served as the auctioneers. The top pelt, a new record price, sold for \$800 to Lacey Brandts, Garden City, MN. The total gross on the auction was just over \$3,700. The average price set a new record at \$621, nearly a hundred dollar increase over last years auction! These monies will be used to support undergraduate scholarships in the Animal and Range Sciences and Athletic departments at SDSU.

The success for this activity is dependent on the effort provided by sheep producer families and staff members. Nearly 20 producers from Brookings and Kingsbury Counties and ARS staff including Jay Daniel, Eric Mousel, Kelly Bruns, Rob Zelinsky, Jeff Held, and Lowell Slyter (ret.) assisted with the evening activities: Several ARS alumni served to take bids during the auction. Also thanks to Carol Kleinjan for taking care of the administrative tasks leading up to the event!

Thanks again to everyone for helping make the 2006 Lamb Bonanza special!

- Jeff Held

## CONGRATULATIONS

Clint Benson successfully defended his M.S. thesis on Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>. His studies have focused on the effects of feeding varying concentrations of dry distillers grains with solubles to finishing steers on feedlot performance, nutrient management, and odorant emissions.

## FAREWELL

ARS co-workers gathered on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> to thank Mike Boersma for his service to our department and to wish him good luck as he begins a new career with the Minnesota Extension Service. Mike will be spending time in Pipestone (his home town) and Slayton, MN serving as a County Extension Agent and 4-H Coordinator in the livestock area.



## BEEF 2020

The 2006 Beef 2020 Program was held Jan. 10-12<sup>th</sup>. Twenty seven producers and industry personnel attended.

Participants had hands-on learning activities involving live cattle and carcasses to effectively develop an understanding



of factors that create value differences among beef cattle. Producers gained information on genetic, feeding, and management techniques they can utilize in the raising and marketing of high value beef cattle. They also explored marketing options, including grids, alliances, and direct marketing of beef to consumers. ARS personnel and students involved in the program included Corey Arvidson, Kelly Bruns, Justin Fruechte, Neil Johnson and his Meat Lab Crew, Rob Maddock, Tim Nath, Robbi Pritchard, Matt Spindler, Cody Wright, and Duane Wulf. Extension personnel, John Keimig, Hutchinson County and Tyler Melroe from Marshall County, also assisted on the program. The ARS Graduate Students prepared the meals for the program participants. The program was sponsored by the South Dakota Beef Industry Council.

## **THANK YOU**

Dear Dept. of Animal and Range Sciences:

I would like to thank everyone for their kind words/acknowledgement of my receiving the Career Service Employee of the Month honor for November. Also special thanks to those who contributed - from writing the letters to organizing the reception. It really was a lot of fun, hope I get it again in January.

- Kevin VanderWal

The 2006 Beef 2020 program was extremely successful, but it definitely takes a team effort to make it happen. I'd like to publicly thank Drs. Rob Maddock, Duane Wulf, and Kelly Bruns for their assistance in developing the program and facilitating the day to day activities. I'd also like to thank Dr. Robbi Pritchard, Tyler Melroe, John Keimig, and Matt Spindler for taking part in the program as presenters and experts. Arguably the biggest acknowledgement needs to go to Neil Johnson and the crew in the Meat Lab for all of their assistance in preparing carcasses, serving as cutting instructors, and cleaning up. We really wouldn't be able to make this program work without their efforts. Finally, thank you to Betty Knutsen and Rozanne McGrath for helping with registration and the notebooks and especially to the Graduate Student Association for the great food!

Once again, Beef 2020 really is a team effort, and I appreciate all you do to help make it a success. Thanks again.

- Cody Wright

## **Range Beef Cow Symposium**

The four-state Range Beef Cow Symposium XIX was held on December 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City. Attendance was approximately 700 producers and industry individuals. The program consisted of thirty-two speakers from across the four states (SD, NE, WY, CO) and United States. SDSU was well represented by George Perry, Sandy Smart, Russ Daly, and Cody Wright with their presentations.

Bob Thaler and Dean Gary Lemme were Ramrods, and Extension Director Jerry Warmann started the symposium with a welcome. Numerous other faculty members and Extension Educators participated and assisted with various activities to make the program successful. There were also 98 industry booths for producers to visit at the trade show.

Thanks go out to everyone who helped make it an excellent symposium.

- Julie Walker

## **CONCERNS**

We extend our sympathy to Dean Peters and his family. Dean's father, James Peters, passed away this week. Funeral services will be held next Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup> in State College, PA.

## **JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

January 20<sup>th</sup> Shelly Widmer  
January 29<sup>th</sup> Artur Rosa

**Thought for the Week:** Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other."  
- Abraham Lincoln