Weaber Joins American Simmental Association Staff

BOZEMAN, Mont. — The American Simmental Association (ASA) has recently appointed Robert L. Weaber as the new Interim Director of Performance Programs.

"The ASA is widely recognized for its aggressive research agenda, especially in the areas of multi-breed and carcass evaluation. In my duties, I plan to utilize my broad industry knowledge and practical problem solving approach to help in the ongoing effort to improve Simmental influenced genetics and the beef industry," Weaber remarked.

Weaber hails from a cattle and sheep operation near Beulah, Colorado. He is a graduate of Colorado State University with a Bachelor's degree in Animal Science and a Master's degree in Agriculture-Beef Industry Leadership.

Previously, Weaber served on the American Gelbvieh Association (AGA) staff in Westminster, Colorado. As the Director of Education and Research for the AGA, he coordinated breed improvement, research, performance records, and youth programs. In conjunction of his ASA duties, Weaber will be working from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York as he completes his Ph.D. His duties will include handling more complicated performance record questions, working on special projects such as Total Herd Enrollment data collection, and the Carcass Merit program.

"Bob Weaber has been an active participant in the beef business for a long time," says Exec-



Mr. Bob Weaber, interim director of performance programs, American Simmental Association.

utive Vice-President, Jerry Lipsey. "When we heard that Bob was going to Cornell University to work toward his Ph.D., we asked him if he'd be interested in joining our team. It is an optimal situation for us to have Bob stationed in Ithaca working directly with Drs. John Pollack and Dick Quass. He is an excellent addition to our already amazing scientific team."

Weaber assumed his responsibilities Sept. 1. He may be contacted in Ithaca, New York, via email, at bweaber@simmgene.com, or by phone at (607) 255-2410.

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IT'S WHAT YOU WANT.SM

New Ag, Resource Economics Department Chair At Maryland

COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Bruce L. Gardner, Distinguished University Professor at the University of Maryland, is the new chairperson of the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics in the university's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

A University Park resident, Gardner has been a faculty member at Maryland since 1981 and director of the Maryland Center for Agricultural and Natural Resource Policy since 1996. He will continue in the latter role for the present, along with his new duties as department chair.

An Illinois native, Gardner grew up on a dairy farm northwest of Chicago that is still operated by his brother. He was graduated from the University of Illinois in 1964 with a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics.

Four years later, he had earned a doctorate degree in economics at the University of Chicago. His major professor there was the world-renowned Dr. Theodore W. Schultz.

Maryland and Virginia Awards \$5000 In Scholarships

RESTON, Va. — Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative awarded five \$1,000 scholarships to college students who are sons and daughters of their members. All pursuing careers in the dairy industry, the recipients were selected based on their industry knowledge, career plans, leadership activities and academic excellence.

A junior at Cornell University, David Day is the son of Curtis and Ann Day of Shippensburg, Pa. An animal science major, David is active in Alpha Gamma Rho and is on the sale crew of the Dairy Science Club. David hopes to contribute to the dairy industry as an active dairyman producing and shipping quality milk.

Doreen Delp is a sophomore majoring in animal science at Penn State University and is the daughter of Durrell and Dawn Delp of Williamsburg, Pa. She has been an active 4-H and FFA member, serving as both secretary and president, and has also been active in the Junior Holstein Association. After graduation, Doreen plans to seek employment involving breed promotion, dairy production or dairy research.

A senior at Virginia Tech, Jana Edwards is the daughter of Richard and Janice Edwards of Ridgely, Md. A dairy science major with a minor in computer science, Jana hopes to combine the two as a dairy computer consultant or attend graduate school



Kristen Myers

for dairy genetics. She serves as president of the Dairy Club and is an active member of Alpha Zeta.

Kristen Myers is the daughter of Jason and Donna Myers of New Windsor, Md. She is a junior at Cornell University and an animal science major with an agribusiness minor. She has been an active member of 4-H for ten years, FFA for four years and currently serves as the vice-president of Cornell's Dairy Science Club and is on the sale committee. Kristen hopes to pursue a career in finance or marketing in the dairy industry.

Justin Potts of Purcellville, Va., is an agricultural education and dairy science major at Virginia Tech. A junior, Justin is active in the Dairy Club, the dairy judging team and Alpha Gamma Rho. Justin plans to pursue a career in agriculture, which may include returning to his family farm. He is the son of Eddie and Marty Potts.

Previously Maryland and Virginia sent \$1000 directly to university dairy science departments who selected students affiliated with Maryland and Virginia members. General agriculture re-



David Day

cipients were selected if there were no eligible dairy science students.

According to Stephanie Meyers, director of communication and education, "Bringing our scholarship program in-house has provided more flexibility and more value to our members. Our best students have been recognized, regardless of the school they attend or the major they select."

Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers is a milk marketing and processing cooperative which markets milk for over 1,600 dairy farmers in ten states from Pennsylvania to Alabama. Headquartered in Reston, Va., with a regional office in Charlotte, N.C., the cooperative includes a fluid milk processing plant in Newport News, Va.; two manufacturing plants in Laurel, Md. and Strasburg, Va.; and an equipment warehouse in Frederick, Md.



Justin Potts

Conservation Conference

(Continued from Page A30)

dairy manure. The facility not only protects water quality but curtails unnecessary odor. They have also taken on several voluntary management practices to help curb runoff from the farm. Through the Chesapeake Bay Program, they voluntarily participate in a program to control barnyard runoff of 13,240 square feet.

Gerald Hiestand, who accepted the award for the family, recounted that Coleman's reaction to winning the award was, "Why now? I'm not finished yet." The attitude of never being done, of continual progress, is crucial to conservation efforts, noted Hiestand.

The Heid farm in Loretto, Cambria County won recognition for battling the runoff, mud, and manure problems caused by concrete. Now milkhouse filter area system plus a concrete nutrient management plan help take care of the problem.

The waste water goes to a 900-gallon tank for the solids to settle. The tank then flushes every 3-4 days. Nutrients filter from the pipe while the water filters slowly out. In addition, the farm has an 85-foot sod waterway, a livestock exclusion fence, 500 feet of subsurface drains, contour farming, crop rotation, a 6-month manure storage facility, and contour strip cropping.

The 400-acre dairy farm hosts 70 milking cows, 90 replacement heifers, and 20 calves.

The Ron and Kathy Kline of Y-Run Farm in Troy, Bradford County, began conservation efforts in 1978. Since then the farm has added 21,000 feet of storm water diversion, 440 acres of contour strip cropping, contours, notill plowing, and a milkhouse waste treatment system.

Three manure pits handle 90 percent of the manure through the system and nearly eliminate the need for winter spreading. The manure storage tank has greatly reduced the amount of spring runoff coming from the farm. Also large rocks stabilize the Kline's stream that also hosts a planted vegetation corridor.

The Klines have partnered with his sons Glen and Gary and their families for the past 10 years. Y-Run Farms cover 600

acres cropped with corn and alfalfa. In addition they milk 425 cows and own 300 head of young stock in the dairy operation.

"It's just good, solid farming practices," said Kline.

Other awards given included the Watershed Protect Award, given to the Conoduguinet Creek Watershed Association of Cumberland County. Robert Kready Mowrer, Lancaster County, received the Ann Rudd Saxman Conservation Volunteer of the Year. The Conservation Organization of the Year award went to the Northern Allegheny Conservation Association, Warren County.

Steve Walker, Cambria County received the Media Conservation Award. The Conservation Educator of the Year went to Richard McLaughlin, Bucks County. Twin Oaks Gun Club, Dauphin County, won the M.K. Goddard Forest Resource Management Award. Stephen Rituper Jr., Northampton County, received the William Lange Urban Conservation Award.

The Legislator Recognition Award went to Rep. Jim Lynch, Warren County. County Commissioner District Director of the Year was Fred Soisson, M.D., Cambria County. Glenn O. Hawbaker, Inc., Indiana County, won the Erosion and Sedimentation Pollution Control Award.

First place for the annual report of the year went to the Snyder Conservation District, second place to the Bucks Conservation District, and third place to the Erie Conservation District. The PACD Auxiliary Awards, the poster contest winners, were Raymond Heromin, Northumberland County for the K-1 division, Jennifer Evanisky, Mifflin County, grades 2-3 division, Robert Heinrich, Sullivan County in the grades 4-6 division, Roxanne Barton, Clinton County, won the grades 7-9 division, and Michael Kensinger, Blair County had the winning poster for grades 10-12. Amy Jones was the scholarship win-





Jana Edwards