

K-State Research and Extension



November 2010 Update

- The 11th annual Beef Stocker Field Day on September 30 attracted more than 225 people. Topics included market outlook, receiving protocols and more.
- A team of K-State scientists led by Ganga Hettiarachchi, assistant professor of soil and environmental chemistry, along with neighborhood residents completed a second successful year of community garden production on a "Brownfield" site in Kansas City, Kan.
- 4-H National Youth Science Day's 2010 experiment was "4-H₂O." It focused on encouraging students to learn about the environment and factors such as acid rain, runoff, and algae that influence the environment. Part of the experiment is designed to help children and families learn to calculate their carbon footprint and practice ways to reduce their own environmental impact.
- K-State's C. Michael Smith will receive the Entomological Society of America's Recognition Award, an honor sponsored by Syngenta Crop Protection. Smith's research group has identified numerous genes in barley and wheat plants resistant to the pest aphid Diuraphis noxia, and established that transcriptomes or total cell RNA of resistant plants are expressed more rapidly and at higher levels than those of susceptible plants.
- The "Final Drive," a fundraiser kicked off last month in Kansas City, Mo., honors Stanley Stout, one of the beef industry's most successful auctioneers and one of K-State's most passionate supporters. The Department of Animal Sciences and Industry is using the event to launch a fund-raising initiative for the final phase of the Stanley E. Stout Livestock Marketing and Learning Center project. The on-campus facility will provide educational resources and a home to the K-State Legacy Sale one of the longest-running annual beef cattle auctions among U.S. land-grant universities. Stout died April 30, 2006.
- Joel DeRouchey, professor of animal science, has been named the recipient of a South Dakota State University "Young Alumni Award." DeRouchey earned a bachelor's degree in animal science from SDSU in 1997 and joined the faculty here in 2001. He works as a member of the K-State Research and Extension applied swine team and with state and regional manure-management teams. As a primary or co-investigator, he has received \$1.3 million for applied swine research, \$1.4 million for environmental research and education, \$2.1 million in gifts and gifts in-kind, and has been issued one patent.
- On Nov. 1, Esri, a GIS software company, featured the work of the Leavenworth County 4-H GIS/GPS Club, on its Education Community Blog. Esri is helping Kansas 4-H Youth Development become a leader in geospatial literacy as a part of workforce preparedness. On Twitter, 748 people follow its education post, and Esri has 902 friends on Facebook. The blog post said, "The first complete Youth Community Atlas project submitted for 2010-2011, produced by a 4-H club in Kansas, integrates technologies nicely."
- Bikram Gill, university distinguished professor in plant pathology, is working with a team on Hessian flywheat interaction. The project, funded by USDA-NIFA, seeks to develop the physical map for wheat chromosome 6D that will be used to clone the Hessian fly resistance gene H13. Gene H13 was first identified and mapped at K-State in the 1980s.