



K-State Research and Extension



May 2011 Update

- Phillip Stahlman, professor of weed science at the Kansas State University Agricultural Research Center–Hays, has been selected as the president-elect of the Council for Agriculture Science and Technology for the 2011–2012 year.
- More than 400 taxpayers used the volunteer tax assistance program coordinated by K-State Research and Extension–Riley County this tax season. Volunteers assisted taxpayers in collecting more than \$550,000 in refunds and paying more than \$28,000 in tax liabilities. Fifteen volunteers, including eight K-State students, staffed the assistance site at the Manhattan Public Library for eight weeks.
- Rachel Opole from the Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute (KARI) was awarded a Norman E. Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agricultural Program fellowship. She will spend three months doing research at ICRISAT in India, three months at KARI in Kenya, and the final six months at K-State. She is the 12th Borlaug Fellow to study at K-State.
- A \$4.5 million grant from NIFA will allow researchers at K-State and five other institutions to study 4-year-olds whose food choices are influenced by their parents, extended family, and the community. Research efforts will focus on improving food and lifestyle choices that balance calories and activity. Paula Peters coordinated the grant application process for K-State Research and Extension
- More than 400 people from 47 counties attended the K-State Junior Swine Producer Day. Participants learned about swine selection, care, breeds, and showmanship from professor Joel DeRouchey and featured speaker Al Schminke. Youth also participated in Pork Quality Assurance Plus training presented by Chelsea Tomascik, Josh Flohr, Matt Asmus, and Jon Bergstrom. Professor Terry Houser demonstrated meat and carcass evaluation. The Kansas Pork Association and Suther Feeds were sponsors.
- Department of Communications news writer Kathleen Ward and Dennis Patton, Johnson County’s K-State Research and Extension horticulturist, write about 20 columns each year for the “Grow” supplement in the Kansas City Star. “Grow,” which runs in spring and fall Thursday editions, often carries additional K-State horticulture and forestry articles, making the university a dominant urban news source.
- An op-ed article written by Bikram Gill, professor and founder of the Wheat Genetic and Genomic Resources Center, focused on the work of feeding a hungry world with improvements in wheat genetics. The article, which outlined ramifications of budget cuts on continued work, appeared in the Kansas City Star, Topeka Capital-Journal, and other media outlets.
See: <http://www.kansascity.com/2011/04/26/2829346/a-wheat-called-norman-just-might.html>
- The College of Human Ecology awarded the Faculty Extension Excellence Award and \$2,500 to Elaine Johannes, assistant professor and youth development specialist, for her work with the “Get It-Do It” program, which encourages young people to promote healthy activity and eating habits. Each of seven Kansas PRIDE communities — Alton, Council Grove, Glasco, Grainfield, Grinnell, Mount Hope, and Smith Center — received \$3,000 grants for 2011.