Nebraska pork talk

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VFD is Around the Corner

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Nebraska pork talk

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All inquiries and address corrections should be directed to the Nebraska Pork Producers Association.

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Calendar of Events

November 2016
29 Regional Producers Meeting, Norfolk

December 2016
1 Regional Producers Meeting, Beatrice
5 Application Deadline, NPPA Pork Mentorship Program
6 Regional Producers Meeting, Columbus
15 Application Deadline, Larry E. Sitzman Scholarship

January 2017
1 Happy New Year
4 Legislature Convenes
15 Application Deadline, Pork Leadership Program
16 Office Closed , Holiday Observed

February 2017
14 2017 Annual Meeting, Lincoln
14 2017 Ribs & Bibs, Lincoln

March 2017
1-3 2017 Pork Industry Forum, Atlanta, GA

April 2017
23 3rd Annual Star City Baconfest, Lincoln

August 2017
17-19 Capitol City Ribfest, Lincoln

For more information on any of these scheduled events call 888-627-7675 or www.nepork.org

pork checkoff

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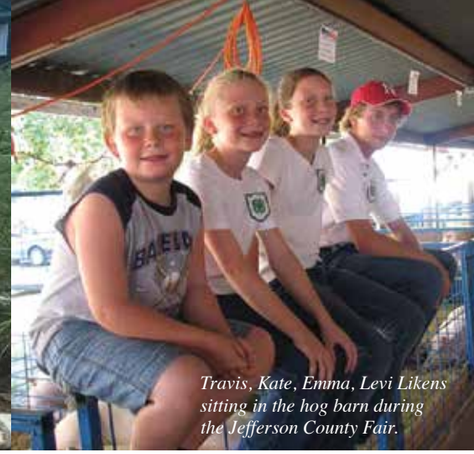

Travis, Kate, Emma, Levi Likens sitting in the hog barn during the Jefferson County Fair.

THE INDUSTRY THAT CHANGED MY LIFE

KATE LIKENS | NPPA INTERN

I'm a huge advocate for individuals within agriculture to share their story with consumers. With all the misconceptions out there related to agriculture, one of the best things we can do is talk more about what all goes on in our daily lives, and why we do things the way we do. According to Ag Day, "over 22 million people are employed in farm or farm-related jobs." That's a lot of stories to share! I happen to be one of those 22 million people, and this is my story.

I grew up watching my two older siblings show pigs at the county fair, and although I wanted nothing more than to be just like them, I was terrified of pigs. When it came time for me to be in 4-H, I happily said no to showing pigs my first year. However, during year two I found some courage and decided to give showing pigs a try. Worst. Idea. Ever. I ended up being "that kid". The one that didn't look at the judge because they were too busy trying to stay away from all the other pigs in the ring, and the one that stayed as close to the fence as possible, ready to bale over the top at any moment. As my first showing experience came to an end, with tears streaming down my face, I told my dad that I would NEVER be doing that again. Six years later I joined my schools FFA chapter, and decided to give showing pigs another try. Best. Idea. Ever. That experience was what initially sparked my interest in the agriculture industry.

2016 Pork Mentorship Program Participants

Two years into showing I had to make a choice between showing for a third year at the county fair, or attending the Nebraska Agriculture Youth Institute (NAYI). I was dead set on the fair, but my older sister was dead set on changing my mind. This is one argument that I am happy to say she won. My life changed again when I attended NAYI. Prior to NAYI I had grand plans to go to school for something fitness related. I grew up in a rural community, and had had some experience in the agriculture industry, but I didn't realize that there was a place for me within agriculture. However, everything changed that week. I learned about careers within agriculture that I didn't know even existed. Right then and there, I realized that there was a place for me within the agriculture industry.

Fast forward to my collegiate career, I continually learn and grow through awesome experiences in the agriculture industry. One of them being a part of the Pork Mentorship Program. I've had the opportunity to combine two of my favorite things—pigs, and youth education. In the spring I talked to over 200 elementary students about pork production, where their food comes from, and why we raise it the way we do. In July, I spoke at the very conference that changed my life to just under 180 high school students about all the job opportunities within the swine industry. Seeing the students' faces light up as they started to put all the pieces together was just another moment when I realized that there was a place for me within the agriculture industry.

The agriculture industry has changed my life for the better—from being the young girl crying in the show ring, to overcoming my fears, to continuously opening my eyes to new opportunities and allowing me to do the things I am most passionate about. I am proud to be one of 22 million individuals in agriculture. I am proud to share my story.

Participation in NPPC Fall Legislative Action Conference creates Educated Advocates for the Pork Industry

By Chris Ford

Members of the Pork Leadership Program took to the skies in September to participate in the 2016 Fall Legislative Action Conference in Washington, D.C. The conference was a unique opportunity for our group to participate in the political discussion of topics/issues that currently affect the pork and agriculture industries. This experience allowed our group the chance to advocate for the pork industry while facilitating and participating in key discussions with industry leaders, stakeholders, producers, and lawmakers.

The conference, with approximately 150 delegates from across the United States, kicked off with a warm welcome from the National Pork Producers Council President, John Weber. He spoke about the important work being done over the next two days educating and discussing issues with elected officials. Weber emphasized there was no bigger issue that would shape the landscape of the future of the pork industry more than the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). He stressed that impact of the United States adjoining this partnership, which would direct the future sustainability of pork production. The other two issues that Weber explained were the Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) Rule and the need for a Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Vaccine Bank.

Michael Formica, Assistant Vice President of Domestic Affairs and Council for NPPC, gave the first issue briefing on the GIPSA Rule. The GIPSA Rule was originally implemented to prevent the "unfair, unjustly discriminatory or deceptive practices" related to the farmers' ability to sell animals, dictate the terms of private contracts, and would lead to more vertical integration with less innovation within the swine industry. Formica continued to explain NPPC's position to oppose legislation and regulation that would restrict producers' ability to sell and packers' ability to buy livestock. According to a November 2010 study from Informa Economics, this rule would have cost the pork industry more than $330 million annually.

Liz Wagstrom, Chief Veterinarian for NPPC, gave the second issue briefing. She discussed the impact to pork production and described the concerns with a potential outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease within the United States. The implementation of a FMD Vaccine Bank would provide a more timely response and would help to minimize the negative effects of an outbreak. Currently the only vaccine within the United States is at Plum Island, NY, where the antigen concentrate for a limited number of FMD strains are stored. If an outbreak were to occur, these antigens would be shipped to England or France to be turned into finished products and then shipped back to the United States to be administered. Wagstrom explained that an outbreak of FMD would have crippling effects on all livestock production across the country. She explained that by creating a FMD vaccine bank, the United States could insure that sufficient dosages were available for immediate deployment, which is crucial to quickly mitigating the FMD affects. NPPC supports a FMD vaccine bank to ensure there are necessary dosages available to act quickly in response to an outbreak.

The final and most important impactful issue briefing was about the United States' participation with the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Nick Giordano, Vice President and Counsel, Global Government Affairs passionately presented the issue for NPPC. He outlined the importance of exports to the sustainability of the pork industry. Giordano explained that according to the 2015 pork export figures, the United States shipped out 2.13 MMT which accounts for 24% of the entire US production. Those exports add more than $48/head to the value of each hog marketed and with the domestic demand/consumption of pork remaining static, exports will prove to be a critical component to the future success of this industry. Giordano continued to explain that today the United States markets to expanding and emerging countries like Japan; who in 2015 imported 406,000 MT of US pork valued at $1.58 billion. "The telling piece of the Japan market is that level of imports are happening with a gate price system in place." If TPP is implemented this "gate price" would virtually be eliminated. NPPC supports for the TPP as it presents an unprecedented opportunity to expand trade markets in the emerging Asia-Pacific region.

After the issue briefings, the conference continued with a market update from Dustin Baker, Manager of Production Issues for NPPC. Baker presented a concerning message around the expansion of sows, shortage of packing capacity, and too much supply will tighten margins in Quarter 4 of 2016 into Quarter 1 and potentially Quarter 2 of 2017. He explained that packers are currently not bidding up animals for harvest due to a large glut of hogs that are and will be hitting the market within the next few months. Baker further described much of the concern throughout the country revolves around the upcoming Presidential election and the fears of potential interest rate hikes. This discussion topic lead into the next presenter, David Wasserman of the Cook Political Report, who enlightened and delighted the crowd with a unique presentation of handicapping the Presidential race.

The morning concluded with a pep talk by a special guest and TPP advocate Congressman Ron Kind from Wisconsin. He reiterated the importance to the US participation in the TPP agreement and he coached the delegates on how to educate those that have an opposing viewpoint with the facts of the issue.

The entire group was then sent to Capitol Hill with an arsenal of information and facts to meet with their respective elected representatives to discuss the issues impacting the pork industry. The Nebraska group was forced to split into two groups to meet the timeframes allowed by the busy schedules of the Senators (Fischer and Sasse) and Congressmen (Fortenberry, Smith, and Ashford). Each group was allotted approximately 30 minutes of the representative's time to allow for the introduction, discussion, and continued education of each of the issues. Although a few of the visits were cut short by hearings and other commitments, the members of the Pork Leadership program were able to present the issues, concerns, and facts and answer any questions. All of the topics were discussed with a majority of support for the NPPC positions and ultimately for the support of Nebraska agriculture. Following the afternoon's visits was the much anticipated Rack of Pork reception which allowed for further discussion and networking of delegates and the staff of the representatives. The Nebraska group was fortunate to have some of the Congressmen attend the reception themselves and continue to build relationships with these key lawmakers.

The following morning was the Report Back Breakfast in which each state's delegates reported back on their visits and provided follow-up discussion topics for future visits with the NPPC. Many of the states reported back similar to what the Nebraska groups experienced, however, there were some representatives that had reservations about the TPP issue specifically.

The Legislative Action Conference was an incredible experience to get to have impactful discussions with our elected officials and to see firsthand how the political process works in Washington, D.C. The political process can at times feel overwhelming, but this trip proved that every voice counts.

The Nebraska Delegation to Washington, D.C included:

Al Juhnke, Executive Director for the Nebraska Pork Producers Association;

Amy Schmidt, Assistant Professor at UNL;

Austin Zimmerman, Product Design Engineer with AP;

Chris Ford, Credit Analyst-Swine with Farm Credit Services of America;

JD Gustafson, Account Executive with Holmes Murphy;

John Csukker, board member for NPPA and Environmental Service Manager with The Maschhoffs;

Kyla Habrock, Leadership and Education Director for NPPA;

Kent Bang, board member for National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) and Relationship Manager with Ag Star;

Leslie McCuiston, Senior Production Manager with The Maschhoffs;

Mike Wisnieski, board member for NPPA and Director of Livestock with Standard Nutrition

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Accepting Applications: 2017 PORK LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

The Nebraska Pork Producers Association wants you to be a part of the Nebraska Pork Leadership Program in 2017

The Nebraska Pork Producers Association wants you to be a part of the Nebraska Pork Leadership Program in 2017.

The Nebraska Pork Producers Association believes in, and is committed to helping develop agricultural leaders. The Pork Leadership Program serves as a resource for talented people who want to contribute to the future of Nebraska's pork industry. The Pork Leadership Program will build awareness, interest, and involvement in the pork industry at the state level.

The year-long program runs from February to February. During that time Pork Leadership Program participants will participate in six meetings and activities where they will learn about and experience various aspects of the pork and agriculture industries. Program members will not be responsible for any expenses to participate in the program.

The Nebraska Pork Leadership Program is directed under Kyla Habrock, of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association. Habrock stated, "The program was created out of necessity—as a way to build awareness, interest, and involvement in the pork industry at the state level. Participants will develop their skills as leaders through these shared experiences and will naturally emerge as the next wave of active and engaged members of committees and board members."

If you are connected to agriculture and believe in the future of the pork industry, you are encouraged to apply. Applications are available online at nepork.org, under the youth tab. Applications are due January 15, 2017.

Above: Participants of the 2016 Pork Leadership Program include: JD Gustafson of Omaha; Amy Schmidt of Eagle; Leslie McCuiston of Columbus; Chris Ford of Omaha, and Austin Zimmerman of Lincoln.

Below: Each participant shares unique experiences that shape their perspective of the pork industry, ranging from insurance, finance and lending to research, caring for pigs, and equipment sales and design, as well as a shared passion for advocating on behalf of the pork industry.

NPPA Annual Meeting

President Russ Vering would like to announce that the Nebraska Pork Producers Association will be holding is Annual Meeting and Ribs & Bibs "Salute to Nebraska's Senators" at the Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center on Tuesday, February 14, 2017. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** President Vering promises a full agenda. A Board of Directors meeting with the election of new officers and members is first on the agenda followed by informative speakers addressing industry issues, employee do's and don'ts and what to expect from a new administration.

Opening the program, is one of Nebraska's favorite speakers, Mike Brumm. Mike's specific topic is yet to-be-determined, however NO FEAR, Mike's vast knowledge and experiences will guarantee producers leave with valuable information.

What's Up in Washington? The winner of the 2016 presidential election will assume the role of chief executive of the United States, on Friday, Jan. 20, 2017. Speaking on what this new administration could mean for our industry is Bill Davis, Senior Director for Congressional Relations for the National Pork Producers Council in Washington, D.C. As the Senior Director of Congressional Relations, Davis' primary focus will be engagement with the U.S. Congress on issues related to trade, energy, the environment, and tax.

Nebraska's State Senators will be joining the festivities around 5:30 p.m. for cocktails and dinner. Meaningful conversations and great food is what "Ribs and Bibs" is all about.

NPPA Annual Meeting & Ribs & Bibs

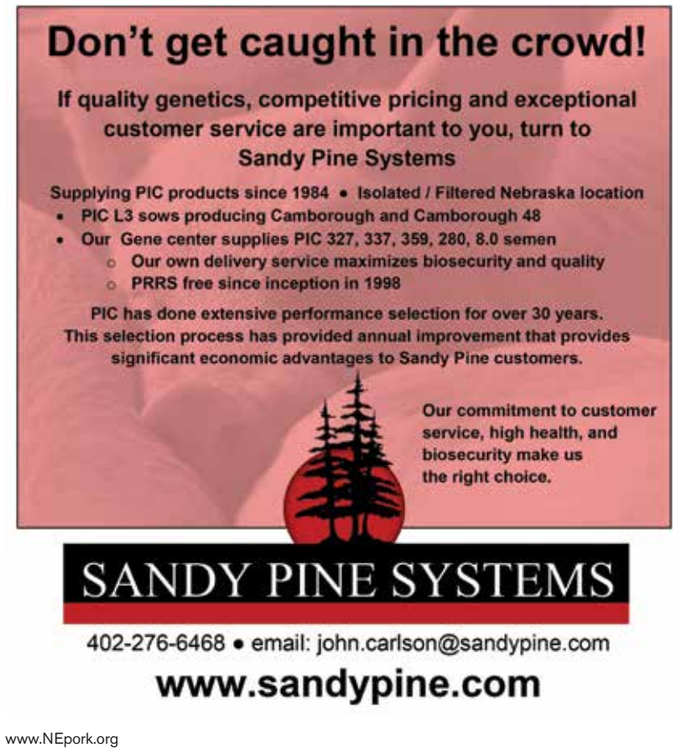
Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center
2021 Transformation Drive, Lincoln, Nebraska

10:30 a.m.	Board of Directors Meeting/Board & Officer Elections
11:15 a.m.	Mike Brumm–Topic TBD
12:30 p.m.	Awards Luncheon: Service Awards, Recognitions of NPPA Mentorship and Leadership Program Participants
2:00 p.m.	What's Up in Washington? Speaker: Bill Davis, Senior Director for Congressional Relations, National Pork Producers Council, Washington, D.C.
3:00 p.m.	Employee Hiring Do's & Don'ts Panel Discussion
4:30 p.m.	Allied Recognitions

Ribs & Bibs–Salute to Senators

Banquet Hall–Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center

5:30 p.m.	Hors d'oeuvres and Cocktails
6:15 p.m.	Dinner



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ANTIBIOTIC STEWARDSHIP SUPPORTS **ANIMAL HEALTH** AND **SAFE FOOD**

With growing concerns about antibiotic resistance, people ask how antibiotic use in animals could affect their health and the health of their families. While many understand that these medicines are needed to protect animal health and produce safe food, some ask how farmers can ensure antibiotics are used responsibly to minimize the selection for antibiotic-resistant bacteria and to protect these valuable medications for both human and animal health.

This is an important conversation and one the U.S. pork industry has been engaged in for many years. The industry is committed to helping consumers understand how and why antibiotics are used to keep our food safe and animals healthy through continuous improvement of best practices on the farm. Antibiotic resistance is a critical issue that everyone must address together through a science-based approach.

1 Antibiotics are essential for healthy livestock and safe food.

Antibiotics are critical to treat and prevent disease – in humans and animals. Without the responsible and timely use of antibiotics, sickness can spread rapidly on a farm, endangering the health of animals and the safety of our food.

Our view is simple: Produce healthy livestock, produce safe food. When you go into a grocery store or restaurant, you should not have to worry about the safety of the food you are buying for your family. For that reason, the pork industry ensures that pigs stay healthy in several ways:

- Farmers work closely with their veterinarians to protect their pigs' health and reduce the need to use antibiotics.
- The pork industry funds research on antibiotic resistance to ensure that farmers continue to improve best practices for the use of these medicines on the farm. The goal is to protect the efficacy of antibiotics for humans and animals.
- The industry works closely with animal and human health experts to define and guide responsible antibiotic use.
- Farmers need access to the right tools to treat and prevent disease in their animals. To not treat them would be inhumane, resulting in reduced animal welfare and increased concerns about food safety.
- Farmers keep detailed records of all medicine they use in raising and caring for pigs.

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This message funded by America's Pork Producers and the Pork Checkoff.

Pork Quality Assurance® Plus Program

Pig farmers support the five principles of responsible antibiotic use described in the Pork Quality Assurance® Plus program, an independently-monitored, producer-driven, certification program that ensures U.S. pork products are of the highest quality:

1. Take appropriate steps to decrease the overall need for these medicines.
2. Assess the advantages and disadvantages of all uses.
3. Use these medicines only when they provide measurable benefits.
4. Fully implement the management practices described for responsible use of animal health products into daily operations.
5. Have a working veterinarian-client-patient relationship and follow the responsible antibiotic use guidelines.

The program also conducts on-farm assessments, provides guidance on best practices and requires veterinary oversight and compliance with FDA requirements, including maintaining medical records.

2 With a focus on continuous improvement, real change is occurring on farms across the U.S.

The pork industry is committed to ensuring responsible antibiotic use in animals to protect the efficacy of antibiotics for humans and animals. The industry tests and implements alternative ways to keep pork safe and healthy. Antibiotics are just one of the many approaches in a comprehensive strategy to keep animals healthy and produce safe food.

Education: The pork industry is working to ensure farmers are equipped with the information and resources they need to use antibiotics responsibly. The industry shares research findings and educational materials about antibiotic stewardship with more than 60,000 pork producers and the academic and swine veterinarian communities.

Research: Since 2003, the Pork Checkoff has invested more than $6 million in research on the epidemiology of antimicrobial resistance and antibiotic alternatives. The board is investing nearly $1 million in research in 2016 alone. The pork industry will continue to work closely with federal agencies and other commodity group partners to research and identify models and metrics for continuous improvement of antibiotic use.

Communications Outreach: Communication regarding responsible antibiotic use is shared with all segments of the pork chain, from producers, to processors, retailers and consumers. It is a main emphasis for the pork industry. Ongoing outreach to state pork associations ensures antibiotic news and information reaches farmers and state-level allied industries. And collaboration with swine veterinarians, the feed industry, land-grant universities and others helps to amplify the industry's communications efforts and outreach.

3 The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) play important roles to ensure responsible antibiotic use in animals.

The FDA approves the use of medically important antibiotics in pigs for treatment, control and prevention of disease. New regulations – FDA Guidance 209 and 213 – will be fully enacted January 1, 2017. Pig farmers embrace and support the new guidelines. The pork industry is working now to implement the guidelines, which:

- Strengthen the rules requiring licensed veterinarians to oversee the use of antibiotics on farms;
- Require a prescription or veterinary feed directive from a licensed veterinarian for the use of antibiotics in water and feed, respectively; and
- Prohibit the use of medically important antibiotics for anything other than treatment, control and prevention of disease.

The USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) regularly tests and monitors meat to ensure its safety before it enters the food supply. These inspections and safeguards throughout the food chain ensure that antibiotics used in pork production support both good health in animals and a safe food supply for humans.

To learn more about the pork industry's antibiotics stewardship priorities, visit *porkcares.org/antibiotics*

pork checkoff

Smoothing the Transition from Classroom to Hog Farm:

Use of Case Studies to Enhance Swine Industry Knowledge and Interest in College Students.

With an increasing world population, enhancing the efficiency of meat production is essential. However, recruiting talented employees remains a constraint in all sectors of animal agriculture. In order to meet the growing need for pork producers in Nebraska, we sought to evaluate methods for recruitment of young scholars to swine-based careers. To achieve this goal, we examined the effect of completing production-based case studies on swine industry interest. In a case study, a problem is presented in a real-world format. Students must then evaluate the information, bridge it to what they learned in class, make a decision and formulate a plan to implement solutions. This process requires the learner to exercise many different skillsets and leads to a true understanding of the concept, also called deep learning (as opposed to memorization and recall). In turn, the material is more relatable to the student, fostering further curiosity and interest. Therefore, we hypothesized that completing swine production-based case studies would promote deep learning and a greater interest in swine.

The study was conducted in the Department of Animal Science at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln (UNL) and was approved by the UNL Institutional Review Board. Students were enrolled in the Physiology and Management of Reproduction course taught by Dr. Brett White. At the beginning of the Fall 2015 semester, students completed a pre-test to assess their starting knowledge of swine reproduction and a pre-survey evaluating their species and career interests. Then, students were given the option to complete four case studies for extra credit throughout the semester. Case studies encompassed four different industry constraints related to reproduction (puberty, boar management, breeding, and parturition/lactation). Students were asked to individually troubleshoot the issues using their class notes and scientific papers.

Participant demographics were as follows: 71% were female, 98% were juniors/seniors and 46% originated from a farming/ranching background. About 8% of the population indicated that their family actively raised pigs, but 79% of students did not have a swine background. Students reported that their primary species of interest was as follows: cattle (42.5%), horses (23.3%), companion animals (17.8%), exotics (11.0%), pigs (2.7%), poultry (1.4%) and wildlife (1.4%). However, 35% of students stated that swine are among the species most relevant to them. At the beginning of the semester, students did not yet feel knowledgeable about swine reproduction despite indicating that they learned about pigs in previous classes. In addition, the majority of students did not feel confident enough to work with producers on troubleshooting reproductive issues and were not planning to pursue a career in the swine industry. On the pre-test, 54% of students answered boar management questions correctly, followed by puberty (44%), breeding (43%) and parturition/lactation (42%). At the end of the semester, students were sorted into two groups, based upon the number of case studies completed (either 0–2 or 3–4). Finally, students took a post-test and post-survey to evaluate their learning, species interest and course/knowledge perceptions.

As expected, test scores were significantly higher on the post-test than pre-test for all students. However, students who completed 3–4 case studies performed better on the post-test as a whole and on the questions specifically related to swine reproduction. We also found that students who completed the boar and parturition/lactation case studies correctly answered more related questions on the post-test than students who did 0–2 case studies, even though they scored the same on the pre-test. These data suggest that case study completion helped students learn the material better, possibly by promoting deep learning.

Survey data showed that swine interest was not significantly affected by the number of case studies completed. However, since most of these students were nearly done with their degree (98% juniors/seniors), we speculate that the results could differ with younger students who have not yet solidified a career path. We are also interested in how hands-on exposure to pigs may affect these results. In addition, the case studies in this experiment focused solely on reproductive issues due to the nature of the course. We acknowledge that this concentration may dissuade students who are more interested in other disciplines (e.g., nutrition, genetics).

Survey data also demonstrated that students who completed 3–4 case studies thought they learned more about swine reproduction than those who completed 0–2. In addition, they also felt more confident in their ability to assist a producer with troubleshooting a swine reproductive issue. These students also thought that they learned more material in this course that they could use in the real-world and that they would retain the information. Therefore, students who did more case studies indicated that the course was more valuable to them overall.

Moreover, students enjoyed completing case studies. In fact, 80.4% of students who completed 1–4 case studies said that they preferred working on these industry problems over traditional assignments like papers and presentations. In addition, 63% said the case studies helped them better understand information presented in class, whereas 76% of students said that case studies helped them connect course content to real-world scenarios. Finally, 57% of students said that they wished more courses would utilize case studies. These findings demonstrate that students desire more exposure to industry issues in the classroom.

To summarize, these findings suggest that swine production-based case studies are a valuable teaching tool in the college classroom. Case studies enhanced learning as well as increased student confidence and perceived course value. In addition, students enjoyed working through industry issues more than typical college assignments and felt the case studies were valuable to their learning. Overall, we believe these data demonstrate that Animal Science students want a stronger emphasis on relating classroom material to real production issues in animal agriculture. Therefore, we propose that more academia-industry interactions in the classroom would be beneficial to student success in Animal Science.

THESE DATA SUGGEST THAT CASE STUDY COMPLETION HELPED STUDENTS LEARN THE MATERIAL BETTER, POSSIBLY BY PROMOTING DEEP LEARNING.

This work was conducted by Amy Desaulniers, Dr. Renee McFee and Dr. Brett R. White at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. Amy Desaulniers is a Ph.D. student within the Department of Animal Science, Dr. Renee McFee is an Assistant Professor within the School of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, and Dr. Brett R. White is an Associate Professor within the Department of Animal Science. *This study received a National Pork Board Award for Innovation in Education by the Pork Checkoff at the Midwestern Section of the American Society of Animal Science in March, 2016.*

NPPA Board of Directors Nomination Form

Nomination Deadline: January 27, 2017

The Nebraska Pork Producers Association (NPPA) would like to use the knowledge of the producers and industry supporters who have dedicated their time and talents for the betterment of the pork industry with involvement from those individuals on the state board of directors. If you would like to nominate yourself or another dedicated pork industry advocate please fill out the form below. If you have questions, please contact NPPA for more information: (888) 627-7675 or dee@nepork.org. **Board of Directors nominations must be submitted to NPPA, 7441 O Street, Suite 104, Lincoln, NE 68510-2468. Elections of Board of Directors will be held at the annual meeting of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association beginning at 11:00 a.m., February 14, 2017, at the UNL Innovation Campus, Lincoln, Nebraska.**

Please use this form as the cover sheet for your nomination for the NPPA Board of Directors.

NOMINEE INFORMATION:

Name: _____

Most recent occupation/title: _____

Name of company/farm: _____

Length of service to swine industry: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Attach no more than two pages to answer the following questions that will help the NPPA Board of Directors and Executive Committee understand why the nominee is a worthy candidate.

1. Describe your candidate's background and experience as they relate to this position.
2. Briefly summarize your candidate's top achievements that have impacted the swine industry.
3. Describe your candidate's scope of influence on the swine industry—national, regional, specific field of research.

SUBMITTED BY:

Name: _____

Name of company/organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: January 27, 2017

Send to: Board Nomination, NPPA, 7441 O Street, Suite 104, Lincoln, NE 68510-2468

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- **Ensure** your record-keeping compliance

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Past NPPA President, Scott Spilker with Larry Sitzman

Accepting Applications for Newly Created Larry E. Sitzman Youth in Nebraska Agriculture Scholarship

College students enrolled as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student at a fully accredited college, university or technical college in an agriculture related degree program in Nebraska are encouraged to apply for the Larry E. Sitzman Youth in Nebraska Agriculture Scholarship.

Larry E. Sitzman learned patriotism, service to our country, and respect for our leaders from his parents. While in high school he heard John F. Kennedy's Inaugural Address, "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." This address increased his desire to serve.

Agriculture has been his passion. Throughout his life he has provided service in various forms and from different positions of leadership. Sitzman is known for sharing his voice defending perspectives and asking challenging questions. He served on many state and national agricultural boards before being named the Director of Agriculture for Nebraska in 1991. He ended his working role as Executive Director of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association in 2016. Today, Sitzman serves as an active volunteer leader at the Veterans Administration in Lincoln.

Academics, agriculture, military, and other forms of public service have all improved in some measure due to the leadership, service, and voice of Larry E. Sitzman. Upon his retirement, the Nebraska Pork Producers Association established this scholarship in his honor.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be currently enrolled as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student at a fully accredited college, university or technical college in an agriculture related degree program in Nebraska.
- Must have at least one full year of study remaining towards degree
- Must have plans to work in the agriculture industry upon graduation

Selection will be based on qualities of leadership and participation in collegiate or extracurricular activities related to the agriculture industry.

The deadline to apply is December 15th.
The Larry E. Sitzman Youth in Nebraska Agriculture Scholarship is a $1,000 scholarship that will be awarded to one deserving applicant each year. The deadline to apply is December 15th. Students may apply for the scholarship online by visiting the youth tab on www.nepork.org.

If you have questions, please contact Kyla Habrock, Youth Education Director for the Nebraska Pork Producers Association at kyla@nepork.org or 402-472-2528.

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McKenzie Beals is the 2016 John Riley Gamma Sigma Delta Service Scholarship recipient

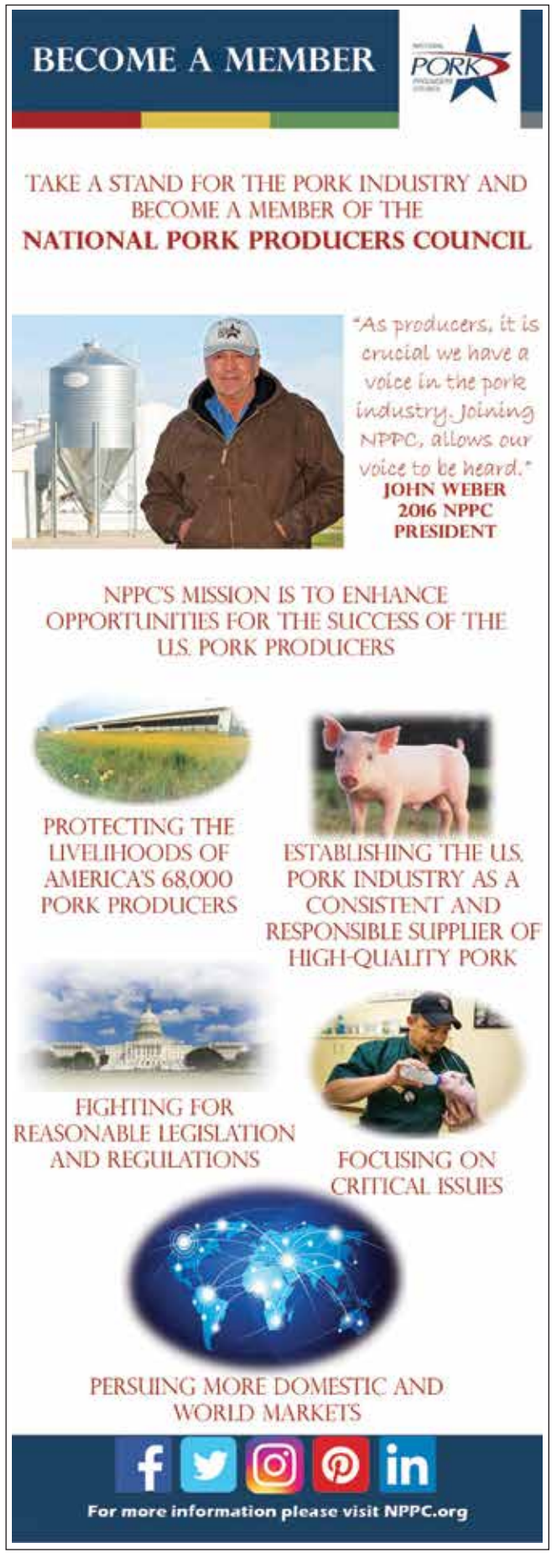
McKenzie is an undergraduate student in Animal Science at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. McKenzie has the unique combination of strong academic skills, impressive personal qualities, and desire to serve others. McKenzie demonstrated her outstanding servant leadership qualities in a variety of leadership and service activities for the following student organizations:

- UNL Tau Sigma Transfer Honor Society, Historian
- UNL Pre-Veterinary Club Treasurer
- UNL Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority Scholarship Chair
- Lincoln Animal Ambassadors Volunteer
- UNL Collegiate Farm Bureau
- UNL Block and Bridle member
- Alpha Zeta Honor Society

A highlight of McKenzie's outstanding leadership and service was her dedication to UNL Sigma Alpha Professional Agricultural Sorority as Scholarship Chair. The following list underscores McKenzie's devotion to serving others and leadership skills.

- Developed study nights twice a month for members to get homework help and improve grades
- Developed scholarship nights once a month for members to get help applying for scholarships
- Developed scholarship program for outstanding members to cover yearly dues
- Volunteered with Agriculture in the Classroom, teaching Lincoln elementary students about crop and livestock agriculture

Furthermore, McKenzie's academic record indicates she is an outstanding student. Her grade point average of 3.79 in a demanding pre-veterinary medicine curriculum is excellent. And even more noteworthy given her long list of involvement and leadership in a long list of co-curricular activities.



Thank you Allied Members for all of your support through the years and welcome to our new Allied Members. We are greatly appreciative of our members continuing to renew your membership and support of the Nebraska Pork Producers Association. We look forward to a successful 2016 with our three tiers of membership.

If you have any questions, please contact Sandra Kavan at sandra@nepork.org or at (402) 472-0493.

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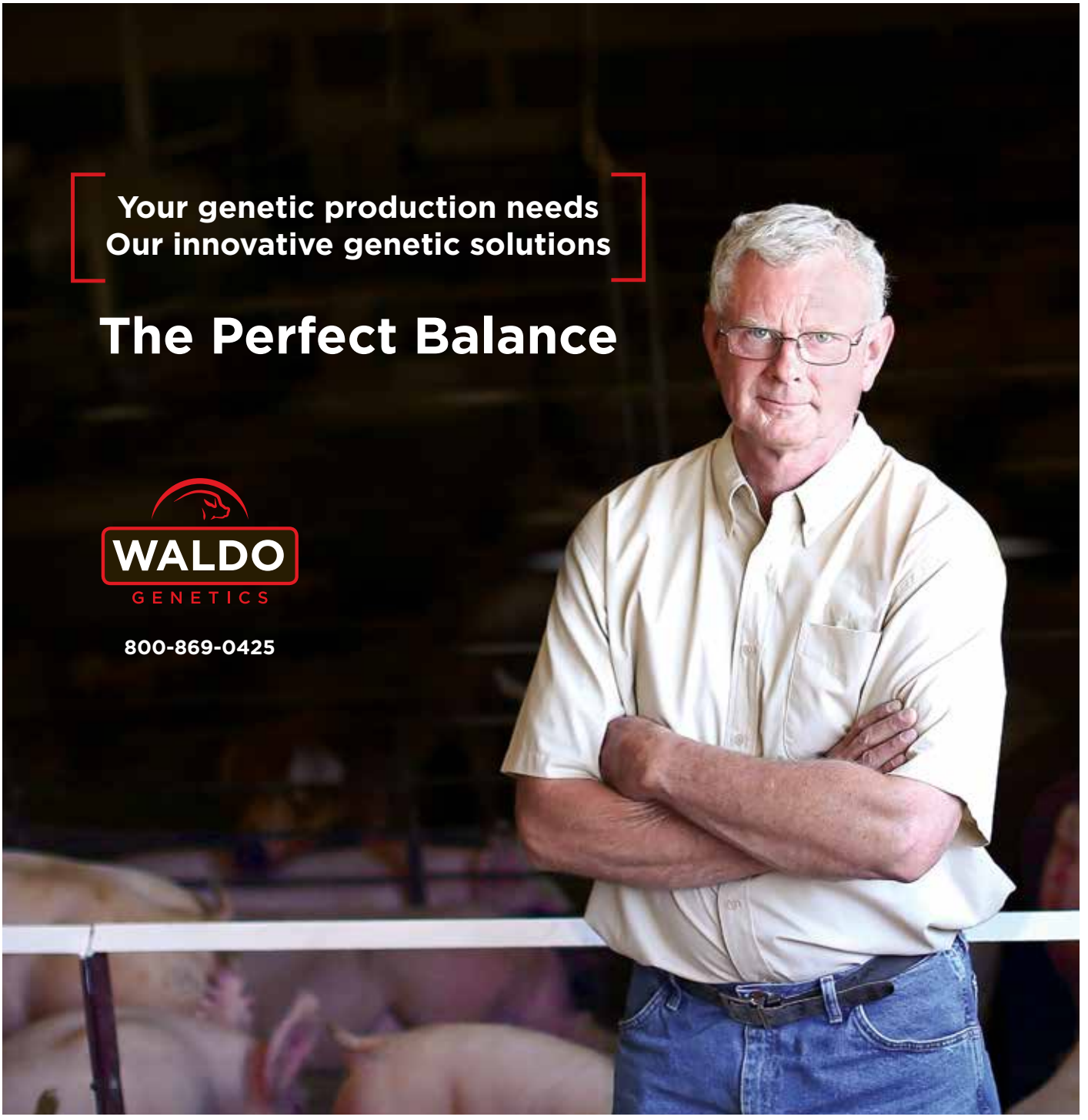
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