

AgriNaturalist

The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences



Find the Solution to your Algae Problems

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4Hers Reach out to Military Kids

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Bringing Relief to Hurricane Victims

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AgriNaturalist

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Ruth Ann Keener

PHOTO EDITOR

Sara Spisak

BUSINESS MANAGER

Chris Smalley

ASSOC. BUSINESS MANAGER

Jill Tyson

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Jeff Reese

STAFF WRITERS

Ashley Bixler

Cassie Jo Colliflower

Adam Danner

Greg Davda

Ben Donaker

Brad McGee

Kara Napier

ADVISOR

Robert Agung

AgriNaturalist is the official publication of The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. Its purposes are to give practical journalism experience to students and to provide faculty, staff and students with a source of information about College issues and current events.

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On the Cover



Ross and Brooke Fleshman are looking at a quilt which can be used to educate people about agriculture and world hunger issues.

Photo by Jill Tyson



A Word from the Editor

American universities are observing the emergence of new students on their campuses. These students are brighter, as evidenced by their ACT scores; up-to-date on the latest technology; and are service oriented.

The CFAES has its share of the best and brightest. OSU President Karen Holbrook hopes to make the university a top ten in the nation. This means more quality teaching, research and outreach. As students, we are helping to realize this goal. Undergraduate research forums are promoted at the university and college levels to encourage excellence.

As students, we are also committing more time to community service. Our nation marks the beginning of the fourth year in the war on terror and students are banding together to help Ohioans, the nation and the world deal with natural disasters and terrorist acts.

A new course on bioterrorism helps students to understand new global realities. Our nation has also faced one of the most devastating natural disasters in our life time, Hurricane Katrina. Our students went to Louisiana to help rural residents whichever way they could.

Our college is giving us the opportunity to travel

abroad and experience other cultures and understand their agricultural systems because our farmers will have to compete in a global market place.

As students, we have a lot on our plates, but we are doing a good job juggling socializing in well-known party houses and volunteering in community programs, such as Operation Military Kids.

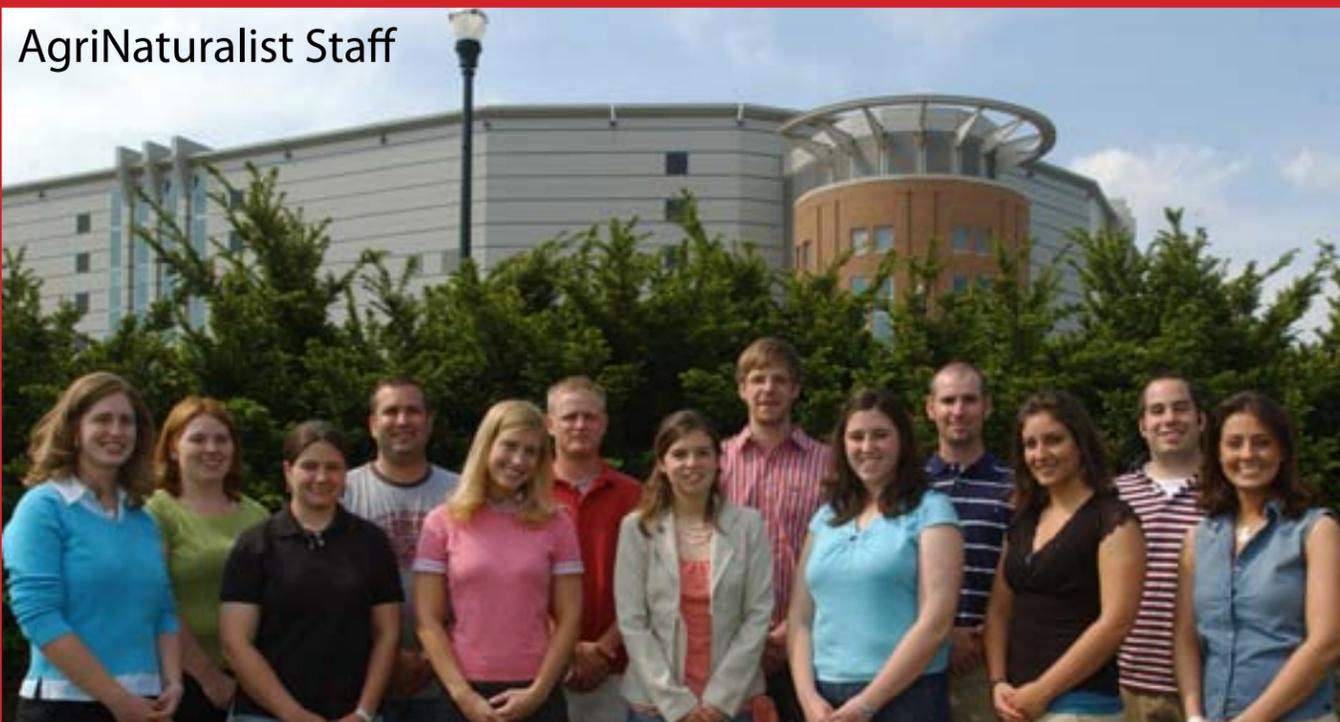
The 21st Century is technology dependent and the agricultural economy is finding ways to make technological research the next frontier. The agricultural community is moving forward with technology, such as turning corn and soybeans into a renewable fuel source, E-85.

We are not only technology savvy and up-to-date with the latest form of instant messenger, but we are also caring and ready to help those less fortunate, making not only our college but the world a better place. As a student publication we at the AgriNaturalist see the future filled with hope and promise.

Drawing on our knowledge, caring attitude, eagerness to lend a hand, and the opportunities our College and University provide, CFAES students are ready to serve as a model of what students of a Top 10 University should be.

Katy Wuthrick
AgriNaturalist 2006 Editor

AgriNaturalist Staff



Back Row (L-R): Jill Tyson, Ashley Bixler, Greg Davda, Ben Donaker, Adam Danner, Christopher Smalley, & Jeff Reese; Front Row (L-R): Kara Napier, Cassie Jo Colliflower, Katy Wuthrick, Ruth Ann Keener, Stacy Mullins, & Sara Spisak; Not Pictured: Brad McGee

VetTech Program Opens Doors for Animal Science Students

Story and Photo by Gregory J. Davda, Sr.,
Senior from Columbus, Ohio
davda.1@osu.edu

The Ohio State University's first group of veterinary technology (VetTech) students will be enrolled this fall, said Jim Kinder, professor and chair of the Department of Animal Sciences.

The program is jointly offered by OSU and Columbus State Community College (CSCC).

A student earns two degrees upon graduation, a bachelor of science degree in agriculture from OSU, and an associate of applied science in veterinary technology from CSCC.

The OSU program has always offered students the large animal experience such as food animals and horses, said Amy Lahmers, student services coordinator for the department. Now students in the VetTech program can get the small animal or companion animal experience by taking classes at Columbus State.

Twenty students from the department will be taking classes at CSCC as part of a dual degree program offered at OSU, Lahmers said.

The program is quicker, more efficient and costs less money than attaining the bachelor's first then attending the VetTech program at CSCC separately, said Sarah Roy, a sophomore from Akron. It also takes less time she said, a big bonus for those who want to start working immediately.

Students take their first two years of classes at OSU and then add CSCC classes in their junior and senior years said Marjorie Turpening, a sophomore from Pickerington.

"I expect to take a lot away from the program," Turpening said.

"Eighty percent of first-year animal sciences majors are pre-vet," Lahmers said. However, many end up leaving the program or not attending graduate school. This gives an option to con-

tinue work in the field without the advanced degree.

There is a 100 percent hire rate for graduates of the program at CSCC, Turpening said. According to the U.S. Department of Labor veterinary technology is listed in the Top 20 career areas where education can make the biggest difference in finding a job.

One of the biggest benefits Kinder sees in the program is for the graduates to better understand the animals they will be treating. By having both large and small animal experiences, the graduates will understand the animals to a greater extent, he said. This will allow the students to better serve the animals they will be caring for.

Another positive point about the program is fostering the close-knit community within the animal sciences community, Kinder said.



Sarah Roy, sophomore in animal sciences, will be participating in the VetTech Program starting fall 2006.

For more information, contact
Amy Lahmers, Department of
Animal Sciences:

614-292-7156
lahmers.8@osu.edu

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Influential Leader

Story & Photo by Cassie Jo Colliflower, Senior from Mechanicsburg, Ohio
colliflower.5@osu.edu

Marilyn Tefz' role in the College of Food, Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at Ohio State has always gone beyond the boundaries of her job description. Trefz, who will retire from her position as assistant dean for organizational development for the college on June 1, will be missed by all whom she has worked with.

Trefz has impacted and mentored numerous students through her role as coordinator of the CFAES banquet and *Get Real about Science Day*.

"Dr. Trefz has had a positive impact on the students of CFAES. Her outreach with the CFAES banquet and other projects has allowed the students a unique chance to work with an incredible woman," said Cara Lawson, a senior in agricultural education and co-chair for last year's banquet.

"Working with the students on the banquet and *Get Real about Science* are the favorite parts of my job," Trefz said.

She takes months before the recog-

nition banquet to work with committee members and prepare all aspects of the event. She oversees the committees and motivates the students to execute the largest student-run banquet on the OSU campus.

"Dr. Trefz is wonderful to work with. She is kind, helpful, and supportive," said Anna Lies, a senior in landscape horticulture and co-chair for the 2006 banquet.

"Dr. Trefz is a role model as a faculty member and as a woman."

This year's CFAES banquet was dedicated to Trefz for her outstanding service to students and the college.

"Dr. Trefz is a role model as a faculty member and as a woman. Her degrees were all earned while she worked full or part-time and raised a fam-

ily. She inspires each of us to work diligently and pursue our dreams," said Jenny Engle, senior in agricultural communication and co-chair for this year's event.

Trefz has been an employee of OSU since 1973, starting in the school of home economics. In 1979, she began working for L.H. Newcomb, the current senior associate dean of CFAES, in the

Agricultural Education Department.

Trefz received her bachelor's degree in home economics education after ten years.

Upon graduation, she worked at Marion Co. Human Services but later returned to OSU to attain her master's degree in labor and human resources.

During those two years she was Newcomb's graduate assistant



Dr. Marilyn Trefz, assistant dean for organizational development for CFAES.

and worked on the levels of cognition of teaching and learning. These principles are now an integral part of the agricultural education curriculum.

After receiving her master's she worked for the school of public policy and management for seven years as assistant director of continuing education while attaining her Ph.D. in instructional design and technology.

In 1994, Newcomb asked her to return to CFAES and work with him on Project Reinvent. Trefz was involved in creating and implementing this project, which was an organizational change project within the college. This effort lasted from 1994 to 2001.

"She has a number of strengths, chief among them is that she works well with people," said Newcomb. "She has a big heart, she cares deeply and she takes care of folks."

Trefz is responsible for recruiting science students for the school. She also works with Dr. Bobby Moser, Dean and Dr. Newcomb, to continually facilitate change in the college.

Trefz' specialty is strategic planning and group processing skills. She has worked on several projects in the college and university and is talented at helping groups develop words into action and turn scattered information into one cohesively understandable piece, said Newcomb.

Trefz' work in the college can

often go unnoticed because it doesn't provide quick impact. However, throughout her years here at OSU, she has played a part in what many would claim are the larger projects and changes within the college.

For example, she recently helped facilitate the Ohio Agriculture Roadmap, a model of agriculture's possible situation in 2020.

The path that Trefz has traveled has been an unbeaten one; therefore her success could be used as a model for other students.

"You have a girl from Waldo, Ohio. Take a country girl who begins to further her education in technical secretarial training and goes on, while raising a family and working full time to complete a bachelor's degree, earn a master's degree and then earn a Ph.D. This is uncommon persistence, drive and determination," Newcomb said.

As far as retirement, Trefz explained, "I just want to spend time with my little obsession," meaning her one-year-old grandson, Keegan.

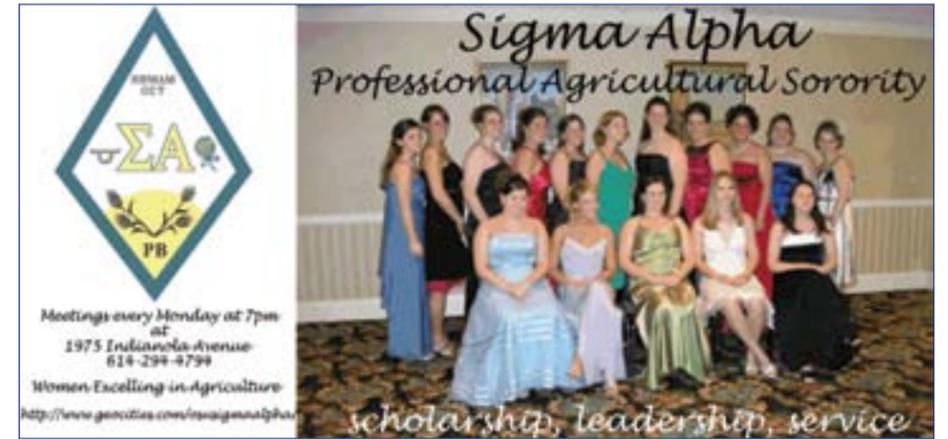
"I would also like to support some of my other interests. My hobby is really interior decorating and I am pretty active in my church and condominium association," Trefz said.

"The reason I think retirement is going to be an easy transition for me is because I get to do what I really love, with the people I love to work with. Plus, I get to have flexibility with my time to do other things," Trefz said.

Trefz will remain part of CFAES by returning in September as emeritus to continue what she loves working on most, the banquet and *Get Real about Science Day*. Trefz' position will not be replaced due to the current financial situation, said Newcomb.

Trefz will not, however, be starting any new projects as emeritus.

"We will lose her incredible insight in designing and guiding processes that foster institutional change," Newcomb said. "(I will miss) her tolerance of me and her versatility, her willingness to be blind to job description (limitations) and do anything to further the aspirations of the college."



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Educational Quilt

Piecing together agriculture and hunger

Story by Jill Tyson
Junior from Ashland, Ohio
tyson.46@osu.edu

A quilt is usually thought of as a comforter that meets the need for warmth. This quilt will not be lying on a bed or hanging on a wall, but will educate the public about hunger and agriculture. Imagine a six-foot tall, four panel pyramid with vivid colors, inspirational artwork and intricate beading which “pieces” together world hunger and agriculture issues.

From January to September 2005 a group of volunteers created a piece of art that can be used to communicate issues on world hunger and the agricultural industry.

The four panels were designed with the goals to help people discover the World Food Prize program, explore careers in agriculture, recognize the complexity of world hunger issues, expand understanding of agriculture and food security and promote leadership and service-learning programs.

Each panel has a theme conveyed throughout the unique designs, fabrics and stories.

Hunger is Everyone's Problem.

This panel encourages students to think about hunger; what it is like to be hungry and how to solve the issue. The eight talking points are: economy, weather, government, technology, war, disasters, resources and transportation. Solutions range from helping those in their own community to world-wide efforts.

Farm Gate to Plate. The farm scenes illustrated on this panel describe uses of food, how it is grown and where it comes from. Agriculture, as the No. 1 industry in America and Ohio, is the focus of many discussions for this panel. A road leading to stores where products are sold illustrates how food distribution works.

Norman's Research Plot. Norman Borlaug is the founder of the

World Food Prize program and the only agriculturalist to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. The large beanstalk on this panel communicates new and improved food through research. It is growing out of a fish bowl which incorporates the science of aquaculture. This panel raises awareness that science can be taught outside of the chemistry lab.

Problem Solving. Creative thinking is strongly encouraged in and out of the classroom today. This panel describes the problem solving process: thinking, creating, reading, doing and studying.

Micki Zartman, a volunteer project coordinator for outreach and engagement at The Ohio State University, teamed with Lisa Smith, arts instructor for the project, to create an invitational learning experience for learners in pre-K through 12th-grade and community consumers.

“The quilt embraces all of the educational concepts and encourages kids to see the global inter-

connectedness of world issues,” Zartman said.

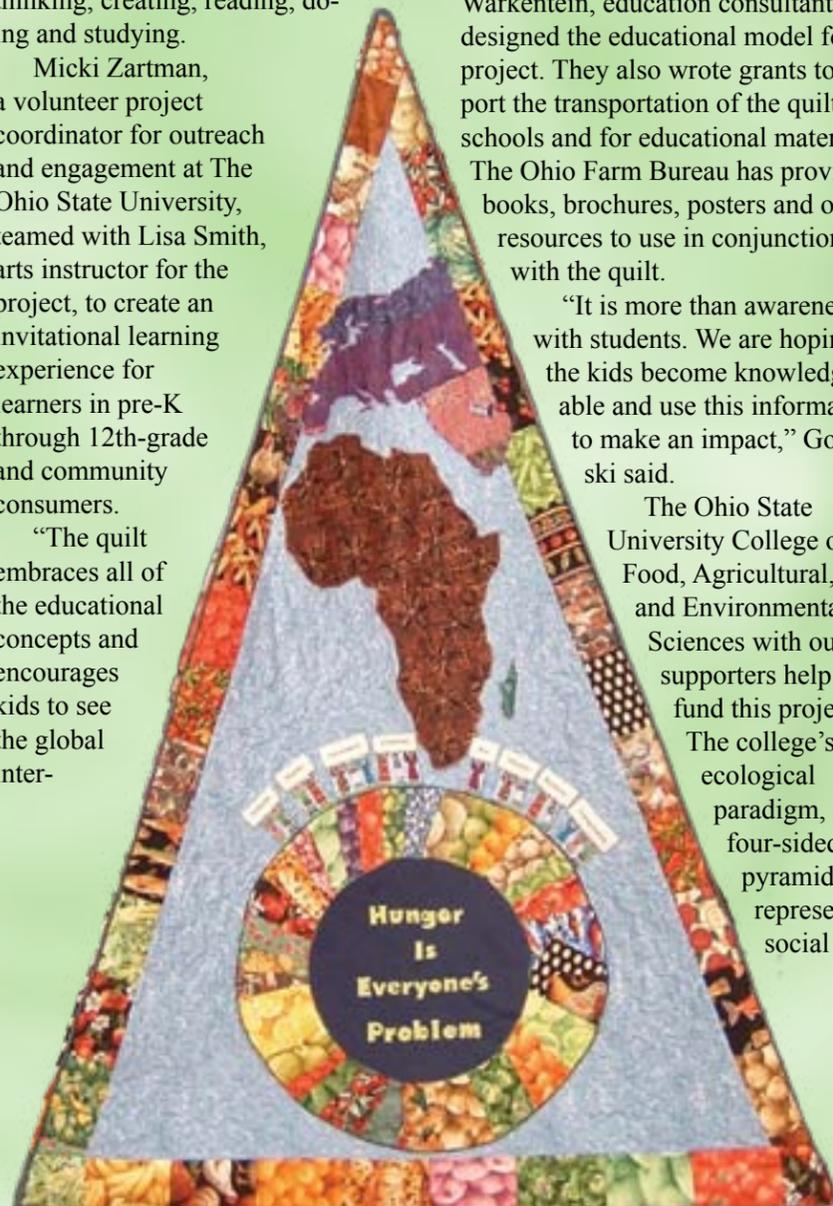
The quilt provides a hands-on learning opportunity encouraging students to creatively think through the process and possibilities for meeting the needs of hunger in the world.

“I learned that some people on earth are poor and they can't get much food. Other people who are unselfish can give money and food to the people who are poor,” said Andrew, second-grader at Utica Elementary.

Jeanne Gogolski and Carol Warkentein, education consultants, designed the educational model for the project. They also wrote grants to support the transportation of the quilt to schools and for educational materials. The Ohio Farm Bureau has provided books, brochures, posters and other resources to use in conjunction with the quilt.

“It is more than awareness with students. We are hoping the kids become knowledgeable and use this information to make an impact,” Gogolski said.

The Ohio State University College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences with outside supporters help fund this project. The college's ecological paradigm, a four-sided pyramid representing social



responsibility, production efficiency, environmental compatibility and economic viability, can be taught using the quilt.

Amy Fovargue, Licking County Agriculture in the Classroom Coordinator and Ellen Wilson, a retired teacher and Site Coordinator for the Columbus Reads Program, are currently writing and piloting lessons with the quilt that teachers can use to meet state curriculum content standards. These lessons can be used both before and after the quilt is brought to the classroom.

“The quilt can be used with many grade levels and topics. It is a unique way to share the message about agriculture and hunger that children can relate to,” Fovargue said.

Gogolski and Warkentein will train OSU students, World Food Prize participants and 4-H and FFA individuals how to educate people about agriculture and hunger using the quilt. Fovargue discussed what it is like to be hungry all the time with second-grade students. The students reacted with sadness and offered to share their food.

“The quilt touches on several social studies standards including identification of the continents and Ohio, how humans depend on and adapt to the environment and how scarcity of resources requires people to make choices to satisfy their needs and wants,” said Chris Bartal, second-grade teacher at Utica Elementary.

On June 29, 2006 teachers who attend the Ohio Farm Bureau Agriculture in the Classroom workshop can submit lesson plans designed for the quilt. The contest is for teachers to design the most engaging and fun lesson plans that satisfy state content standards. The top five teachers will be awarded money to implement the lesson plans they design for their classrooms.

Other educational uses for the quilt include displaying it at libraries along with presenting

how it can be used and providing information about programs associated with this endeavor.

In addition to educational uses, the quilt raises awareness about the World Food Prize program. According to the World Food Prize website,

the program recognizes efforts involving the world food supply with specific attention to nutrition for all people.

Zartman said because the quilt encourages people to think about the quality, quantity and availability of food, it relates to the goals of the World Food Prize Symposium. The annual symposium, held in Des Moines, Iowa, features an artist each year. Last year, Ambassador Quinn, president of the World Food Prize Foundation, and Lisa Fleming, director of the Global Youth Institute, invited Zartman and the creators to feature the quilt at the symposium.

The quilt was designed and assem-

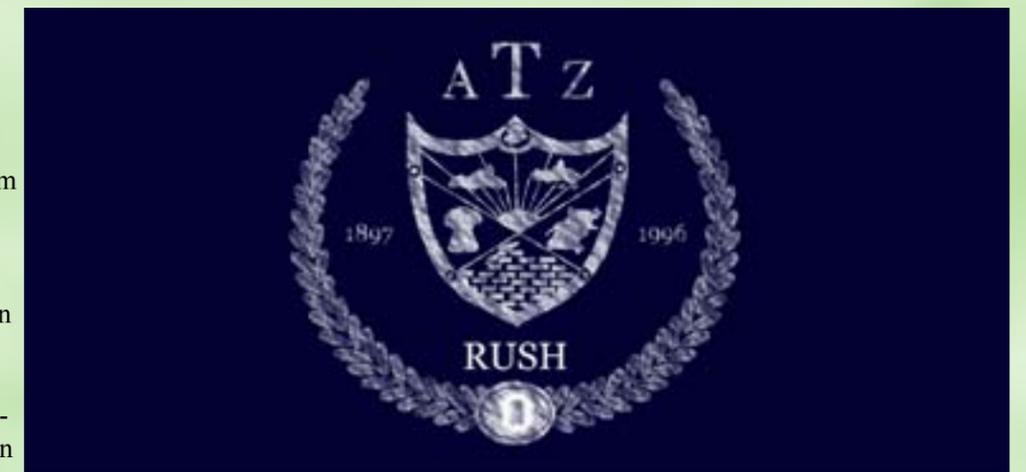


Photo by Jill Tyson
Brooke Fleshman points out a pink pig on the Farm Gate to Plate side of the quilt.

bled completely by volunteers. The detail and creativity came from Zartman, Smith, Irene Habowski, Debbie Hughes, Pat Moser, Rose Reid, MariJo Scott, Shirley Thompson and ladies at McDowell Senior Recreation Center who volunteered hundreds of hours of their time.

“It is so much more interesting to do something that is viewed by the public. You don't just take it home and stick it on the wall,” Smith said.

To learn more about the quilt please contact Micki Zartman at mzartman@wideopenwest.com or call 614-309-2184.



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ATI has done it again. Ohio State University Agricultural Technical Institute is No. 1 in the nation for awarding associate degrees in agriculture and related sciences. ATI has consistently ranked first or second since *Community College Week* started publishing its Top 100 List in 1993.

“We are pleased to have once again been nationally recognized for our productivity in the area of agricultural, horticultural, and engineering technologies associate degrees,” said Stephen Nameth, professor and director of Ohio State ATI.

ATI held the top spot despite a 15 percent decrease in associate degrees awarded in agriculture and related sciences. Last year ATI awarded 192 associate degrees compared to 163 this year. Despite the decline, ATI still awarded 43 more associate degrees than the No. 2 school, Kirkwood Community College in Iowa, which awarded 120 associate degrees in agriculture and related sciences.

“This ranking confirms our own perception of the quality of ATI. It’s always good to know others view our work as we do,” said L.H. Newcomb, senior associate dean of the College of Food, Agricultural, Environmental Sciences. “ATI is the premier institution of its type in the country.”

ATI offers 28 majors, plus certificate programs in hydraulics and commercial turf equipment. Students earn an associate of applied science or associate of science degree. Degree programs include agriculture, power machinery and horticulture programs. Landscaping, greenhouse management, turfgrass management, and floriculture also are offered.

“I wanted a career that was related to designing and agriculture. Floral design and marketing fit that criteria, and it only required two years to complete the degree. The best part of ATI is getting hands-on experience in all aspects of my major,” said Jenni-

fer Biehl, floral design and marketing major from Whipple, Ohio.

ATI’s top competitors included: Moorpark College in California with 113 associate degrees and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Georgia with 86. ATI’s closest competitor in Ohio is Hocking College which ranked 37th with 29 associate degrees awarded in agriculture and applied sciences.

“Quality teaching is our first priority. I believe that being a part of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences helps us to achieve this goal, along with the qual-

Adam Danner
Senior from New Philadelphia, Ohio
danner.23@osu.edu

ity young men and women who attend this university,” said Linda Houston, associate professor at ATI.

Community College Weekly is a biweekly news source that has continued to be the independent source of in depth information for and about two-year colleges. It compiles information from the colleges via a survey and data from the Department of Education. The survey requests data on the number of degrees and other awards earned in academic, vocational and continuing professional education programs.

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BIOTERRORISM IN THE CLASSROOM

New course examines the vulnerability of agriculture

In America's heartland, the threat of bioterrorism doesn't linger in people's minds, but it should, according to Ryan Mason, a senior in international studies. Mason learned about potential bioterrorism in Ohio in Plant Pathology 455, a new course offered winter quarter 2006.

This new bioterrorism course, offered through the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences (CFAES) at Ohio State University, is the first of its kind in the country, said Dr. Chuck Curtis, a professor in plant pathology, and the course facilitator.

Mason, of Silver Lake Ohio, took the class because it is required for his specialization in security and intelligence. He said the class was "one of the best" terrorism courses he has taken because, "it was so interdisciplinary...the professors (of other courses) only know the theories, and never actually put their hands on the bad stuff."

Even before 9/11, Curtis, a military man himself, had dreams of a curriculum such as this. However, the opportunity to teach it came sooner than expected. Tony Mughan, director of the International Studies

Department asked Curtis to lend his expertise in bioterrorism by creating a new course filling the gap in the intelligence and security curriculum. Curtis obliged, assembled his expert edu-



Dr. Chuck Curtis, course facilitator

cational team, and drafted a funding proposal, approved by L.H. Newcomb, senior associate dean of CFAES, who felt the course would be a great opportunity for the CFAES campus, not just the students in attendance.

"I'm hoping students will come across the river and experience us, and know we are scientists and know about the mechanisms of disease," Newcomb said. "They (main campus) think we are just over here putting fish underneath hills of corn."

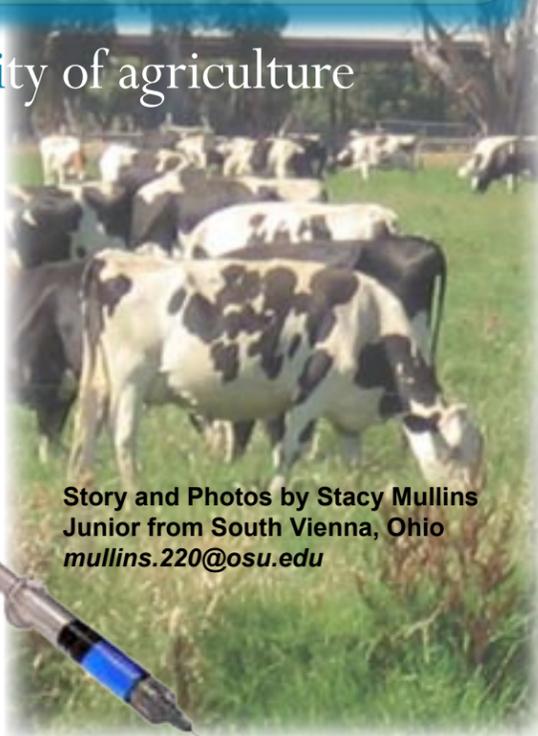
The class not only upheld the importance of agriculture and terrorism for both sides of campus, but also had a reputation in the police field, as Columbus police officers and firefighters requested to sit in the lectures.

"I believe this class showed we (CFAES) had the power and resources to teach such a class," Curtis said.

The funding Curtis secured allowed him to enhance lectures with occasional guest speakers, such as Todd Stewart, director of OSU Homeland Security.

"He gave a dynamite first lecture," Curtis said, because his experience as a retired Major General of the U.S. Air Force gave real authenticity to the class.

History and areas vulnerable to bioterrorism, are covered at length, but more specifically, the class focuses on agroterrorism, a method of warfare targeting agriculture, utilizing diseases of livestock, crops and plants, a term coined by Curtis.



Story and Photos by Stacy Mullins Junior from South Vienna, Ohio mullins.220@osu.edu

Aside from guest speakers, the course was taught by six lecturers: Jeffrey Lewis, international studies lecturer and known as "Mr. Library" to some students because of his extensive knowledge, covered history of bioterrorism: Mike Boehm, chair of the plant pathology department, used his military and NATO experiences to lecture on bioterrorism prevention and detection; Randi Love, professor in medicine and public health, discussed public health issues: Mo Saif, professor in animal sciences, and Jeff LeJeune, professor in food animal health and food science technology, detailed animal and livestock diseases. Lastly, Curtis lectured on plant diseases.

"I wanted students who took this class to get the bigger picture," Curtis said. "I started thinking, who is going

to teach this class? I don't know everything! I wanted all aspects to be covered, bioterrorism has such a history. Did you know in the middle ages, they used to throw infected cadavers over castle walls? There are a lot of screwy things that happened."

Curtis feels the variety of people, lectures, and personal stories made the class a success. The majority of students were international studies, horticulture, and political science majors.

"Ironically, I don't think there was a single plant pathology student in the class," Curtis said.

Alexis Stern, of Cleveland, an English graduate student and TA for the course, experienced the class from both learning and teaching viewpoints. She attributes the course's popularity partly to the uniqueness of the subject at hand.

"First of all, it's just such a timely topic, it's very new, very now, very sexy almost," Stern said. "There were so many people who were wonderful in their disciplines, how many classes will bring in the equivalence of a three star general, or the leading expert in bird flu?"

Matt Boone, a senior from Cincinnati, studying security and intelligence, never had experience with agriculture or was familiar with agroterrorism.

"The format was definitely a change in pace, and really set a precedence for me. The class raised points that people just don't think about. If our agricultural industry was hit, it's pretty insecure, and it would be devastating because we would never expect it," Boone said.

Stern, who also didn't have much experience with safety in agriculture or rural areas agreed.

"Farmers don't lock their milk up at night, someone can just go dump whatever they want in there. Learning that was definitely culture shock for me," she said.

"It doesn't matter if you're the police officer in a small town, or a police chief in a large metropolitan area, terrorism affects everyone," Mason said.

"I started thinking, who is going to teach this class? I don't know everything! I wanted all aspects to be covered, bioterrorism has such a history. Did you know in the middle ages, they used to throw infected cadavers over castle walls? There are a lot of screwy things that happened."

Curtis feels the variety of people, lectures, and personal stories made the class a success. The majority of students were international studies, horticulture, and political science majors.

Plant pathology 455 will be offered again Winter Quarter 2007, and if interested in enrolling, contact curtis.6@osu.edu

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Sara Spisak,
Senior from Perry, Ohio
spisak.7@osu.edu

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns urges Americans interested in influencing farm policy to contribute to the 2007 Farm Bill and the future of federal agricultural policy. The Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow and the Collegiate Young Farmers, during this year's Earl McMunn Forum assembled a panel of speakers to help jump start interest in discussing the Farm Bill on campus. The panelists were: Adam Sharp, director of National Affairs of Ohio Farm Bureau; Tim Demlen, executive director of Ohio Dairy Producers; and Carl Zulauf, McCormick professor of agricultural, environmental and developmental economics. The main points raised were:

- Uncertainty if the 2002 Farm Bill will be replaced given the \$330 billion Federal deficit forecasted for 2007-08.
- If postponing the 2007 Farm Bill at least a year will allow the World Trade Organization's global trading rules to be in place.
- An emphasis on conservation and renewable fuel sources, such as ethanol, and support for rural development programs.
- If supporting the current bill or favoring a new bill will depend on what part of the country one lives and the type of production one is involved.

The Earl McMunn Contemporary Issues in Agriculture Forum Series honors the memories of Earl W. McMunn and his wife, Wilma who were strong supporters of the agricultural communication program.



A New Wave of Algae Control

Story and Photos by Ashley Bixler, Senior from Russellville, Ohio
bixler.26@osu.edu

Barley is synonymous with breweries, beer and bars, but there is a more cost-saving use for it, namely, controlling algae in ponds. Organic barley straw, when bagged and placed in ponds, ditches or reservoirs can make algae infested water clear.

Ten years of research shows that rotting barley straw is an effective inhibitor of the color and suspended solids attributed to various types of algae, according to an article by Professor Jonathon Newman, Department of Agricultural Sciences, University of Bristol, United Kingdom.

David Campbell, a Brown County beef, tobacco, grain and hay farmer and his family have grown barley for their farm ponds and livestock tanks for years.

"Our ponds are large and to use pesticides it would cost me more than \$600 for one pond, plus most of our water sources for our livestock are spring fed ponds and runs through the creeks and branches on our property. So we stay away from any unneces-

sary pesticides," Campbell said.

When other southern Ohio farmers had the same problem with algae infested waters and did not know where to turn, Campbell took to the Internet to find less expensive ways to control it. He found studies in the United Kingdom showing aquatic barley straw is effective.

According to Ohio State University research, barley straw is only effective on algae, not water pests like water mill. It does not eliminate existing algae cells but interferes with the growth of new ones. As the old algae cells die off, less new algae cells are formed, allowing more control of algae growth. The barley straw method most effectively prevents algae growth in newly built ponds, not in older bodies of water.

Dried straw should be used, not barley hay or fresh barley because the dried straw when moistened creates a rotting process that releases an

unknown chemical reaction that inhibits the growth of algae. How much barley straw to apply depends on the pond's surface area, not its volume. It is recommended to apply 107 pounds of straw to a one-acre pond. However, for older algae infested ponds the quantity can be increased.

Each bale should be broken apart for decomposition to occur throughout the straw bag. Also, oxygen is required for decomposition to occur. After the bales have been

broken apart the straw should be placed in permeable bags, such as onion bags, along the perimeter of the pond. The water depth should be no more than six feet because production of algae generally occurs in shallow water.

Barley straw is most effective when applied in April before it begins to warm up in May, an explosive time for algae growth. The barley straw should remain throughout the warm water months, although it will normally decompose by July. So it may be necessary to add fresh barley straw.

"It smells like a can of stale beer after it has decomposed," Campbell said.

The replacement of the barley straw provides a thorough season-long control.

"It's organic, so the process is not quick, there is no instant gratification like that can be seen from the use of chemicals," Campbell said.

The main advantage of using barley straw is relatively inexpensive compared to the cost of herbicides. Do not be mistaken, barley straw is not a 'cure all' for algae, it does not control aquatic weeds or plants, nor does it run a risk of fish kills.

Campbell and other producers of barley straw often receive calls from people who have been in contact with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials to clear their waters.

"Obviously, it must have some good qualities if the EPA has suggested it to people," Campbell said.

Research of barley straw is still in its early stages in the United States. OSU and Purdue University are among the leading research institutions. Campbell hopes that the universities' research will show the same results he has found. Barley will no longer only mean beer, but will also be associated with algae control.

"It smells like a can of stale beer after it has decomposed."



David Campbell pulls algae from a pond he is treating with organic barley straw.

OPERATION MILITARY KIDS

Story by Katy Wuthrick, Junior from Alliance, Ohio
wuthrick.2@osu.edu

In November of last year, Greg Hershey left his wife, Lee Ann and their five children to fight the war against terror. Like hundreds of Ohio families the Hersheys of Crawford County face day-to-day challenges that arise when dealing with the deployment of a parent.

"The hardest part is not knowing where he is all the time or if he is safe," said Paige Hershey, 14, second oldest of the Hershey children.

Greg, a member of the National Guard was sent to New Orleans to help with the clean-up and rebuilding and from there, deployed to the Middle East.

The Hersheys do not know when their father will return, but hope it will be before Christmas. The National Guard has told them he could be away until March 2007.

Ohio State Extension 4-H Youth Development Program has partnered with the National Military Family Association to help children of military parents cope with sudden deployment of parents.

Theresa Ferrari, Ohio 4-H military liaison and Ohio State University Extension Specialist and Dona Leonhard Ohio's Operation Military Kids (OMK) coordinator, are leading the effort.

It can be a hard adjustment when a parent who is normally gone one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer is suddenly gone for months overseas, Leonhard said.

The 4-H and the National Guard have developed Hero Packs for suddenly military children, which contain fun items such as stuffed animals, Frisbees, small toys and books. It also contains items designed to help keep youth connected with their deployed parents, such as disposable cameras

to capture memories and stationery and envelopes for writing letters.

"My favorite part of the pack was the teddy bear and the journal. I write in it all the time," Paige said.

Also included is a note from the 4-Her who assembled the Hero Pack, recognizing the youth receiving the pack as a hero.

"There was a letter from kids in 4-H about how much it means to them that my Dad is over there," said Jordan, 15, the oldest of the Hershey children.

Thirty-four states, including Ohio have received grants to provide this service. The original grant for OMK was for \$70,000 for the 17-month period from May 2005-September 2006.

At first the items were placed in high-quality backpacks designed specifically for the program, but with funds dwindling, Ohio 4-H clubs are making less expensive camouflage drawstring bags to hold the items. Youth receiving the knapsacks are

being encouraged to fill them with supplies their deployed parents would need and send it to them.

"There are a few staple items, but other than that, each

club makes their packs unique," Leonhard said. "Each pack compiled has a lot of thought put into it."

Since its establishment in April of 2005 Ohio 4-Hers and volunteers have put together an estimated 1,100 Hero Packs.

Hero Packs is not the only way OMK is helping the youth think posi-

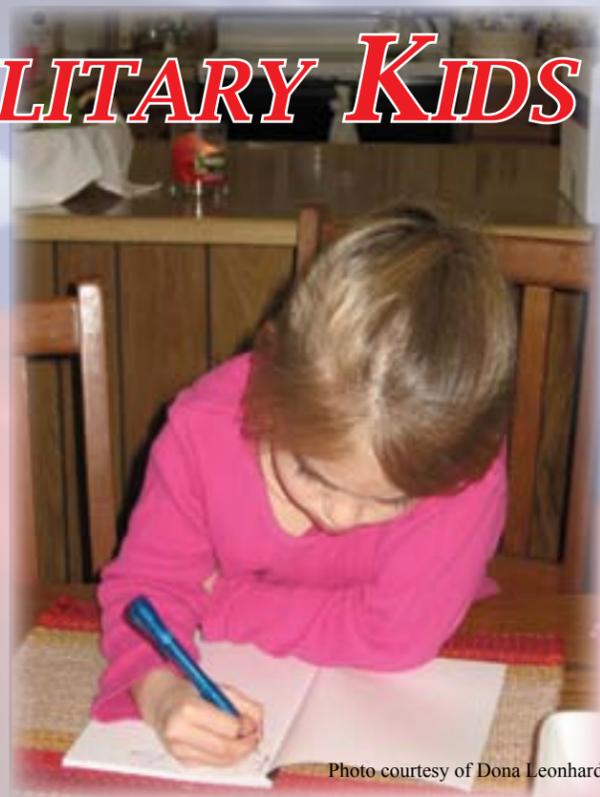


Photo courtesy of Dona Leonhard
Raye Hershey, 6, draws pictures and writes in her journal while her dad is away in Iraq.

tively about their parents at war. Three camps were organized last summer for these kids. Four camps are scheduled for this summer.

"I have been very gratified by the response of our 4-Hers. When they learn about the situation created by deployment, they want to be involved. For example, we have had 4-H teen members and Collegiate 4-Hers serve as camp counselors," Ferrari said.

Kristen Barnhart, a member of Collegiate 4-H, has helped at two National Collegiate Conferences to prepare Hero Packs and also served as a camp counselor for Operation Purple camp.

"For many of our campers it is their first time experiencing a camp setting, much like a traditional 4-H camp," Barnhart said. "It is an awesome experience to share these special times with the children."

Donations and 4-H club fundraisers, help keep camp costs affordable. Each camper pays a subsidized fee of \$35 instead of the normal camp cost of \$225.

"Youth often feel isolated because they do not know anyone else who is in this same situation," Ferrari said.

"Many people are not aware of the extent of the National Guard and Reserves throughout our state, how much they are being deployed to assist in the war effort, and the impact it has on families and communities."

An estimated 4,000 to 5,000 youth, ages 9 to 17, have a parent who is deployed in the state of Ohio.

This summer's camps will be at Kelly's Island 4-H Camp and 4-H Camp Graham in Warren County. The camps are called Operation Purple Camp because purple signifies all five branches of service, indicating that all children with deployed parents of any branch of the military are welcome to attend.

"I have a positive attitude because I think about the good she is doing for this country," one camper said about her mother's deployment.

At the end of last summer's camps Leonhard received positive comments from both campers and counselors.

"It is a rough time in a child's life to experience a parent being deployed and missing birthdays and holidays

and being able to contribute even in just a small step is very rewarding," Barnhart said.

At camp the youth make new friends and meet others who are dealing with the same issues they face individually at home.

"Meeting other people in the same situation was the best part," Jordan said.

Two of the Hersheys are going to the week-long Kelly's Island camp this summer. Paige is excited to go back to camp and is glad it is longer this year.

"I want to go back to see all my friends," she said.

Those involved in Operation Military Kids want to keep the program going even if the grant is exhausted.

"Our goal is to create on-going programs where we can engage youth in positive youth development experiences. It is not just about us

helping the military; they are helping us to reach a new audience – it is a two-way street, a mutually beneficial relationship," Ferrari said.

To help accomplish their goals the coordinators at the state level hope to establish regional teams. Leonard feels regional representatives will give more children with deployed parents a chance to benefit from the program.

"Whatever happens with the war there are always going to be kids who have a parent in the military who may be deployed or transferred at any time," Ferrari said. "It's nice to know that no matter where they go, 4-H will be there."

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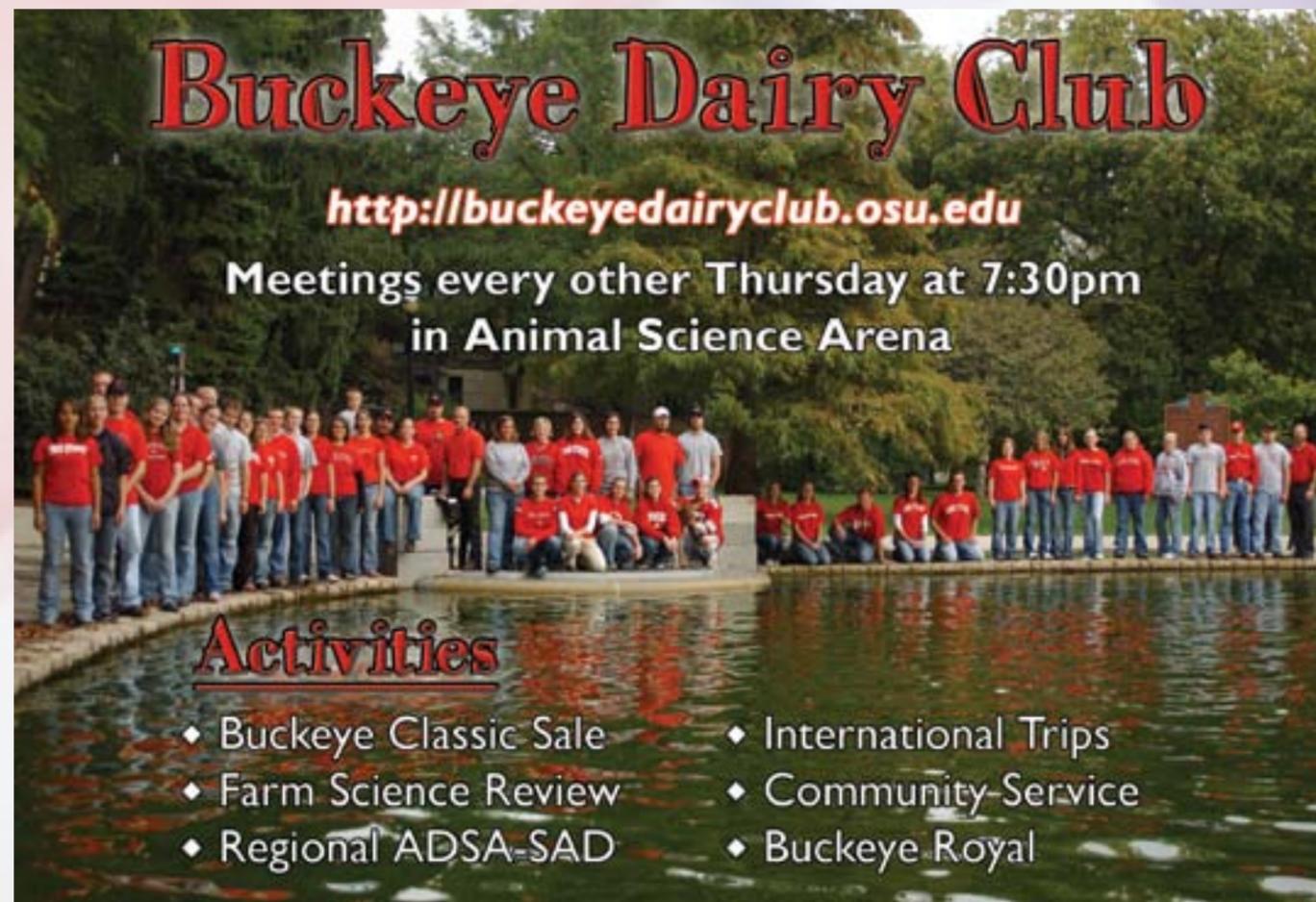


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Soybean Research Brings Professor International Award

Story and Photo by Kara Napier, Senior from Ripley, Ohio
napiers.55@osu.edu

David Min, a professor in the Food Science and Technology Department was recently elected to the International Academy of Food Science and Technology (FST), which consists of fellows of the academy who are distinguished food scientists and technologists elected by their peers.

Thirty-six new fellows will be inducted at the Thirteenth World Congress of Food Science and Technology in Nantes, France in September. These newly elected fellows are from all around the world including countries such as Argentina, Japan, Hungary, and Switzerland.

"I am very glad to be elected to the academy, and being able to teach at Ohio State, a very well recognized institution around the world, has allowed me to receive an award like this," Min said.

The academy was created in 1997 to honor scholars who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of food science and technology.

"It is the highest honor for a FST researcher," Min said. "I credit my award to the efforts of the 40-50 students I have worked with over the years."

The purposes of the International Academy are to identify and recognize individuals distinguished by their scientific and professional contributions to food science and technology, foster international cooperation and exchange of information, promote food science and technology and stimulate international education and training.

Min's research objective is to improve the oxidative and flavor stability of foods by understanding and controlling the chemical mechanisms for flavor compound formation. Soybean oil flavor reversion, the focus of his work, is where the flavor of the oil reverts back to a bean taste during shelf life.

"He really cares about his students, his teaching and cares about his grad students too," said Robert King, Ph.D.

student in food science. "Dr. Min always tries to put you in the best situation as far as research, publications and acknowledgement for good work."

Min is working with his six graduate students and a visiting professor from the Korean Food and Drug Administration on the reversion flavor of soybean oil.

"Fifty percent of my time is spent teaching, 40 percent researching and 10 percent in professional services," Min said. "I am most proud of teaching."

Min is just as devoted to his teaching as research, said Mike Mangino, FST interim chairperson.

"You can tell the students like him because they awarded him the Professor of the Year Award."

Lipid oxidation is a world concern and nobody knows more about it than David Min, Mangino said.

"He is extremely valuable to our department as a researcher and a teacher," Mangino added.

"It has a great economic impact on Ohio farmers, especially when we export to foreign countries. I am working for Ohio; I have a professional obligation," Min said.

Min has published six books and more than 200 publications and is currently scientific editor of the *Journal of Food Science* and on the editorial board for The Brazilian Society of



Professor David Min

Food Science and Technology.

"He practices [his lectures] a lot to make sure students understand and he wants his students to practice a lot before giving seminars," said Ramesh Reddy, second year Ph.D. student. "He is always willing to help with jobs too."

Min has received more than 30 national and international awards since he began teaching at OSU in 1979. He received the Innovator of the Year Award in 2004 from OARDC, the Harold and Macy Food Science and Technology Award in 2005, Pomerance Teaching Award in 2004, and Plenary Lectureship Award in 2002, just to name a few.

"You just don't find a lot of guys like Min; he is as dedicated as they come," Mangino said.

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College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences

TOP 20 SENIORS 2005-2006

Compiled By
Ben Donaker



CARYN HOERST

Harrison, Ohio
Agricultural Education

*Favorite Place on Campus:
Ag East Bus Stop, this is where I
seem to meet my friends.*

CRYSTAL WILLIAMS

Columbus, Ohio
Animal Sciences

*Favorite Place on Campus:
Ohio Stadium*



GRANT DAVIS

Casstown, Ohio
Agricultural Education

*Favorite Place on Campus:
Alpha Gamma Rho house*

JOHN FOLTZ

Moscow, Idaho
Fishing and Wildlife Mangement

*Favorite Place on Campus:
F.T. Stone Lab (Lake Erie)*



AMANDA TODD

East Lake, Ohio
Animal Sciences

*Future Plans:
College of Veterinary Medicine*



CYNTHIA MAY

Bethel Park, Pa.
Animal Sciences

*Future Plans:
College of Veterinary Medicine*



AMANDA HARDESTY

Fayetteville, Ohio
Natural Resouces

*Favorite Class:
Plant Pathology. 300*



ERIN WILBURN

Clarksburg, Ohio
Animal Sciences

*Favorite Class:
Animal Sciences 317*



ROB BOB BROKAW

Stockport, Ohio
Agricultural Education

*Best Buckeye Experience:
2004 Ohio State vs. Michigan
football game*

KEVIN FLAX

Springfield, Ohio
Agribusiness & Applied Economics

*Best Buckeye Experience:
Joining Alpha Gamma Rho*



TRICIA ADAMS

West Lafayette, Ohio
Agribusiness & Applied Economics

*Best Buckeye Experience:
Opportunities to explore agriculture
in places other than Ohio.*

BARB STEINER

Mason, Ohio
Agribusiness & Applied Economics

*Best Buckeye Experience:
Driving to Tempe, AZ.
for the Fiesta Bowl.*



CARA LAWSON

Ripley, Ohio
Agricultural Education

*Favorite Class:
Ag. Econ. 401*



JENNY ENGLE

Bowling Green, Ohio
Agricultural Communication

*Favorite Class:
Ag. Comm. 510*



MARLENE VON STEIN

Jenera, Ohio
Agricultural Education

*Future Plans:
Graduate School
University Of Florida*



STEPHANIE ZIMMERMAN

Casstown, Ohio
Agricultural Education

*Future Plans:
Wants to be a teacher in Ohio*



REBECCA GIBBS

Fremont, Ohio
Agricultural Education

*Advice to Students:
Get involved, you can learn more
about life than just in class.*

ABBY POUND

Utica, Ohio
Agribusiness & Applied Economics

*Advice to Students:
Get involved, best way to
network and make new friends.*



JESSE DOTTERER

Mansfield, Ohio
Agribusiness & Applied Economics

*Advice to Students: Put
enjoyment and integrity into
everything you do.*

JONATHAN BATEMAN

New Weston, Ohio
Agribusiness & Applied Economics

*Advice to Students: Get
involved with more than academics.*



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College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences STUDENT COUNCIL



- Communicates, as a representative, the interests of the students.
- Serves as an open forum of communication between organizations.
- Promotes the College and benefits through activities.

CFAES Student Council is comprised of representatives from each of the College's organizations.

<https://cfaes.osu.edu/studentcouncil>



Learning around the World, Buckeye Style

Agriculture is the foundation of life. Without food from animals and plants, timber from trees, and t-shirts from cotton, we would not survive.

The Ohio State University, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences feels that understanding agriculture in a global context is very important and has established study abroad programs to help students do so.

“With any career or job you have, it has an international element. Gaining experience in college is going to give

you an edge,” said Mandy Pillivant, CFAES study abroad coordinator.

It is the goal of Bobby Moser, executive dean of the CFAES, to have at least 50 percent of students have an international experience before they graduate.

As shown in the graphic, there are nine study abroad programs organized through CFAES including China and Brazil. These programs focus on diverse areas of agricultural interest, such as horticulture in England and animal sciences in Australia.

Melissa Krygier, assistant vice president of CFAES

and an OSU graduate, had her undergraduate study abroad experience in Oxford, England during the summer of 1977.

“The best present I’ve ever given myself – it was a fantasy land summer,” she said. Krygier will be the resident director for the China study abroad program this summer.

Fourteen students will participate in the China program. They will study at The Graduate School of the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences in Beijing. This program is five weeks

long and each student will earn 15 credits for three courses. They will also travel throughout China.

The typical study abroad program is five to six weeks for 15 credits. However, shorter programs ranging from 18 days to three weeks are becoming more popular. In these programs, students take courses at OSU and spend the time abroad experiencing the country.

“The long term goal is to have a short 10-14 day experience for each

department,” Pillivant said. The goal is also to encourage each department to offer a specialized program in its area.

New study abroad programs in the works include Costa Rica and Siberia. The departments of Food Science and Technology and Horticulture and Crop Sciences are also planning programs.

“We’re working hard to create new programs to achieve our goals,” Pillivant said.

To go on a study abroad trip a student must: fill out an application

package which includes providing academic transcripts, a statement of interest and on-campus references. They must also have an interview. There are scholarships to help with tuition and airfare costs. Students will also attend orientation sessions to learn more about the country they will be traveling to.

“Study abroad is the most fun way to earn credit,” Pillivant said.

Stretch your limits. Get out of your comfort zone and see the world.

Story by Ruth Ann Keener
Senior from West Salem, Ohio
keener.61@osu.edu



Dominican Republic
“I chose to go to the Dominican Republic because it is still a very undeveloped country and has a lot of natural beauty that is untouched by modern technology. I attended this study abroad without knowing anyone else on the trip, this allowed me to step out of my shell and make new friends.”
Danielle Hulit, sophomore in ag. education



England
“I chose to go to England because it is the program for students in my major. It is a great opportunity to visit many famous gardens and I just couldn’t pass up the opportunity to go to a foreign country and get college credit for it.”
Anna Leis, senior in landscape horticulture



Czech Republic
“I’ve always wanted to travel to Europe and this program made it relatively inexpensive. Plus, who would pass up traveling to one of the most beautiful countries in Europe while earning college credit?”
Alison Gentry, senior in ag. education



China
“I chose to study in China because the trade between the United States and China is critical to understand. As a future teacher what a better way to explain the relationship between the two countries than to see it with my own two eyes.”
Ryan Curtis, junior in ag. education



Brazil
“Brazilian agriculture is on the rise and I was curious to learn about it first hand. I was interested in experiencing a different culture and also to get out of the United States for a little while. Study abroad is the single most educational thing that I have done in college.”
Jesse Dotterer, senior in ag. business



Ghana
“I chose to go to Ghana because I would be able to work with the people. My favorite part was being able to teach an English literature class at an all girls school.”
Angela Gallegos-Riehl, sophomore in geological sciences



South Africa
“This program through our department is part of the senior capstone design class, where students work in teams to solve real-world problems through engineering design. I am very interested in the opportunity to solve problems for impoverished townships in South Africa.”
Bethany Frew, senior in food, ag., and biological engineering



Australia
“I’ve always wanted to go to Australia ever since I was a little girl. I had a camp counselor who was from Down Under and the accent hooked me.”
Sally Adams, junior in animal science

HURRICANE KATRINA DISASTER

CFAES Students Provide Relief and Hope

Bradley McGee, Senior from Dublin, Ohio
mcgee.82@osu.edu

For many people in central Ohio, August 29, 2005 may not ring a bell but for the people of Louisiana it was when Hurricane Katrina arrived, causing destruction and changing the lives of thousands of people forever.

Students, faculty and staff of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences went down and helped with the clean-up and recovery. Members of the Collegiate Young Farmers, a student club, had participated in an EPA workshop with Tulane University in New Orleans months before Katrina struck. They had made friends with the Tulane students and were shocked when the news broke and felt an obligation to go back and help.

"We began exploring different ideas and ways that we could help those people," said Matt McVey, a senior in animal sciences and organizer of the trip. "We realized that we couldn't help them so much financially, but we could maybe provide service in the form of physical labor to the people in Louisiana."

McVey and other students launched a campaign in October to recruit students for the December trip. With the sup-

port of over 20 clubs and organizations including Collegiate Young Farmers, Ag Ed Society, Buckeye Dairy Club, Collegiate 4-H, Saddle and Sirloin and Ohio Farm Bureau, the group was able to generate more manpower from the university.

On December 11, 28 students and two faculty members loaded up two vans and traveled south to help families devastated by Katrina. For five days they worked long hours, in mostly rural communities, helping needy families and businesses.

"Ninety percent of our work was outside of New Orleans in the rural communities," said McVey. They repaired fence lines on a small dairy farm, cleared trees and debris, and also removed thousands of dead plants from a greenhouse at Jim Mizells' Nursery. Many of these plants had died from the lack of irrigation, which is powered by electricity, which sev-



(Pictured above, L-R) Doug Russel, Kenton Garwood, Mary Baughman, and Anna Leis replant flowers in a greenhouse.

(Pictured left) Trash and debris removed from a house hit by Hurricane Katrina.



Photos courtesy of Sarah Leidheiser



eral counties did not have. The greenhouses had to be cleared out for new plants.

To help more people in the relatively short time they had, the students split into small groups and worked at different locations. One opportunity to see the magnitude of the damage was when a group went to help clean up at the New Orleans Botanical Garden. On their way, they walked through one of the communities that was heavily damaged.

"Everything seemed so desolate," said Doug Russell, sophomore in agribusiness and applied economics. "The majority of the people we saw were workers. This observation made me realize that this city was far from being relieved. It also gave me a sense of pride in that even though our acts were small, we were continuing the work of others in helping rebuild the city."

On the fifth day another group met Don, who was living in a temporary trailer behind his home because his house had suffered so much damage. Don faced even greater hardship because his orange crop was ripening and all his workers relocated due to the hurricane. The relief group stepped in, braved thorns and tree lizards to pick wagon loads of citrus, allowing Don to satisfy the large order he was frantically trying to put together.

"The smile on his face, the roar of his laughter, and sincerity in his voice while saying goodbye assured me, as well as everyone else that our hard work was very much appreciated and that we made a difference to

someone who was grateful for one positive day in the realm of one horrible disaster," said Caryn Hoerst, senior in agricultural education.

On their final day in Louisiana the entire group took the afternoon off and toured the devastation. The students visited Port Sulphur, where the hurricane hit hard and the levees broke flooding the area. They saw boats overturned on land and clothes and debris washed 20 feet high in trees. They saw places where houses once stood, completely washed away.

"Imagine coming back to your home ground with nothing there, absolutely nothing," said Mary Baughman, senior in early childhood development. "Not even the pesky birds and squirrels were around because they too had nothing to live off of."

This hurricane relief effort would not have been successful without students willing to help. Amanda Hardesty, a graduating senior in natural resources helped plan an additional trip. She saw first-hand the impact the group made in people's lives and organized a second group of 30 students which departed spring break.

"Matt (McVey) had put a lot of work into his first trip and once it was said and done it was fairly easy to put together another," Hardesty said.

The spring break group cleaned a fishery dock that was under water for four weeks.

"We basically hauled away a lot of debris, there were a lot of boats still sunk in the harbor and the Coast Guard won't come and lift those boats out of the harbor until the dock is cleaned off, and you can't do any fishing until you have boats," said Hardesty.

It was imperative that this be done so the fishery



Photo courtesy of Sarah Leidheiser
Karen Barman and Sara Wendel pick oranges as part of the hurricane relief project.

could resume business. Other projects included cleaning up at a city park, tree farms and botanical gardens. The most challenging aspect of the trip, Hardesty said, was getting around the city because there were no street signs.

"It may not seem like a big deal but the way the city is set up, nothing is square and you don't know where roads are and they're missing signs," Hardesty said. "You didn't know where you were,

where you were going or how far you had gone."

McVey and Hardesty are proud of the things the CFAES and OSU were able to accomplish.

"After spending two weeks down there, I already knew in my heart I was coming back," Hardesty said. "The most rewarding fact is that I've taken my experiences and feelings of the first trip and basically multiplied it 28 or 29 times."

Buster Mizzell, owner of Green Thumb Nursery near Folsom, Louisiana, truly appreciates the efforts made by the OSU students.

"I'm just thankful for them," said Mizzell. "I just hope if they are ever in need of help, our people will go up there and return the favor."

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Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2006
Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2007

Contact Information:

Pat Whittington, Ph.D. PWhittington@osu.edu 614-292-6891	Marissa Mullett mullett.50@osu.edu 614-292-1589	CFAES Career Services 100 Ag Admin. Building 2120 Fyffe Rd. Columbus, OH 43210
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CFAES Late Night at the Zoo



More than 7,000 OSU students, faculty, staff, families and friends attended the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences' Late Night at the Zoo, held April 28. The program was sponsored by the OSU Wellness Center, CFAES Student Council, Undergraduate Student Government and OSU Residence Life. Saddle and Sirloin Club prepared food for the 3,800 students in attendance. Entertainment was provided by the Association of Ohio State Class Honoraries, the 8th Floor Improv and Alpha Zeta Partners. The CFAES Student Council received a 2006 University Outstanding Student Activity award for organizing this event.

Photos by Sara Spisak, Senior from Perry, Ohio
spisak.7@osu.edu

Ethanol: Forging a New Path for Agriculture

Story by Cassie Jo Colliflower,
Senior from Mechanicsburg, OH
colliflower.5@osu.edu

The U.S. Department of Energy reports that one in every eight gallons of gasoline used by consumers in the United States contains ethanol. Ethanol is a renewable fuel created from biomass resources, such as corn.

By fueling their cars in Columbus, most OSU students don't realize they are doing a green thing. Also, the majority of students don't know using ethanol helps engines run more efficiently, reduces greenhouse emissions and our country's dependence on foreign oil, boosts the agricultural economy and reduces gas prices.

Though ethanol has been around for several decades, over the past two years Ohio's agricultural industry has been learning and talking about it on a different level than in previous years.

There are 170 million gallons of ethanol expected to be produced by the first three ethanol plants, currently underway in northern Ohio. This production is slated to occur in 2006. Farmers are recognizing higher ethanol blend gasoline is a reality, and that their corn crop is necessary to make it happen.

Ethanol blended gasoline today ranges from 5 to 85 percent ethanol with the remaining percentage being



petroleum. According to the Department of Energy, blends up to 10 percent (E10) are approved for use in all gasoline vehicles without alteration to the vehicle necessary. Many gasoline stations display signs on pumps informing consumers they are filling their vehicle with up to 10 percent ethanol.

Flexible fuel vehicles are designed to use regular petroleum gasoline, E10 and other blends up to 85 percent ethanol.

There are currently over 4 million flexible fuel vehicles on the road, according to the American Coalition for Ethanol, a national non-profit organization promoting ethanol use and growth of the industry.

"Starting in 2006, (General Motors) will produce more than 400,000 flexible fuel vehicles annually. There are already over 1.5 million GM E85—capable vehicles on the road," according to a GM press release.

The use of ethanol comes with a mountain of benefits including: better vehicle performance, lessened greenhouse emissions, reduced dependence on foreign oil and additional uses for agricultural products.

"Ethanol can be made from virtually any starch feedstock, such as sugar cane, wheat or milo. To-

day, U.S. ethanol is produced mainly from corn, an abundant and renewable source," said Dwayne Siekman, executive director of the Ohio Corn Growers Association, the Ohio Corn Marketing Program and the Ohio Wheat Growers Association.

The Ohio Corn Growers Association is a leader in the creation of an ethanol industry in Ohio

by conducting studies and funding promotional campaigns for benefits of ethanol-blended fuel, Siekman said.

The Ohio Corn Marketing Program works to develop new uses and markets for corn. They contract their services to organizations such as the Corn Growers Association for research, promotional campaigns, market development and education, he said.

"Production of ethanol is energy efficient, in that it yields nearly 25 percent more energy than is used in growing the corn, harvesting it, and distilling it into ethanol," according to the Agricultural Economics Report from the Economic Research Service of the United States Department of Agriculture.

"A bushel of field corn will yield 1.6 pounds of corn oil, 10.9 pounds of high protein feed, 2.6 pounds of corn meal and 31.5 pounds of starch—which can be converted to beverages, sweeteners or 2.7 gallons of fuel ethanol," Siekman said.

In addition, "Growth in ethanol production has provided an economic

**"A bushel of field corn...
can be converted to 2.7
gallons of fuel ethanol."**

stimulus for U.S. agriculture, because most ethanol is made from corn," according to the USDA report.

"The increase in ethanol demand has created a new market for corn and agricultural policymakers see expansion of the ethanol industry as a way of stabilizing farm income and reducing farm subsidies, while freeing the U.S. economy from its dependence on imported oil," the USDA report continued to explain. "Increasing ethanol production induces a higher demand for corn and raises the average corn price. Higher corn prices reduce farm commodity program payments and the participation rate in the Acreage Reduction Program."

Along with positive impacts on the agricultural economy, there are many other positive reasons that American Consumers should use E85 blend in their vehicles.

E85 has the highest oxygen content of any available fuel. The high oxygen content causes the ethanol fuel to burn cleaner and more completely. This also increases octane level in engines, causing better vehicle performance.

"Production and use of E85 results in a nearly 30 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. More than 100 major U.S. cities suffer from unhealthy levels of smog. E85 may help. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency studies have shown that high-blend ethanol fuels can reduce harmful exhaust emissions by more than 50 percent and smog-forming pollution by 15 percent or more," Siekman said.

The use of ethanol in Ohio is growing because it is a beneficial product in so many ways. There are currently nine gasoline stations in Ohio that provide E85, and the numbers are growing because companies see the drive toward change in both Ohio and the country as a whole.

"(Ethanol) is a dynamic and growing industry that is revitalizing rural America, reducing emissions in our nation's cities, and lowering our dependence on imported petroleum," Siekman concluded.

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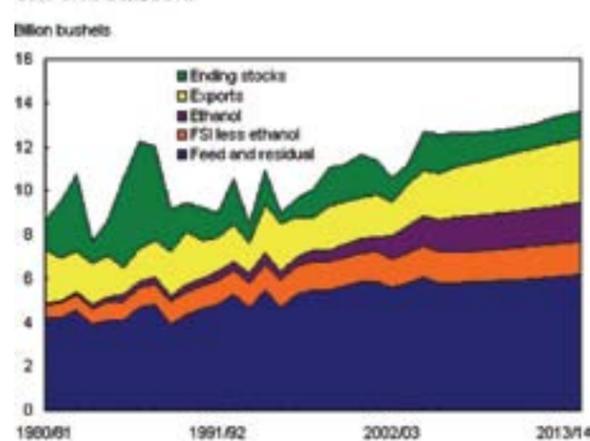
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“How Firm Thy Friendship...”

Story & Photo by Christopher J. Smalley, Senior from Jackson, Ohio
smalley.26@osu.edu

You think students with an agricultural background will have difficulty fitting into the big city lifestyle, not at all.

Along Neil Avenue agriculture students have formed what are called agriculture houses and are enjoying the best of what off-campus life has to offer. They socialize together as a little community and participate in extracurricular activities as a way of giving back to the community in which they live.

“The Neil Avenue area has over the years become what students call, the country,” said Angie (Sieger) Payne, a senior in food business management in the Department of Food Science and Technology.

Residents in this area have an agriculture background in one way or another and made it their home away from home. They have even gone as far as naming their houses and in some cases the names have stuck through several sets of renters, Payne said.

There are four main agriculture houses around the Neil Avenue area. The Dairy House, located at 2243 Neil Avenue, is the oldest and was founded in the early 1990’s. It is so called because it was started by agriculture students who grew up on dairy farms and worked at OSU Dairy Science Center, Waterman Farm Complex.

“We’re just a couple of farm boys who like to have a good time and are sure to carry on what was started several years back,” said Andy Armstrong, a senior in animal sciences and a resident of The Dairy House. Memories aren’t made in the classroom but rather with closest friends hanging out together.

The special bond that this community offers creates a more stress free road through college for students

because there is always someone to lend a helping hand, whether it’s with homework or just helpful advice.

The Second house is The Bed and Breakfast, a duplex at 2305 and 2307 Neil Avenue; it was also started in the late 1990’s by female agriculture students. They wanted to carry on the tradition of fixing delicious meals and having a nice clean place for visitors.

“Living on Neil Avenue was like we were all one big family and we really enjoyed entertaining,” said Laura Geer, a former resident of The Bed and Breakfast.

Each Thanksgiving, the girls host a feast for friends and others in the surrounding community -- another way this close community demonstrates coming together and sharing with one another.

The Beast House, 2256 Neil Avenue, doesn’t necessarily have an agriculture name but has agricultural feel. It is one of the most recent of agriculture houses, founded in 2001 by four agriculture majors.

“We got the idea for the name one night while playing cards and decided to go with it. We hoped by giving the house a name it would be easier to tell people where we lived rather than giving them the address,” said Brad Gorton a 2005 turfgrass management graduate and a former Beast House resident.

“When we moved in we wanted to have that one thing that set us apart from the rest so we decided to have a small party in the fall called Beast Fest. What we soon realized was that when well known, nothing can be small,” Gorton said. It grew into what is now an all day annual event in May. Gorton notes that “it is often imitated but never duplicated!”

The Beast House and others

demonstrate the down home feel that you may receive when in the country. They help local residents who aren’t students with odds and ends jobs throughout the year as a mere thank you event for their tolerance.

“We like to think of it as a way for us to give back to the community for all they put up with during the year,” Gorton said.

The Country Cottage, is the fourth and lies on the outskirts of the country of Neil Avenue at 100 West Norwich Avenue. It sits between the hustle and bustle of High Street and the more quiet, laid back part of Neil Avenue. The little house is dwarfed by the tall apartment buildings on Norwich Avenue.

“We thought the name would be perfect because of our surroundings and backgrounds and it has really seemed to catch on,” said Jeremy Goyings a senior in agricultural construction systems management and a resident.

“When we first moved in the fall of 2003, we wanted to be included with the rest of the agriculture houses and knew the only way this could happen was to name our house,” he said.

The Country Cottage is just that, a little cottage where many memories have been made. Those memories started the first night they had a get together and people decided to write messages and sign their table.

“We now have three years worth of signatures and messages that have stories to go with each one,” Goyings said.

As you can see, these houses offer countless memories made throughout the years. That’s why the *country* is such a wonderful place to be a part of and live. If you are an aggie or just a student looking for a country lifestyle the agriculture houses may be just right for you.

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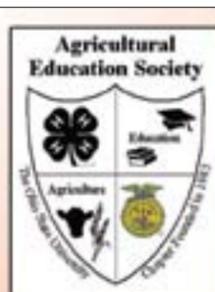


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