



K-State Research and Extension



July 2011 Update

- Ludek Zurek, associate professor of entomology, presented “Microbial Ecology and Epithelial Immunity of the Sand Fly *Lutzomyia longipalpis*,” at the 7th International Symposium on Phlebotomine Sandflies in Kusadasi, Turkey. More information is available at <http://www-personal.ksu.edu/~lzurek>
- Two K-Staters were added to the Ad Astra 150 scientists list in June: Anna Whitfield, associate professor of plant pathology, is studying tomato spotted wilt virus, which can severely harm peanut and tobacco crops. Bob Schoeff, professor emeritus of grain science and industry — and international expert on grain elevator explosions — was chosen for his work and research into mill and elevator safety.
- A K-State team received a superior paper award from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers for “Characterization of Sorghum Biomass as Feedstock for Sugar Production.” Authors are professor Donghai Wang, doctoral student Karnnalin Theerarattananoon, and research assistant professor Xiaorong Wu, all in biological and agricultural engineering; Scott Staggenborg, professor of agronomy; Jonathan Propheter, (B.S. '07 agricultural technology management, M.S. '09 agronomy); and Ron Madl, director of the Agricultural Products Utilization Forum.
- Sean Fox, professor of agricultural economics, and Shonda Anderson (M.S. '11 agricultural economics) explored consumer attitudes on cloned animals. They surveyed Kansas State University undergraduates in agriculture, English, and sociology, as well as agriculture students at University College Dublin in Ireland and Ecole Supérieure d'Agriculture, Purpan, France. They are working on studies in China and Honduras.
- Eric Atkinson of the K-State Radio Network received a citation for distinguished service to Kansas 4-H at the Emerald Circle Banquet in early June. Kansas 4-H scholarships totaling \$40,650 were awarded to 54 members, and 31 project winners were honored.
- Results from the Association for Communication Excellence/National Extension Technology Conference in Denver: Elaine Edwards, news media services and marketing leader, was installed as ACE president. Jason Ellis, assistant professor, joined the board as a regional director. The Kansas chapter was awarded a \$900 grant for professional development in social media. Award winners were: Deb Pryor and Kerri Ebert — gold and outstanding professional skill awards in distance education and instructional design for *Youth Livestock Safety*; Donna Sheffield, Robert Holcombe, Nancy Zimmerli-Cates, Amy Hartman, Gina Nixon, Jeff Whitworth, Phil Sloderbeck, and Holly Davis — silver award in technical publications for *Crop Insects of Kansas*; Jeff Wichman — bronze award in electronic media, audio for *Agribusiness Development Team #3*.
- The Smoky Hill River Watershed Restoration and Protection (WRAPS) group has partnered with the city of Salina on a riverbank stabilization project. The WRAPS group provided funds and worked with FFA members to plant trees on the banks. The goal of the project is stop or reduce bank erosion, limiting the amount of soil in the river. The project location, next to Salina's soccer complex, provides an educational opportunity about the need and methods to stabilize waterways.