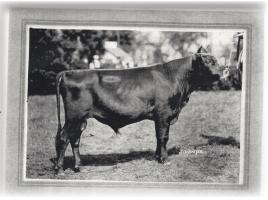


Genetics Enterprise Travels to AJCA Headquarters

What is the true meaning of The Berry Farms Genetics Enterprise mantra: "The Beginnings of Life and Learning?" While the Genetics Enterprise upholds new life from embryo to a new born calf, education is the primary focus and always remains at the forefront of our endeavors. Maddy Esker, Herd Manager, and Maddy Bauer, Business Manager, of the Genetics Enterprise took time out of their winter holiday to travel to the American Jersey Cattle Association (AJCA) headquarters in Reynoldsburg, OH. There they met with Cari Wolfe, director of the research and genetic program at AJCA, who had visited Berry in the fall and had offered a chance for students to visit the headquarters. During their stay in Ohio, Bauer and Esker were given a tour of the headquarters as well as The Ohio State Jersey Dairy. They were shown the ins-and-outs of the Jersey industry as an overview of the specific role of the AJCA. Mrs. Wolfe also spoke with them about the invaluable opportunities associated with the Jersey Youth Academy, which Tanner Barham, a Berry College Animal Science student, has been given the chance to participate in over the summer of 2011.

Furthermore, during their visit Bauer and Esker were given the opportunity to examine the Jersey records with some interesting results concerning the Sapphire line. This line is a well recognized family whose genetics are woven throughout our present Jersey herd. The first known ancestor of the Berry Sapphire line goes as far back as 1953 with Berry's Select Sybil. Another close relative of Berry's Select Sybil was traced back as far as 1926 with Sybil's Xenia Sultan, a first prize Jersey bull calf at the Eastern State Exposition, 1927, in Rochester, NY. Upon return, Bauer noted, "This was a great experience in which we got to see how the Jersey Cattle Club operates as well as how the Jersey cattle genetics have evolved throughout history". These ladies have gone great lengths to get the most out of their experiences, upholding the Genetics Enterprise mantra: "The Beginnings of Life and Learning". Furthermore, during their visit Bauer and Esker were given the



Berry Jersey herd's last traced ancestor, Sybil's Xenia Sultan

Learning Beyond the Classroom

Berry College offers not only the chance for students to learn about thier field of study, but has also adopted the practice of "experience it first hand!" One such opportunity for Berry students was presented when a calf was pronounced dead in late February. Professor of Animal Science and large animal veterinarian, Dr. Martin Goldberg, DVM was called to perform a necropsy on the animal with an audience of Berry College students. During the investigation, Dr. Goldberg described the anatomy and physiology of the animal as well as discussed the possible causes of the calf's sudden death. Students who had monitored the calf's development were able to inform Dr. Goldberg of the animal's condition prior to passing away, enabling a better conclusion of the potential causes of death.

After much deliberation and discussion, Dr. Goldberg determined the cause of death as being a brain hemmorhage. For many, the trail would end here; however each door closed is another door opened here at Berry College. Amelia Teague, the Barham Liason of the Genetics Enterprise took matters into her own hands by further exploring the potential causes of this abrupt death.

Teague explained "In my advanced neural class, we were talking about the different parts of the brain. Seeing the brain of this calf that had obvious trauma allowed me to observe a real case scenario and connect it back to the material learned in class."

Amelia Teague and a Berry Jersey calf

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Through her studies, Teague was able to conclude that the cause of death was not related to the calf's body condition or genetic inheritance. By utilizing what she had learned in class and applying it to this specific situation, Teague exemplifed a mentalilty commonly harbored here at Berry College, a pursuit for knowledge beyond the classroom. Teague has applyed and has been accepted to Missisippi State vet school and has been scheduled for an interview at Auburn vet school next week. The lessons that she has learned here at Berry College and the Berry lessons that she has learned here at Berry College and the Berry dairy has helped shape her future career as one of the next generation of USDA food veterinarians.

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