

NCERA 219 - Annual Meeting Minutes
University of Minnesota – West Central Research and Outreach Center, Morris, MN
10/27/14

Committee Members Present

Marcia Carlson-Shannon – U. MO.; Dale Rozeboom – MSU; David Newman – NDSU; Steve Moeller – OSU; Robert Goodband – KSU; Gary Apgar – S. IL; Lee Johnston – U. MN.

Collaborative Research Projects Status

D. Rozeboom – Sow Feeding Strategy Manuscript: Presented results and analyses of multi-state sow feeding study conducted across MSU, KSU, and U. TN. (K. Stalder, now at ISU). Data are now in final stages for manuscript presentation.

D. Rozeboom – Switching Feed Ingredients In/Out of Grow-Finish Diets. Materials presented at the Midwest Swine Nutrition Conference, September, 2014. Participating stations MSU, Purdue, U. MN. Wheat Midds treatment was associated with reduction in gains across the stations when switched throughout the study. Discussion regarding how and if there is a need to do additional work in this area of ingredient options and inclusion rates/changes was held. More checking among participants is going to occur. How does this project get pushed to the forefront of priorities?

New Projects Discussion

Space allocation work needed by the industry – how to address space (animal) and feeder/drinker with 300 lb pigs? Stations would be more equipped to evaluate space per pig than feeder space work. Questions regarding how to fund a feeder trial were presented. Would logistics across stations impact the decision to do the research?

Floor space study research: Need some standardization of feeders. A two prong approach was suggested: 1) Growing pigs from ~50 to 300+ lbs at five space allocations (Richert 2006) across stations, 2) Sorting pigs at the end of the finisher and establishing cohorts that meet a target of 290 lbs., one week acclimation, and 14 days of on-test performance measures. How do we incorporate additional measures of welfare?

Station Reports

- Ohio State University – Update on S. Moeller research, status of departmental faculty search efforts.
- Kansas State University – Update on new swine nursery facility, status of research projects, and department.
- Michigan State University – Filling meat assistant position. PEDv break at the farm in 2014. Sow selection in-group housing. Trottier doing heat stress work. Rozeboom working on proprietary growth promoters. Animal welfare, on-farm auditing work, and animal behavior, reduced nocturnal temperature in large-scale nursery study. Major curriculum review within Dept. of An. Sci. (grad and undergrad). Urban animal agriculture projects related to Detroit.

- University of Missouri – AAU status lost within the university, resulting in budget redistribution and approach to targeted hiring. Changes in upper administration moving the university in new direction. Potential for new meat science laboratory on campus, fundraising efforts ongoing. Research – NCC42 super dosing phytase work across stations. Dr. Carlson-Shannon currently has one Ph.D. student working on soybean varieties, Amaferm, and zinc applications.

University of Minnesota System & West Central Research and Outreach Center:

Overview provided by Dr. Lee Johnston. Ecosystem based centers across the state. Specifics of the West Central, 1100-acre site were provided and discussed. Dr. Mike Reese provided a Renewable Energy research update. The group toured renewable energy and swine facilities at WCROC.

Tuesday, October 28, 2014

Station Reports

- Southern Illinois University – budget cuts seem eminent; up to 20%. Animal herds reduced significantly in the last few years, fully functional dairy not in use, questions related to all remaining animal facilities.
- North Dakota State University – NDSU budgets look good. Swine unit is 125 sows farrow to finish. Genetic capacity for production like commercial swine is limited and more focused on teaching and judging. Additional work in an intensive animal nutrition center is occurring. New beef feedlot within the campus is in operation (\$6 million). Pork quality assessment and merit grading program focus using image analysis. Industry pork quality audit work being conducted.
- University of Minnesota – Summary reports for on-going research within the MN group were presented and discussed. A number of integrated, multi-site studies on energy use are in progress. Tail-biting study to begin soon as a focus for animal welfare.

Future Planning and Assignments

- 2015 NCERA219 Meeting – Suggested location: South Dakota State University, October 21-23, 2015.
- 2015 Leadership – Steve Moeller – President; Bob Thaler – Secretary
- Lee Johnston will work on NPB RFP for distribution to committee. Plans for up to 7 stations to work with the research project.
- Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectively Submitted,

Steven J. Moeller