



**K-STATE**  
Research and Extension

## October 2012 Update

- K-State Research and Extension members of Epsilon Sigma Phi received the following awards at the group's national conference, Oct. 6–10 in Mobile, Ala. Individual Diversity Award: Deryl Waldren, northwest area 4-H Youth Development specialist. Diversity Team Award: 4-H Global Citizenship Programs Team of 4-H Youth Development specialists Waldren; Beth Hinshaw, southeast; and Rod Buchele, southwest; Kansas International 4-H Youth Exchange coordinator, Mary Kay Munson, Junction City; and Japanese exchange coordinator, Rose Scott, Clay Center. International Service Award: Denise Dias, family and consumer sciences agent, Sedgwick County.
- The Five-State Beef Conference — a joint Cooperative Extension Service program organized by beef specialists at Kansas State, Oklahoma State, Colorado State, New Mexico State, and Texas AgriLIFE — targets regional cow-calf and stocker producers. The fourth annual conference last month — presented in three locations within the five states — drew a total of 175 producers to Woodward, Okla.; Coldwater, Kan.; and Clayton, N.M.
- Plant pathologists Bill Bockus and Megan Kennelly were honored at the 2012 American Phytopathological Society annual meeting in Providence, R.I. Bockus earned the Lucy Hastings de Gutiérrez Award for excellence in teaching, and Kennelly received the Lee M. Hutchins Award for published research on basic or applied aspects of diseases of perennial fruit plants.
- The K-State Insect Zoo celebrated its 10th anniversary Sept. 15, with family activities including a bouncy house and Willie Wildcat's release of tagged Monarch butterflies. President Kirk Schulz spoke about the zoo's accomplishments, Dean and Director John Floros explained the importance of research and getting children interested in science at an early age, Department Head John Ruberson recalled the entomology department's history, and Professor David Margolies shared plans for the zoo's future. The zoo is housed in the Glenn H. Beck Dairy Barn in the K-State Gardens.
- More than 275 producers attended the 2012 Beef Stocker Field Day Sept. 27 at the K-State Beef Stocker Unit. The event focused on management tips to help producers optimize their stocker operations.
- Holly Davis, insect diagnostician and doctoral student in the Department of Entomology, earned the Friend of Extension Master Gardener Award. She identifies insects, spiders, arthropods, and small creatures through images or specimens sent to her intact or in pieces.
- The Department of Horticulture, Forestry and Recreation Resources has named Michael G. Ensich an outstanding alumnus. He will be honored Oct. 26 during a visit to K-State's Manhattan campus, where he will present a seminar to students, faculty, and park and recreation industry professionals. Ensich, who retired from his role as chief of operations for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Directorate of Civil Works, earned a bachelor's degree in natural resource management from K-State in 1973 and completed work toward a master's degree in horticulture and forestry.
- Bikram Gill, university distinguished professor in the Department of Plant Pathology and director of the Wheat Genetic and Genomic Resources Center, received The Friendship Award from the People's Republic of China on Oct. 1. The award is the highest presented to foreign experts who make outstanding contributions that further China's economic and social progress.