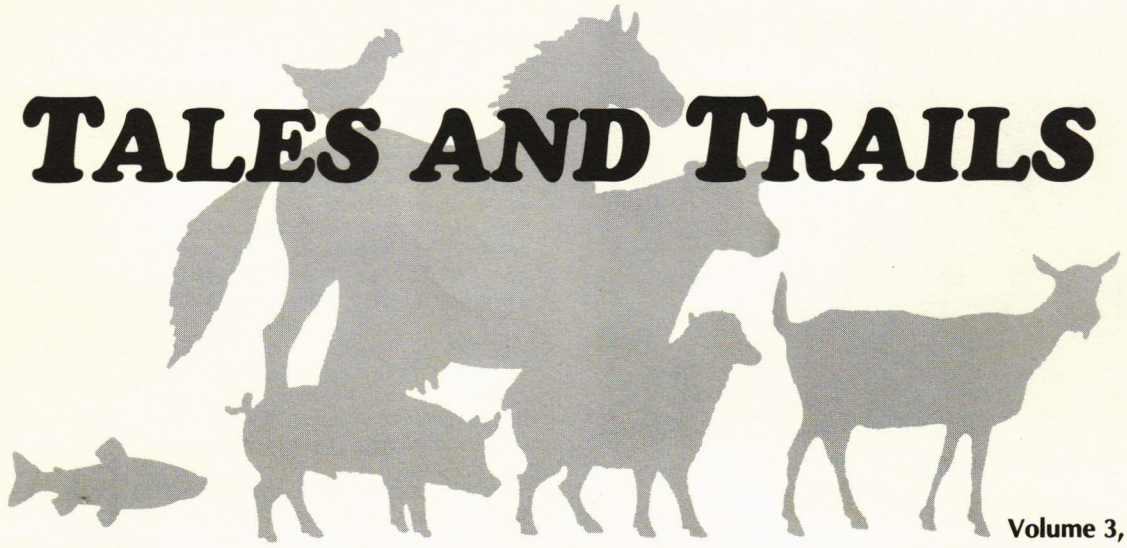


TALES AND TRAILS

Volume 3, Number 1

Department of Animal Science University of California, Davis Davis, California 95616 (916) 752-1250

Dear Friends:

As is evident from this and previous issues of *Tales and Trails,* there are many diverse activities in the UC Davis Department of Animal Science. The judging teams have had an excellent year and Coach Dana Van Liew deserves credit, along with the dedicated and highly competent team members. This issue also highlights several other students, including the peer advisers who play an important role in assisting undergraduates.

Two new faculty members joined us last fall, and one is featured in this issue. Also included are articles on the excellent research programs of two of our senior faculty. Extension is an important part of the university's function, and this issue takes a closer look at the role played by farm advisors.

Sometime in the next few months, the Department of Animal Science will move to the new UCD Food and Agricultural Sciences Building, which will be dedicated May 19. We as faculty and staff feel fortunate to move to such excellent facilities. On the other hand, we know we will miss the spacious offices and historic atmosphere of Hart Hall, which has housed our department since the 1920s.

Finally, as of July 1, 1987, I will discontinue as chair of the department, and Professor William N. Garrett will assume this responsibility. We all wish Dr. Garrett the best in his term as chair, and I will support his efforts.

I wish to express my gratitude and thanks to all the faculty, staff and students whose collective efforts have made it possible for me to carry out my responsibilities. I wish all of you the best. If you have suggestions for future articles, please contact our Editor, Suzanne Jones, or me.

Sincerely,

R. W. Touchberry

R. W. Touchberry, Chair
Department of Animal Science

Farm Advisor Stephanie Larson

Farm advisors take research to the field

Discovering ways to reduce the number of sheep killed by coyotes is all in a day's work for 27-year-old Stephanie Larson, livestock farm advisor for Sonoma County.

A large number of coyotes still inhabit the north Sonoma County coast, a rural and mountainous area. In the past, sheep producers have lost as much as 10% of their flocks to the predators. Such losses are costly, because lambs can be worth as much as $80 each, and ewes as much as $150.

Larson has been helping farmers implement new management techniques to prevent losses from coyote predation. "We're looking at the use of electric fencing, how to better manage lambing, and using guard dogs, hunting, and traps and snares," she says.

Using political pressure to improve conditions for raising livestock is also something Larson is familiar with. Working with UCD Extension Wildlife Specialist Terry Salmon and the Sonoma Agricultural Commissioner's Office, she helped persuade state officials to hire an additional trapper for the county.

"We've come a long way, but we still have a long way to go," she says. "We now have three trappers funded by the Federal government and the county."

Larson, who grew up on a sheep farm in Idaho, became interested in Cooperative Extension while she was young. "I was a 4-H member and worked with a county agent in my home state," she says. "I thought he had a neat job, because he could work with both people and animals."

After completing a B.S. at the University of Idaho and M.S. in Animal Science at the University of Wyoming, Larson was hired by California Cooperative Extension.

Although the number of female CE farm advisors in plant science is increasing, Larson is one of only a handful of CE women working in animal science in California. She doesn't see this as a problem, however.

"At first there might be some hesitation to talk to you because you are a woman," she says. "But once producers know you know what you're talking about, and that you are interested in their problem, it's no trouble at all talking to them."

Sheep rancher Stan Hagemann has worked with Larson since she joined Sonoma County CE several years ago, and has been favorably impressed. "She's good. If I take a problem to her, she'll find answers for me," says Hagemann. "If she doesn't have the answer, she'll get to the bottom of it."

Currently, Larson is helping Hagemann with a research trial using growth implants to see if his lambs can be brought to market weight earlier. Extension Livestock Specialist John Dunbar will also contribute to the research.

"Between John, Stan and I, we'll come up with a trial that will not be too labor intensive for Stan, but will also provide valuable information to help other producers," says Larson. Keeping the trial labor efficient means implanting will be done when the lambs are normally handled - when they are wormed or docked, for example.

Larson consults her CE colleagues - both specialists and other farm advisors - often. "Our direct line of communication is through the specialists at UC Davis," she says. "I just call them up, and if they don't have the answer, they'll get it for you."

Although she has worked in several other counties in California, Larson says she likes Sonoma County best. One good reason is the eight other farm advisors she works with, in areas ranging from horticulture to marine science.

As far as future career goals are concerned, Larson says being a farm advisor appeals to her. She's looking foreward to doing a sabbatical in three years. "There's a lot to be gained from Cooperative Extension," she says. Having farm advisors like Stephanie Larson is everyone's gain.

CAAA seeks nominations

The Cal Aggie Alumni Association needs your help in nominating alumni for three annual awards. The Young Alumnus/na of the Year Award honors an individual's contributions to his/her community, profession or the university. Nominees must be no more than 35 years of age or have received a first degree at UCD no more than 10 years ago.

The Distinguished Achievement Award is given to a UCD graduate for distinguished individual achievement in a profession or in community or public service. The Jerry W. Fielder Memorial Award is given to a UCD graduate who has been of service to the association, the Cal Aggie Foundation and the university.

It is not necessary to be a UCD alum to submit a nomination. The deadline is April 1, and the awards will be presented in the fall of 1987. To receive nomination forms or request additional information, contact CAAA by calling (916) 752-0286 or writing the Alumni Center, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.

Dr. Edward Price with research animals

Extending the meaning of motherhood

A rearing technique developed at the UC Davis Department of Animal Science may one day help boost the world's population of exotic and endangered animals. The method helps animal mothers accept foreign offspring, and is currently being used with sheep.

The technique, now being used in the U.S. and abroad, has proven effective in helping ewes accept orphaned and stray lambs, and those from large litters with not enough milk to go around. Ewes generally reject all but their own young, but UCD researchers have had an 80-90% acceptance rate of alien lambs.

The method is a variation of an old shepherding trick to encourage ewes to accept an orphaned lamb after their own has died. The traditional technique - known as skin grafting, although no grafting actually takes place - involves placing the pelt of a dead lamb on an orphan. Ewes often accept these newcomers because they smell like their own young.

However, skin grafting is messy and time-consuming, and it is only effective if there is a dead lamb to help deceive the ewe. Sheep producers today are often in need of a technique allowing them to place lambs from large litters with ewes producing more than enough milk for their own young. The new method allows them to do this.

Although ewes eventually learn to recognize their young by sight and sound, they first identify them by smell. Only a short period of sniffing, licking, and nuzzling after birth is needed to imprint the identity of her young on a ewe. After that, ewes routinely reject lambs that don't smell like their own. The technique developed by Dr. Edward Price and colleagues helps overcome the ewes' odor preference and allows them to become foster mothers.

Some of Price's research has involved substituting a live lamb for stillborn young. The method involves passing a tubular cloth jacket called a stockinette over the stillborn lamb several times, allowing it to absorb the lamb's odor. The jacket is then transferred to the live lamb.

Despite the fact that the alien lamb has its own odors, when ewes smell their own lamb's odor on the jacket, most accept it. "The beauty of this technique is that it is relatively rapid and effective," says Price. "When we substituted a live lamb for a dead one two to three days after birth, we found that 40-50% of ewes accept new lambs immediately. Given another 24 hours, an additional 30-40% accepted alien lambs. We can expect around 80-90% acceptance within 36 hours."

For a few hours after parturition, ewes are attracted to the birth fluids on their young. These fluids stimulate ewes to groom their young, which in turn encourages lambs to stand and suckle. Grooming also dries lambs, helping regulate their body temperature.

The researchers have made several observations about the odor transfer method. They have discovered that substituting lambs is most effective shortly after birth, when ewes are most responsive to any young. Also, ewes giving birth for the first time seem to accept alien young better than older, more experienced ewes. One surprising finding is that only 48 hours after a ewe accepts an alien lamb, the stockinette can be removed, and the lamb will not be rejected.

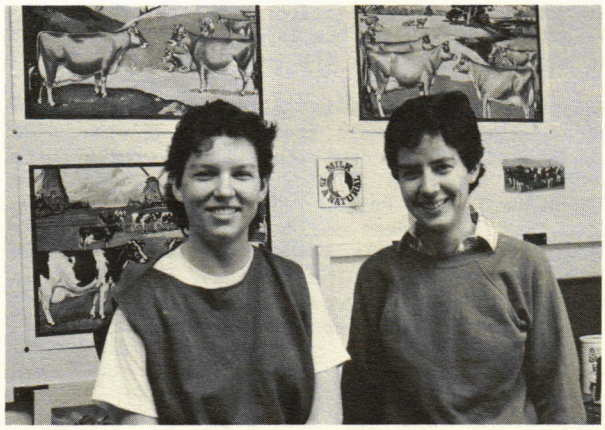
In addition to the importance of odor in identification, visual cues associated with the head of the lamb also seem to be important to ewes. An Australian researcher tested this by blackening the head of white-faced lambs. He discovered that ewes would reject their own young if head color was altered.

The Davis researchers have successfully tested the odor transfer technique with cattle as well as sheep. "My guess is that it will work with many mammalain species," says Price. "It has some possible applications pertaining to exotic and endangered animals in zoos and wildlife parks. Young that are orphaned or from large litters could be transferred to mothers with stillborn offspring or small litters. In this way, young could be more equitably distributed among available mothers."

The technique may also help increase the reproductive capacity of certain highly-valued animals. Lactating females often don't come into estrus as soon as they would if they weren't caring for offspring. By using stockinettes, young could be transferred to another lactating female, allowing the original mother to come back into estrus.

Several Northern California sheep producers have tried the odor transfer method and reported good results. The Sexton Ranch in Willows and the Patton Ranch near Orland reported success rates almost as high as those obtained at UCD. The technique has also been employed across the U.S. and in Europe, and was featured on a recent Voice of America broadcast in 13 languages.

UCD employees Nancy Martin and Martin Dally, Glenn/Colusa County Farm Advisor Monte Bell, UCD student Craig Dunn, and Margaret Sublette of the CMS Sheep Company in Elkton, Oregon contributed to the research.



Peer Advisers Judy Mello (R) and Maran Clark

Peer advisers lead the way

Students entering a large school like UC Davis for the first time often spend valuable time figuring out university procedures and bureaucracy. Fortunately, there's help for frassled freshmen and other undergraduates. Animal Science Peer Adviser Judy Mello and Agricultural Science and Management Peer Adviser Maran Clark can assist students with academic plans and help keep them informed.

Peer advisers are a valuable resource for students. They've learned the ropes, and can offer advice based on experience. "It's important that students have someone their own age to talk to," says Mello. "It's like we're friends."

"I am easy for shy students or those who are unsure about what they want to do to talk to," says Clark. "A lot of people are really intimidated about seeing their faculty adviser. Talking with us is a good way to clarify what they're thinking about before seeing their adviser."

Mello, who will be a senior spring quarter, has emphasized dairy production within the Animal Science major. She keeps several head of cattle at her family's sheep ranch in Winters, along with some dairy cows at the Rowe Dairy outside town.

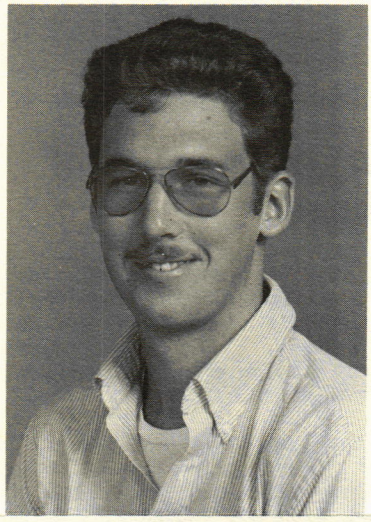
Clark, who is from the Los Angeles area, originally wanted to go into horsebreeding, but decided the AS&M major offered more flexibility. "It's a great major if you want to work in agriculture and are not intending to go to graduate or professional school," she says. "AS&M has a broad base - it provides the type of information you should have if you're going to go into business or run the family farm."

One way Mello and Clark keep students informed is through their newsletter, the "Bulletin," which has details about upcoming activities, dates for dropping and adding classes, internships, career choices, department activities, and Block and Bridle. To help bring students and faculty together informally, the peer advisers also provide coffee and donuts once a week.

Brown bag lunches with faculty help students get to know professors and acqaint them with some of the realities of postgraduate careers. This year visits from former students holding interesting jobs have also been arranged.

"We would like to get more people involved in department activities - both students and faculty - especially socially," says Mello. "We have the neatest department on campus because we offer more than most of them. There's so much to do."

For students confused about applying for scholarships, the peer advisers have helped put together a form describing available scholarships and scholarship requirements. Whatever a student's needs, whether it's consulting on coursework or discussing career possibilities, chances are, talking to a peer adviser will help.



Peter Hulse

Hulse receives Tom Mead Dairy Award

Peter Hulse, a junior from Monson, Massachusetts majoring in Animal Science, is a recent recipient of the Tom Mead Dairy Award.

The award is a $500 scholarship made possible by World-Wide Sires, Inc., in memory of Tom Mead, an Animal Science professor who taught and conducted research in dairy science for 38 years.

World-Wide Sires makes this scholarship available to dairy students in appreciation of the support of California dairy producers.

Hulse was raised on a dairy farm. His family's dairy, May Hill Farm, has 40 lactating Holsteins. He was selected on the basis of his interest and involvement in the dairy cattle industry and his academic and leadership credentials. He hopes to work with the dairy industry upon graduation either through research or as a veterinarian.

* *

DID YOU KNOW THAT WHEN THE FARM SCHOOL AT DAVIS BEGAN, IT OFFERED A 3-YEAR COURSE ON ALL PHASES OF FARMING TO YOUNG MEN 15 OR OLDER WHO HAD COMPLETED GRAMMAR SCHOOL? SHORT COURSES WERE AVAILABLE TO MEN OR WOMEN OVER 18 WITHOUT EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENT.

Dr. Janet F. Roser

New faculty profile: Janet Roser

Dr. Janet F. Roser, who completed M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in the department several years ago, has joined the Animal Science faculty. Roser, originally from the Boston area, has a B.S. in Medical Technology from the University of Vermont.

A desire to work in science in a professional capacity first attracted Roser to medical technology. She also liked the the fact that she could find work as a med tech almost anywhere in the United States. After graduating from U of V, she worked first in Boston, then Colorado.

After moving to San Diego, Roser became increasingly drawn to research. During the day she worked as a research associate at Scripps Clinic and Research Foundation in La Jolla, and at night as a medical technologist at Scripps Hospital.

"The research was really fascinating," she says. "To me it's being creative. It's finding out what's not known, and saying, 'Let's find out.' It's being able to go on tangents, and to discover the unknown." With that in mind, Roser decided to pursue a Ph.D. in animal physiology.

She applied and was accepted for graduate study in Animal Science at Washington State, Colorado State and UC Davis. She accepted the UCD offer, which included a job as an SRA II with former faculty member Dr. Warren Evans. She assisted Evans' graduate students, and worked on projects related to her master's and Ph.D. research.

Roser examined the development of antibodies against HCG (human chorionic gonadotropin) in the mare during her graduate studies. HCG is a hormone produced by women in their first trimester of pregnancy. In horses, it is used to induce ovulation for breeding.

"Once it was known that HCG was so effective, veterinarians started using it regularly," says Roser. "But there were some reports that after using it in one mare many times, it wasn't as effective. It was thought that since it's a foreign protein, antibodies were developing against it."

Roser looked at the production and development of antibodies agaist HCG. She discovered that there was quite a bit of antibody production - not just after many injections, but often after only one or two. (Ovulation in these mares still occurred within 24-48 hours after the injections during the initial breeding season.)

She also found that HCG is most effective if a 35 mm follicle is present when mares are injected. It is common practice to routinely inject HCG on the second day of heat. "We feel that HCG shouldn't be injected indiscriminately," she says. "The size of the follicle should be palpated first."

Now that she is back at Davis, Roser plans to continue her research with HCG. She has set up a study with several veterinarians in Australia who inject a large number of mares with HCG every breeding season. She hopes to examine the antibody production in these animals.

"We notice that HCG antibody production goes down over the course of the year," she says. "If you give another injection the following year, it goes right back up. My question is, how does that affect fertility - including ovulation and timing - and does it have any effect on pregnancy after the mares are bred?"

In another research project, Roser will examine the effect of GnRH implants on stallion fertility in collaboration with Dr. Bill Lasley and Dr. John Hughes of the UCD School of Veterinary Medicine. Due to photoperiod, stallions are 50% more fertile in summer than winter. She hopes to learn if GnRH implants can help hasten the increase in sperm concentration and motility, and increase testosterone and estrogen in the blood.

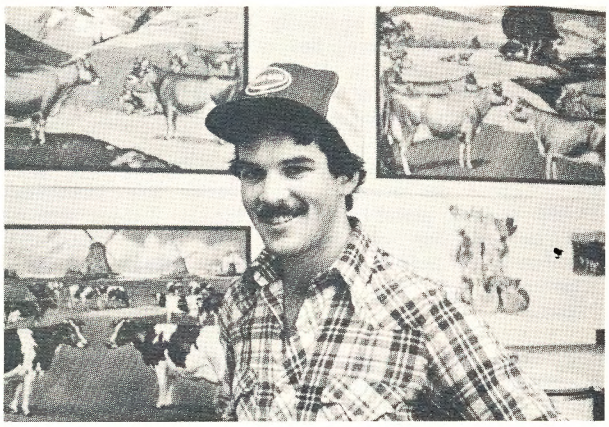
One potential application of the research may be helping stallions with low fertility attributed to hormonal imbalance. "Not much is known about how to control that," she says. "These implants are a real possibility."

The equine embryo is unusual because from about day 6 to day 16 of development, it migrates throughout the mare's uterus. Researchers have determined that during this migration, the embryo secretes substances that inhibit prostaglandin production and trigger maternal recognition. Roser hopes to culture embryos of this age in vitro and ascertain what overall substances are being secreted.

She also plans to conduct research on equine pituitary tissue in collaboration with Dr. Noel Dybdal of the vet school. Utilizing a perifusion system developed by Animal Scientist Dr. Gary Moberg and graduate student Dr. Bob Matteri, she will stimulate the tissue with GnRH and collect the resulting substances. "This research will give us a better understanding of how the pituitary is controlled in the horse," she says.

At the University of Vermont, Roser was a member of Mortar Board, the National Senior Women's Honorary Society. In 1969, she was presented the Massachusetts Society of Medical Technology Special Award in the Area of Clinical Research. While she was a student at UC Davis, she was a member of Sigma Xi.

In her free time, Roser enjoys dressage riding, cross-country skiing, and spending time with her dog, Gambi.



John Cant

Graduate student John Cant

Animal Science master's student John Cant came to UC Davis on the advice of former Ph.D. student Al Fredeen, who now teaches at Nova Scotia Agricultural College. Cant, originally from Sackville, New Brunswick, has a B.Sc. (Agr.) in Animal Science from NSAC. He is interested in animal nutrition.

Cant is impressed with the faculty and curriculae at UCD. "The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences has a lot of good people," he says. "There's a lot of research being done here, and it's good to be exposed to that. The professors teach in areas they have actually done research in, unlike some universities."

Cant's major professor here is Dr. Ed DePeters. His master's project will be in dairy nutrition. He is just starting research on the effect of dietary fat on milk protein. "That's important because it is used in making cheese," he says. "When you feed a high fat diet to dairy cattle to get the milk fat up, protein goes down. That's not economically important here yet because milk prices aren't based on protein, but I think it's going to become economically important. In some places like Europe, they give higher prices for higher milk protein."

After finishing his master's degree, Cant plans to go on for a Ph.D. in either the U.S. or Canada. Eventually, he hopes to join the faculty of a college or university. His father, Paul Cant, is a physics professor at Mt. Allison University in New Brunswick.

Judging teams make winning a tradition

The University of California, Davis judging teams have established a tradition of winning at competitions across the country. The teams, coached by Dana Van Liew and sponsored by the Department of Animal Science, have been extremely successful. The UCD team took top team honors at the Pacific International Livestock Exposition in Portland, Oregon last fall. Seven teams and 35 students participated in the event.

The UCD win was followed by Oregon State University, Corvallis in second place, and Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in third. In addition to the overall team title, UCD also placed high in several other categories. They won the Swine judging division, placed second in Sheep and second in Oral Reasons.

Debbie King was Second High Individual at the contest. She led the way with a first in Overall Oral Reasons, placed second in Swine, and third in Beef. Other high finishers were Tom Sampson, with a third in Swine, and Corey Oakley with a first in Swine and a first in Swine Oral Reasons.

The winning UCD team consisted of JoMay Chow of El Toro, Corey Oakley of Sebastopol, Tom Sampson of Montague, Debbie King of Petaluma, and Krieg Brown of Moraga, California.

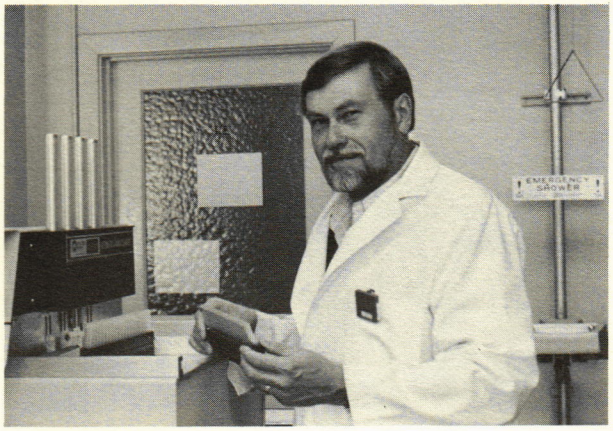
The UCD teams also fared exceptionally well at the Los Angeles County Fair Collegiate Judging Competitions. The Livestock Team took Second High Team Overall, and High Team in Beef Cattle and Swine Reasons. Krieg Brown was Fifth High Individual Overall. JoMay Chow was Sixth High Individual Overall. Corey Oakley was High Individual in Swine. Other team members were Debbie King and Tom Sampson.

At the Pacific Coast Quarter Horse Association Contest, the UCD team was Second High Team Overall, and High Team in Reasons. Donelle Howser of Newport Beach was High Individual in Reasons. Other team members were Julie Romani and John Maus, both of Davis.

The Dairy Cattle Team was High Team Overall, and High Team in Reasons, Holsteins, and Jerseys at the fair's Dairy Cattle Judging Contest. Brandt Kruescher of Oakdale, New York was High Individual Overall and High Individual in Reasons and Brown Swiss. Laurie Erdman of Lakeside was High Individual in Jerseys. Other team members were Paul Wallace of Sonoma and Valentine Sworts of Burns, Tennessee.

The Livestock Team was Second High Team Overall and High Team in Swine at the Grand National Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest at the Cow Palace in San Francisco. Corey Oakley was Second High Individual Overall, Second in Reasons, First in Swine, and Second in Beef Cattle. Debbie King was Third High Individual in Swine. Tom Sampson was Seventh High Individual in Reasons.

The 1986-87 UCD Livestock Judging Team



Dr. Gary P. Moberg

Moberg studies stress

Why do some individuals tolerate stress better than others? Dr. Gary Moberg is seeking answers to this question, fundamental to both Animal Science and human medicine.

Moberg, a neuroendocrinologist, is interested in how the nervous system controls the hormones released during stress, and those involved in reproduction.

The neuroendocrine and central nervous system are the body's two regulatory systems. The neuroendocrine system plays an important role in how individuals respond to stress. Hormones secreted by the pituitary gland - part of the neuroendocrine system - control growth, development, reproduction, and metabolism.

"Virtually every function in the body is influenced by the pituitary," says Moberg. "And since it has a direct connection to the central nervous system, it is a key in regulating body function."

Moberg is researching how stress affects the wellbeing of domestic animals by looking at one measurement of wellbeing: successful reproduction.

"We're studying how one of these pituitary hormones - ACTH, which is released in response to a variety of stressors - influences reproduction," he says. "We're examining the molecular mechanisms by which these hormones affect reproduction."

So far, Moberg and colleagues have found that some animals do not seem to be as adversely affected by these hormones as others. "If we can understand the mechanisms involved with why some individuals are affected and some are not, it would give us a basis for selecting more stress-resistant animals," he says.

Moberg has also conducted research with non-human primates at the California Primate Center. This work, done in collaboration with Dr. Bill Mason of the UCD Department of Psychology, is important as a model for humans.

"Why are some individuals more successful in dealing with stress than others? One possibility is genetics. Another is experience," says Moberg. "We're interested in how early development influences how animals respond to stress."

Unraveling the hormonal mechanisms involved in silent estrus in dairy cattle has been another area Moberg has explored. "We've found that a hormone released during stress - cortisol - can block the expression of estrous behavior," he says. We think that animals do not show sexual behavior because this hormone has been released. Consequently these animals don't breed."

In addition to his work with domestic animals and non-human primates, Moberg has recently initiated stress-related research in the field of aquaculture. He is examining a strain of trout important in California aquaculture which is extremely susceptible to shipping and handling stress. This is believed to lessen its chances of survival once it is released in the wild.

In collaboration with Dr. Serge Doroshov, Moberg is examining the reproductive cycle of female sturgeon raised in captivity, which fail to develop mature eggs.

The importance of this work - which is funded by the USDA - is that the future of the sturgeon and caviar industry depends upon captive-raised females to produce eggs. "We think we can solve this problem by hormonal therapy to continue the maturation process," says Moberg.

Moberg, who is originally from Illinois, has a B.A. in biology and chemistry from Monmouth College. He did his M.S. and Ph.D. at the University of Illinois, Urbana in behavioral physiology and neurophysiology respectively. He did postdoctorate work at the University of California, San Francisco in neuroendocrinology and at the Utrect Medical School in the Netherlands in hormones and behavior.

In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in endocrinology, Moberg is a professor of Animal Physiology and has been involved with research at the California Primate Center for six years.

He has received a number of scholarships and fellowships over the years, including the United States Public Health Service Predoctoral Traineeship and Postdoctoral Fellowship, and the NATO Senior Scientist Fellowship.

He recently edited two books: Animal Stress, published by the American Physiology Society; and The Effects of Stress on Cattle, a USDA regional research publication. He is also co-editing a textbook titled Domestic Animal Physiology.

In addition to serving as the 1986-87 Animal Science Master Adviser, Moberg is chair of the Physiology Graduate Group, and is a member of the Endocrine and Animal Behavior Graduate Groups.

Gary and his wife Sydney have two children, Philip (15), and Kirsten, (13). In his free time, Gary has coached soccer, softball, and baseball, and is on the site council for Davis High School. His hobbies include painting and sculpture.

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DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FIRST CLASS ENROLLING IN THE FARM SCHOOL AT DAVIS IN 1908 CONSISTED OF 6 DEGREE AND 15 NON-DEGREE STUDENTS?

Berger visits Animal Science

In recent months, Animal Science has hosted a newcomer with a charming accent. The visitor is Yves Berger, and the accent is French.

Berger has been working abroad as an academic staff member for UC Davis since 1980. He spent the last four years in Morocco and two years before that in Kenya working with the Small Ruminant Collaborative Research Support Program.

Here at UCD, Berger is writing a book in collaboration with Dr. Eric Bradford on the Moroccan CRSP research. They hope to publish an edition in French and one in English.

In Morocco, Berger was in charge of the genetics program aimed at developing a prolific breed of sheep for meat and wool production.

In Kenya, he was site coordinator and partially responsible for the genetics program to develop a meat and milk goat for the small farmers of Western Kenya. He was stationed there the same time as Dr. Dan Brown, now on the UCD Animal Science faculty.

Originally from Lyon, in southeastern France, Berger has a degree in Agriculture from the Institut Technique de Practique Agricole in Paris. He received his M.S. in Animal Science from the University of Minnesota in 1972 while current Animal Science Chair Robert W. Touchberry was department head.

After completing his M.S., Berger spent two years working in Argentina with wool production at the Instituto Nacional de Technologia Agropecuaria.

He worked at the Experimental Sheep Station in DuBois, Idaho for two years, then spent two years in Bouake, Ivory Coast where he was responsible for the sheep and goat research operation.

Yves' wife Lynn is from Nebraska. They have two daughters - Alicia and Leeanne - ages 8 and 6.

Alumni letters

We have had good response to our request for information from our alums. Here are some of the recent letters from your Animal Science classmates. Please keep those letters coming!

* *

JOHN J. BAUMGARTNER (Class of '25) of San Juan Bautista writes: "I have almost retired from the cattle business because of my age - I was born July, 1901. I have less than 100 head of cattle now, so I have practically no agriculture problems."

* *

MRS. GERALD G. SEARL of Hemet writes: "It saddens me to write that Gerald G. Searl (Class of '49) passed away in December, 1985. He was still farming with our son, Craig on the same farm his grandfather began in 1898 here in Diamond Valley, Hemet, California."

Alum Patrick D. Sharkey ('81) and friends

BEN YORK, JR., D.V.M. (Class of '50) of Brawley writes: "I sold my practice in 1986. I have been in Brawley since graduation in 1955. My wife, Adeline and I have three children - Vickie, Valerie who is in Germany, and Ben III, a pilot in Mesa, Arizona. I have continued to have horses. My veterinary medicine practice began 90% large animal and ended up 90% small animal.

I have enjoyed and used the broad background of education I got at UC Davis. I had the opportunity to work with Glenn Lofgreen and Bill Garrett while they were at the Meloland Research Station. I once spayed 100 ewe lambs for one of Glenn's trials. Adeline and I both fly a Comanche 260 airplane. I served 1980-84 on the CVMA's Board of Directors. We are in good health and busy, thanks to the Lord."

* *

JACK RUSHING (Class of '78) of Sonora writes: "I am a linguist/translator with the Summer Institute of Linguistics. I am assigned to work in Sabah, Malaysia and will depart in January, 1988."

* *

PATRICK D. SHARKEY (Class of '81) of San Diego writes: "After three years at Sea World, I am presently supervising and organizing a USDA-approved quarantine to raise penguins and Antartic seabirds from 780 eggs to be collected on Nelson Island. I have raised from eggs nearly 8,000 penguins, 100 Antartic seabirds and over 7,000 puffins and murres from Iceland. I am also completing an M.S. in biology at SDSU studying growth in crested penguins. I also work with the rest of the waterfowl collection at Sea World."

* *

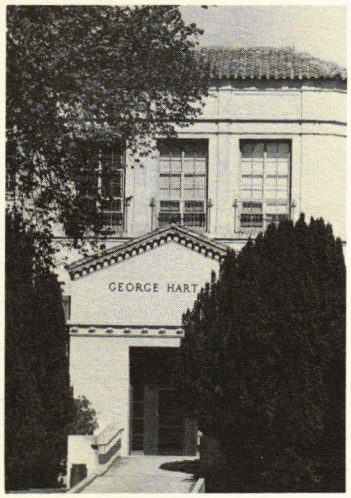
CARL SZYMANSKI of Manville writes: "On a trip to Poland, I noticed that the Polish dairy cattle were Ukranian Reds, at least on the farm where I stayed. They are small and gentle and I am under the impression that they have a high butterfat content in their milk. They are a rustic maroon. They take them out to pasture as if they were dogs, with chains and metal stakes."

* *

DID YOU KNOW THAT WHEN THE FARM SCHOOL AT DAVIS OPENED IN 1906, IT WAS OPERATED ON A COMMERCIAL BASIS SELLING HAY, GRAIN, AND LIVESTOCK?

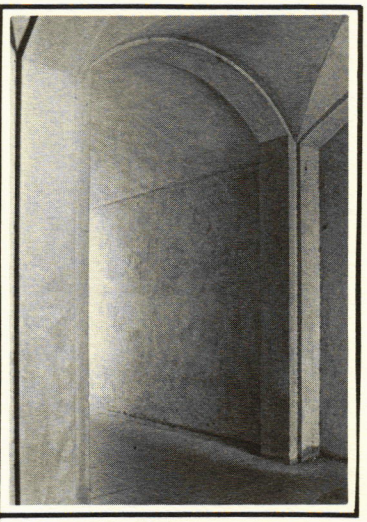
The Backpage

Remembering Hart Hall . . .



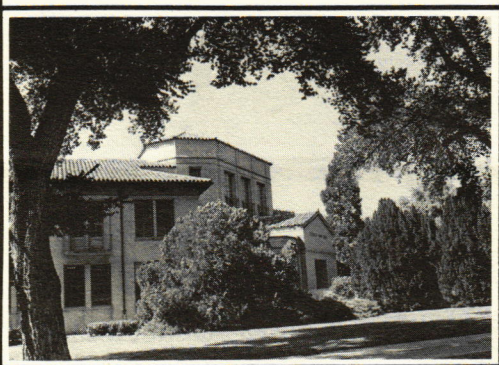
DAIRY DAY

The UC Davis Department of Animal Science and Cooperative Extension will hold the 26th Annual Dairy Day on Wednesday, April 1 in room 194 of the Chemistry Building on the UCD campus. The program will feature presentations on nutrition, fertility, dairy foods research and marketing, and embryo splitting. A $6 fee will be charged for registration and a copy of the proceedings. For more information, contact Extension Specialist Wyatt Smith at (916) 752-1277.



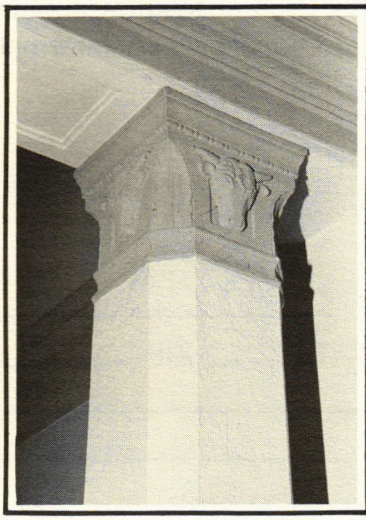
SIERRA FIELD STATION BEEF AND RANGE DAY

The UCD Department of Animal Science/Cooperative Extension will sponsor the Sierra Field Station Beef and Range Day on Tuesday, April 21 at the Sierra Field Station in Browns Valley. Registration will be free. Contact: Roy Hull at (916) 752-1256.



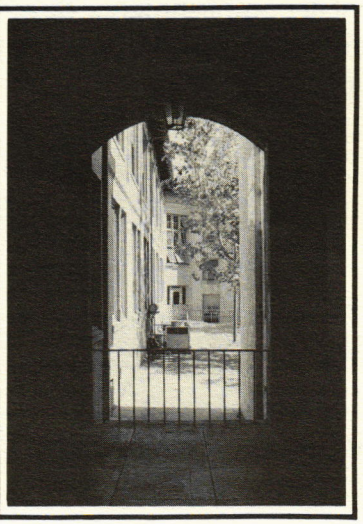
SWINE DAY

The UCD Department of Animal Science/Cooperative Extension will host Swine Day on Saturday, April 4 in Room 1309 of Surge III on the UCD Campus. $5 registration and $3 lunch fees will be charged for the first 100 participants. Contact: Dr. Hubert Heitman at (916) 752-6118.



CATTLE FEEDERS' DAY

The UC Davis Department of Animal Science and Cooperative Extension will hold California Cattle Feeders' Day on Thursday, May 28 at the Imperial Valley Agricultural Center in El Centro. A small fee will be charged for registration, lunch, and a copy of the proceedings. For more information, contact Extension Specialist John Dunbar at (916) 752-0525.



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Suzanne Jones, Editor
THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, DAVIS
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