



March 2010 Update

- K-State Research and Extension and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas collaborated to offer “What Cookin’ with Diabetes” last year, attracting 992 participants. Diabetes is a growing issue. The number of Americans with diabetes quadrupled from 1980 to 2008, with annual costs of health care and lost productivity totaling an estimated \$174 billion. Sites for the “What’s Cookin’ with Diabetes” program included Fort Scott, Garden City, Hoyt, Hutchinson, Lawrence, Manhattan, Topeka, and Wichita. The 10-session program was offered in English and Spanish at one site. Attendees included residents from 54 Kansas counties, along with six people from outside the state. Follow-up research indicated that the information participants received during the program significantly affected their intended use of nutritional information sources.
- Of the 62 articles in the upcoming issue of *Agronomy Journal*, 11 are from K-State authors, and 10 of them represent original work done here. Faculty contributors include: Scott Staggenborg, D. Wang, John Holman, Curt Thompson, Alan Schlegel, Jeff Williams, Troy Dumler, Nathan Nelson, Barney Gordon, Larry Maddux, Keith Janssen, Bill Schapaugh, Dorivar Ruiz Diaz, Kraig Roozeboom, Bill Heer, Loyd Stone, and Humberto Blanco.
- The Northwest Research-Extension Center in Colby recently noted the 20th anniversary of a study of subsurface drip irrigation (SDI) to improve the use of scarce water resources for row crop production. The study, initiated at in 1989, represents the longest continuously operated SDI research system for row crops in North America.
- The Kansas 4-H Dog Care and Training program offers annual competitive events for more than 3,000 youth, focusing on basic dog obedience training, showmanship skills, and agility obstacle courses. Each year approximately 250 youth qualify for age-appropriate showmanship classes and skill-based obedience and abilities at the State 4-H Dog Show. The program also offers educational conferences and judge certification, training more than 20 percent of the state’s certified judges.
- Christy and Ron Ratliff of Garnett were recently honored as the 2010 Kansas Distinguished Dairy Family of the year. The designation is awarded jointly by K-State Research and Extension and *Kansas Farmer* magazine. The Ratliffs are leaders in adopting dairy breeding technologies such as artificial insemination, embryo transfer, in vitro egg maturation, in vitro fertilization, and embryo sexing.