


BEEF COUNCIL bullhorn



Dairy Consortium Returns to In-Person Program

Thanks to Robert Hagevoort, PhD, NMSU/ACES and all the producers the consortium relies on and the sponsored support from the allied industry, the Dairy Consortium was able to have an in-person program in 2021. The Consortium was not held last year due to the pandemic. COVID safe practices were in place, and only a limited number of students were able to attend. Thirty-five students from all over the U.S. called Clovis home for 4 (instead of the regular 6) weeks and learned all about modern dairy management. The class is grateful for the support received from producers, allowing the class to come out and visit the dairies. For several program parts the students are out in corrals with the cows. Many producers welcomed this large group of outsiders back on their farms which marked the first visit of outsiders since the pandemic began. Dr. Hagevoort, coordinator of this program, says, "The Dairy Consortium's strength is the hands-on, or experiential learning experience, it defies logic to try and conduct a program like this long-distance or online. Ultimately learning the 'what's what' and 'who's who' in the industry is done by being out on dairies and seeing and doing it first-hand!"

For more information check out the program at: usdetc.tamu.edu. 



Dairy Consortium Class of '21

U.S. Beef Academy Commences In-Person Learning

The United States Beef Academy (USBA) is an educational event for young men and women who are motivated to learn about the beef industry. This event is under the direction of New Mexico State University Department of Extension Animal Sciences and Natural Resources, and Texas Agri-Life Extension. It was designed to be a follow-up educational program for young men and women who have completed another New Mexico extension program, the NM Youth Ranch Management Camp. The US Beef Academy was formed to provide a unique, intense educational experience for the students that attend. The Academy's faculty are specialists in the Department of Extension Animal Sciences and Natural Resources, professors from the Department of Animal and Range Sciences and specialists from Texas Agri-Life Extension. The Academy is a five day, intensive educational opportunity for young men and women aged 18-21 years. This acad-



(above) USBA students evaluate cattle at the Corona Ranch.



(left) US Beef Academy Class of '21 with Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Executive Director of the NMBC, and Council Director John Heckendorn.

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Learning about beef grades brings smiles to students.

capped at 16 students per year and in 2021, there were more applicants than roster positions. The 2021 student roster consisted of one veterinarian, three veterinary students, four graduate students (both Master's and PhD) and seven upper class undergraduate students. The students were from several universities and colleges including NMSU, Dine College, TX A&M, Colorado State and Oklahoma State. The Academy receives corporate and industry support from several local, regional and national companies that facilitate the delivery of the US Beef Academy. It is a collaborative effort of NMSU Dept of Extension Animal Sciences and Natural Resources, Texas Agri-Life Extension and Colorado State University.

N.M.B.C. is grateful to John Wenzel, DVM and faculty for coordinating and conducting this program. ■

my focuses strictly on current methods and technology used in beef production. Each day of the Academy focuses on a different area of beef production.

In 2021, the US Beef Academy, held at the Corona Range and Livestock Research Center in Corona, NM, completed their sixth Academy. The Academy has hosted 83 students from 17 states and Mexico over the six-year period. The class is



(above) Dr. Jack Thomas assigns duties in the beef lab.



(left) Dr. Jack Thomas gives hands-on instruction on how to fabricate beef.

(below) Congratulations U.S.B.A. Class of 2021!



Youth Ranch Management Camp

The New Mexico Beef Council, along with the NMSU's College of ACES, New Mexico Cattle Growers Association and New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau, and several beef industry companies sponsor the Youth Ranch Management Camp. The Camp was held, after taking last year off, once again at the CS Cattle Company's 130,000-acre ranch at the foot of the Sangre de Cristo mountain range near Cimarron; the cattle and hunting ranch has been family owned and operated since 1873 by the Davis Family.

Collaboration between NMSU Extension specialists, county Extension agents and members of the ranching industry provide an opportunity for youth to learn about the many aspects of ranching through a hands-on curriculum on all things beef, marketing and economics, natural resources and range land management. ■



Students from all over the state participate in hands-on learning about ranching.

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2021-2022 DIRECTORS – CHAIRPERSON, Zita Lopez (Feeder); **VICE-CHAIRPERSON**, Cole Gardner (Producer); **SECRETARY**, Marjorie Lantana (Producer).

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