

NIFA in the News – Week of August 6, 2012

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In the News

Researchers Find Cattle Vaccine Works to Reduce E. Coli Feedlot Setting

(Kansas InfoZine, Kansas 8/6) A commercial vaccine for cattle can effectively reduce levels of E. coli by more than 50 percent, a Kansas State University study has found. The vaccine is also effective using two doses instead of the recommended three doses, which can help cut costs for the beef industry. [Link](#)

NMSU, NMDA organic farm walk series focuses on integrated pest management

(Las Cruces Sun News, New Mexico, 8/6) Learning how to make better use of nature's pest management services is the focus of this year's series of organic farm walks that are being sponsored by New Mexico State University and the New Mexico Department of Agriculture. The organic walks are made possible by a grant from the USDA/National Institute of Food and Agriculture under its Extension Integrated Pest Management Coordination and Support Program. [Link](#)

Western corn rootworm mystery unraveled (Western Farm Press, 8/6) A new study answers a question that has baffled researchers for more than 15 years: How does the western corn rootworm – an insect that thrives on corn but dies on soybeans – persist in fields that alternate between corn and soybeans? The answer, researchers say, has to do with enzyme production in the rootworm gut. Funding for this work was provided by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. [Link](#)

Tennessee State University Receives \$2.44 Million USDA Grant to Study Foodborne Illness

(Tennessee State University, Tennessee 8/7) The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded \$2.44 million to the College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Sciences' Food Safety team at Tennessee State University to help reduce incidences of foodborne illness. The grant, awarded through USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative, will be used to help reduce illnesses from *Salmonella* and *Campylobacter* by improving consumer storage, handling, and preparation of raw and ready-to-eat poultry, eggs, and poultry products. [Link](#)

Kansas State researchers find cattle vaccine works to reduce E. coli O157:H7 in a large-scale feedlot setting (Barfblog, Kansas State University, Kansas, 8/7) This research was supported as part of a three-year \$1 million grant from the U.S.

Department of Agriculture. Nagaraja and Renter are involved in several other studies on E. coli O157 and other types of E. coli closely related to O157, including research associated with the \$25 million coordinated agricultural program, or CAP, grant with the University of Nebraska Lincoln and several other universities. That five-year grant is supported by the USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture. [Link](#)

Going organic: Workshop aims to boost awareness for organic produce

(Montgomery Advertiser, Alabama, 8/8) On Aug. 15, Tuskegee University and its partners will offer a free workshop in Montgomery on the importance of consuming organic foods. Funding from the USDA and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture will allow this program to continue through 2014 throughout the state, including field days for producers in rural Alabama counties to train farmers in organic methods. [Link](#)

UGA public health researcher receives \$2.5 million grant to combat childhood obesity (Red&Black UGA, Georgia)

Marsha Davis, an associate professor in the University's College of Public Health's department of health promotion and behavior, received a \$2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture. The five-year grant will support a community-based childhood obesity prevention program in Colquitt County, which is located in southwest Georgia. [Link](#)

Attracting top minds to agricultural research vital (Western Farm Press, 8/9)

With U.S. agriculture now asked to double food production while addressing new challenges ranging from energy independence to ending obesity, a coalition of farm and consumer groups, universities, and scientific organizations launched a new initiative to focus federal science policy on delivering innovations American consumers and farmers urgently need. SOAR is calling on Congress to fully fund the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) at the United States Department of Agriculture. [Link](#)

