

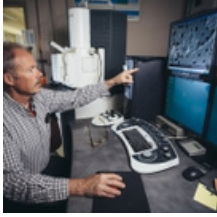
INSIDE AG | FEBRUARY 2025

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News from the College of Ag



MSU scientists publish new research on Yellowstone microbes



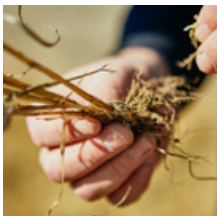
With new funding, Flenniken lab continues bee health research



Dana Rashid awarded \$1 million Keck grant to study inflammation and development



Andrew Felton publishes new research on global water cycle



Two MSU graduate students study critical aspects of sawfly management

Awards, Accomplishments and Highlights

- **Caroline Roeder**, a graduate student in the Department of Ag Econ and Econ, was named a Farm Foundation Agricultural Scholar. Congratulations, Caroline, on this outstanding recognition!
- Graduate students **Tegner Jacobson** and **Sobha Sonar** from the Bimczok lab and **River Dauwen** from the Yeoman lab presented their work at Conference of Research Workers in Animal Diseases in Chicago last month. Tegner Jacobson was awarded **first prize for his excellent oral presentation** on *Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae* biofilms.

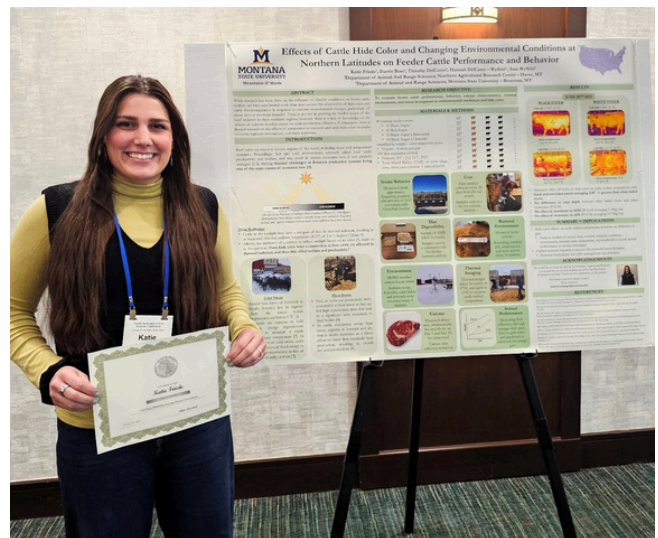


- Congratulations to **James O'Connor**, recipient of a **Founder's Day Award for Student Excellence!** James is a senior from Charleston majoring in animal science – equine option. He chose **equine instructor Andi Shockley** as his mentor to be honored alongside him at the annual awards ceremony set for Friday, Feb. 14.

Awards, Accomplishments and Highlights

Katie Friede and Jackie Pondolfino, master's students in Animal & Range Sciences, received awards at the annual Pacific Northwest Animal Nutrition Conference held Jan. 13-14, in Idaho!

- **Katie (below right) took first place for her research poster "Effects of Cattle Hide Color and Changing Environmental Conditions at Northern Latitudes on Feeder Cattle Performance and Behavior."** She is advised by **Sam Wyffels, Tim DelCurto and Darrin Boss.**
- **Jackie (below left) took second place with her research poster, "Salt-Limited Trace Mineral and/or Protein Supplement Intake Behavior and Performance of Yearling Heifers Grazing Dryland Pastures."** She is advised by **Sam Wyffels and Tim DelCurto.**



- **Mariana Carrera** of the Department of Ag Econ and Econ was appointed co-editor of the Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization. Congratulations, Dr. Carrera!
- Undergraduate student and researcher **Eve Heeley-Ray** has received a McNair grant to pursue a project advised by **Perry Miller and Samuel Koeshall** in the Department of Land Resources and Environmental Sciences. Congratulations, Eve!

Awards, Accomplishments and Highlights

Congratulations and welcome to the newest student cohort in the Dan Scott Ranch Management Program! Meet the class of 2027 below, and [find more information on the program website.](#)



Jenna Cox: “I grew up on a large cow-calf operation on the Snake River in eastern Washington. I am hoping for my career to take me back to the commercial side of the industry. I have spent some time interning and working on feedlots and have developed a passion for them.”



Ian Estopare: “I come from south of Kansas City and am the first in my family to be involved in agriculture. Everything I know has come from great mentors and my desire to learn. Ranching is where I find my passion to be, and I plan on growing in it as much as I can.”



Cally Wood: “Growing up in Southeastern New Mexico, I have been involved in agriculture from a young age. My love for the ranching industry has grown as I experience the hard work and witness the dedication which is critical for the ranching way of life.”



JJ Roper: “I grew up just outside Reno, Nevada and took a job on a ranch when I was 16. From there I worked on several small operations furthering my love for the care of animals and the lands they live on. I aspire to continue the long tradition of ranching and eventually build up my knowledge enough to run my own sustainable operation.”



Hayden Desserich: “Born in Cheyenne and eventually moving to Colorado I have been exposed to agriculture for a majority of my life. My goal with the Dan Scott Ranch Management Program is to not only gain the knowledge needed to become a successful ranch manager, but also to build my leadership skills along the way.”

Publications and Funding Opportunities

Recent Publications

- Jacobson, B. T., DeWit-Dibbert, J., Selong, E. T., Quirk, M., Throolin, M., Corona, C., Sonar, S., Zanca, L., Schwarz, E. R., & Bimczok, D. "Innovative Methodology for Antimicrobial Susceptibility Determination in Mycoplasma Biofilms." *Microorganisms*.
- Jacobson, B.T., DeWit-Dibbert, J., Zanca, L. "Pathogen delivery route impacts disease severity in experimental Mycoplasma ovipneumoniae infection of domestic lambs." *Veterinary Research*.
- Keller, L.M., Colman, D.R. & Boyd, E.S. "Simultaneous aerobic and anaerobic respiration in hot spring chemolithotrophic bacteria." *Nature Communications*.
- Brenner, M. A., Marques, R. S., Posbergh, C. J., Zezeski, A. L., Geary, T. W., & McCoski, S. R. "Maternal Injectable Mineral Administration Effects on Calf Growth and Reproductive Parameters." *Animals*.
- Accepted paper: Hagerty, N. and Tiwari, A. "Industrial Water Pollution and Agricultural Production in India." *Journal of the Association of Environmental Resource Economists*.

Funding Opportunities

- The **WSARE Sabbatical Research & Education Program** is currently accepting proposals.
- The **PREP-MT post-baccalaureate research education program** is accepting applications from individuals interested in pursuing biomedical doctoral degrees **until February 15**.