

# Workshops To Focus On Newborn Calf Health

UNIVERSITY PARK (Centre Co.) — A hands-on workshop designed to improve calf health and lower the mortality rate during the first three days of life will be offered at two sites in October.

Dairy Alliance and Penn State Cooperative Extension are partnering to present the Calf Sense Workshop on Thursday, Oct. 2, at Meadow-Vista Farm in Lancaster County and on Friday, Oct. 24, at Greenwood Farms in Mifflin County.

Calf Sense is an intensive educational program that focuses on ensuring calf health and survival. "The program is aimed at dairy managers and employees who have responsibilities in the maternity area or the young calf area, as well as dairy advisors who consult in these areas," explained Richard Stup, human resource specialist with Dairy Alliance. The program is also appropriate for dairy farms that use custom

calf raisers because it focuses specifically on the first three days of life, added Stup.

Workshop participants will learn how to: conduct a basic examination of young dairy calves; identify common health problems; and achieve consistency in calf care. Standard operating procedures, record-keeping, and colostrum management will also be explained.

"Calf Sense helped us to get a better understanding of what's going on inside the calf," said Tony Brubaker, a partner in Brubaker Farms in Lancaster.

The fee to attend is \$45 per person. Lunch is included. A colostrometer is required and may be purchased at a discounted workshop rate. Space is limited and participants are urged to register now by contacting the Dairy Alliance at (888) 373-7232.



Nathan Tice



Jill Gevin



Andy Stein

## KILE Announces PLA Youth Awards

HARRISBURG (Dauphin Co.) — Pennsylvania Livestock Association (PLA) has recognized outstanding 4-H and FFA Youth for the past 26 years. The winners are selected from a field of candidates submitted by county extension personnel and vocational agriculture teachers throughout the commonwealth.

The female FFA Youth Award winner is Hannah Etzler, daughter of James and Deborah Etzler of Beavertown. Hannah was a four-year member of the West Snyder FFA Chapter. She hails from a large family with strong agricultural roots. Sheep, beef and hogs have all been raised on the family farm. For her FFA project, Hannah raised Shropshire sheep in both breeding and finishing areas. She also raised market hogs, marketing both the hogs and market sheep at the Youth Livestock Sale at the Beaver Fair. Hannah has stood in the championship ring with her market animals on several occasions, a feat she credits in part to the help of her extended family. Her personal achievements include being a member of the FFA chapter livestock judging team that won the SUN Area FFA CDE for the past four years. She has also judged in the KILE Stockman's Contest and participated actively in the activities of her local FFA Chapter. Hannah played soccer in high school, was a member of the

AYSO Soccer team and was a 4-H member. A freshman at Keystone College in Scranton Hannah is an elementary education major and plays soccer on the school's team.

The FFA male Youth Award winner is Andrew Stein, a son of Ronald and Vicki Stein of Red Lion. A June graduate, Andy was a four-year member of the Red Lion Area FFA Chapter. He is currently employed at Hope Acres, a beef and dairy farm in Brogue. Andy raised market hogs for both FFA and 4-H, marketing them at the York Fair Junior Livestock Sale. He was a member of the PA 4-H Meats Judging Team in 2002 and was second place individual at the National Contest. Having won the state 4-H tractor driving championship, Andy will be competing in the National contest in Indiana just prior to receiving the KILE Youth Award. His achievements include several FFA awards, holding offices in his local FFA chapter, a member of judging teams and a member of the National Honor Society. Outside school, Andy is active in Freysville Emanuel UCC Church and York County 4-H.

The Outstanding female 4-H award winner is Jill Gevin, daughter of Milo and Margaret Gevin of Cochranton. A sophomore Food Science major at Penn State, Jill's future goal is to work in a career dealing with food safety while continuing to raise sheep. Jill began showing sheep at age five and joined 4-H when she was eight. She has 11 registered Oxford sheep and shows both breeding sheep and

market lambs at local fairs and KILE. An 11-year member of 4-H, Jill was very active in Crawford County, holding offices in her club and participating in many countywide activities, and attended National 4-H Congress in 2002.

Nathan Tice, son of Thomas and Debra Tice of Lebanon is recognized as the Outstanding 4-H male. A freshman at Black Hawk College in Kewanee, Ill., Nathan plans to complete a two-year degree program and work in the livestock industry. His 4-H career began at age 8, with market lambs and hogs, but soon expanded to include beef animals. Nathan showed the grand champion market steer at the 2003 Pennsylvania Farm Show and won honors with his Shorthorn cattle. He owns six shorthorn cows and will be selling at the Shorthorn sale at KILE this year. A member of the 2001 PA 4-H Livestock Judging Team, Nathan placed in the top 10 nationally for oral reasons. In school, he played soccer and baseball in junior high and was active in FFA in senior high. He is a member of Millcreek Lutheran Church, Pennsylvania Cattleman's Association, PLA, and the Pennsylvania and National Junior Shorthorn associations.

The youth will be recognized at the Keystone International Livestock Exposition opening ceremony in the Small Arena of the Farm Show Complex on Thursday, Oct. 2 at 4 p.m. They will receive a plaque and a monetary award.

## Crawford County Calf Contest Deadline Oct. 1

COCHRANTON (Crawford Co.) — The Crawford County Holstein Club is offering its fifth annual calf contest for youth between the ages of 8 and 13.

Contestants must write an essay of 100 words or less describing why they would like to own a calf and how they would care for it.

The calf winner must breed the heifer to a

registered Holstein bull, and the first registered female offspring must be given back to the Crawford County Holstein Club to be donated to another child.

Contestants must have essays post-marked by Oct. 1 to be eligible.

Participating youth must be between the ages of 8 and 13 as of Jan. 1, 2004.

Send essays to Eleanor Kalinowski, 2013 State Hwy. 173, Cochranton, PA 16314.

Farmers from the Crawford County area wishing to donate a calf to the cause should contact any of the Crawford County Holstein directors, or Kalinowski at (814) 425-2650.

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