

2016 MINNESOTA STATE FAIR 4-H BEEF SHOW JUDGES

4-H Beef Show Judge --- Randy Daniel

Randy Daniel and his family own and manage Partisover Ranch at Colbert, Georgia, where they raise Angus and Simmental-Angus breeding cattle and club calves. His family includes father Dan Daniel, wife Beth, two grown children and their spouses, Buck and Jenna, and Whitney and Adam, as well as a one-year-old grandson named Clayton. Randy has judged every major Cattle Show in the U.S., and has served as the Judge for Jr. National Shows for twelve different breeds of cattle. He has also judged the Steer Shows at Houston, Fort Worth, San Antonio, and State Fair Beef Shows in Oklahoma, Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois, and Iowa, as well as at Minnesota. He has judged in 39 different States and internationally in Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay. He was the Show Judge for the MN State Fair 4-H Beef Shows in 1998, 1999, and 2010.

4-H Dairy Steer Judge --- Scott Acker

Scott Acker is from Middleton, Michigan, where he is employed as the Senior Regional Manager for United Producers Livestock Marketing Cooperative. He is a graduate of Michigan State University with a Bachelor's Degree in Animal Science. He is actively involved in many youth livestock events and has held many leadership roles both at the County and State levels. Scott has been judging livestock shows for the past 25 years throughout the Midwest and Canada. He and his wife have two daughters that have shown livestock at the County, State and National level. Scott has a strong passion for youth livestock shows, and spends most of his free time working with these type of events.

4-H Beef Showmanship Judge --- Lance Miller

Lance grew up on a diversified livestock farm in Southwest Minnesota, where he raised and showed sheep, swine, and Shorthorn cattle. After graduating from High School in Pipestone, he attended the University of Minnesota where he earned his BS in Animal and Plant Systems, and his MS in Beef and Sheep Nutrition. While in college he was a member of the 1997 University of Minnesota Livestock Judging Team. After college, Lance worked in Australia for a few months before returning to the US and taking the position as the Livestock Judging Team Coach for the University of Wyoming. He coached there from 2002 until 2014. In September of 2014, Lance took a position with Purina Animal Nutrition as a Sales Specialist in Wisconsin, where he works with a variety of producers feeding everything from beef cattle to rabbits, pheasants to horses, and show animals to deer. His territory is roughly the northern 3/4 of Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Lance, his wife Lori, and their two children live just outside of Wausau, WI.

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Jayne Esch – Judge of Crossbreds and Colored Breeds and Associate Judge for some Holstein heifer classes

Jayne Esch grew up on a family farm near River Falls, WI, where she was actively involved on the Pierce Co. 4-H dairy judging team and showed registered Holsteins for Honeycrest Farms. Throughout college, Jayne was a proud member of the University of Minnesota's dairy judging team. The team placed first at both the North American International Livestock Expo and the All-American Dairy Show intercollegiate dairy judging contests, while placing fourth at World Dairy Expo. Individually, Jayne placed in the top five at all three contests. Jayne graduated summa cum laude from the University of Minnesota in 2013. Since graduating, Jayne has continued to judge at county fairs and district shows across Minnesota. Jayne currently attends the University of Minnesota Law School and looks forward to practicing agriculture-related law after graduating next spring.

Sherry Smith – Judge of Grade Holsteins

Sherry Smith and her husband, Neal, live in Glenford, Ohio. They have one daughter, Kassandra, who is a recent graduate from the Ohio State University and is working on a PhD in Occupational Therapy. Sherry is an independent dairy nutrition consultant and Ohio 4-H Dairy Program Assistant where she coaches the Ohio State 4-H dairy judging teams. Sherry and her husband raise Jersey, Brown Swiss and Holstein heifers. She has shown cattle most of her life and has had a number of Brown Swiss All-American nominations. She and Neal own Brown Swiss, Holstein and Jersey cattle in partnerships. Sherry has judged across the United States, and was the Associate Judge for the Brown Swiss Show at World Dairy Expo in 2014, the 2012 Brown Swiss Open Show at the North American International Livestock Exposition, the Milking Shorthorn Open Show at the All American Dairy Show, and the Shorthorn Junior Show at the North American International Livestock Exposition.

Brandon Thesing – Judge of Total Merit

Brandon grew up on his family's 175 cow Holstein and Jersey farm near Winona MN. He graduated from the University of Minnesota in 2011 earning a degree in Animal Science with a minor in Applied economics. While at the University of MN he was a member of the dairy judging team that placed in the top 4 in all 3 national contests while Brandon individually earned All-American honors at the World Dairy Expo Collegiate Dairy Judging Contest. After graduation Brandon accepted a position with MN Select Sires and currently serves as the Southern Minnesota Business Manager. In his role Brandon oversees 14 employees in southern Minnesota, provides customer-owners with genetic and reproductive consultation, as well as working extensively with their cow monitoring technology. Brandon currently lives in Pine Island MN with his wife Abby.

Paul Trapp – Judge of Registered Holsteins

With over 20 years of industry experience, Paul Trapp is currently a Product Acquisition Specialist with Semex.

He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Economics with a Marketing Emphasis from the University of Minnesota in 1993. He and his wife, Sarah and sons, Kole (8) and Beau (6), own an elite group of Registered Brown Swiss, Jerseys and Holsteins receiving All-American nominations across all three breeds. Trapp has served 5 years on World Dairy Expo's Dairy Cattle Show Committee, served 12 years as an official for the WDE College judging contest and was a member of the Young Dairy Leaders Institute's inaugural class. Paul has judged shows in 20 different states on the local, state and national levels. At World Dairy Expo Paul served as the 2010 Associate Guernsey Judge, lead judge for the 2011 Milking Shorthorn Show, lead judge for 2013 Ayrshire Show, lead judge for the 2014 Holstein Show and lead judge for the 2015 Brown Swiss Show. Internationally, he has judged shows in Australia, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Columbia, Ireland, Puerto Rico, Mexico, Japan and United Kingdom. Trapp has served on All-American panels and judged national shows for all seven dairy breeds. He's a partner in Pit-Crew Genetics which has received 21 Brown Swiss All-American Nominations since 2007 including the 2015 All-American Summer Yearling and has been named Premier Exhibitor & Breeder at the MN State Fair for the past five years.

Emily Yeiser Stepp – Judge of Colored Breeds: Jerseys, Brown Swiss, and others

Emily Yeiser Stepp grew up just outside of Annapolis, Maryland. She began her involvement in the dairy industry through the 4-H dairy leasing program where she was able to "borrow" a calf from a local dairy farm to show at local, county and state fairs. Yeiser Stepp was involved in Maryland 4-H and the leasing program for over 10 years and was fortunate enough to win the 4-H Judging Contest at both World Dairy Expo and the All American Dairy Show. She pursued a Bachelor's of Science degree in Animal Science with a minor in Agribusiness Management from Penn State University. At Penn State, she was an active member of the Dairy Science Club and member of the collegiate dairy judging team who won at the All American Dairy Show in 2006. Upon graduation from Penn State, Emily worked for ABS Global Inc. as their Young Sire Program Specialist in the Mid-Atlantic region. She then went on to attend graduate school at Virginia Tech and in 2011, obtained her Master's of Science degree in Dairy Science. Yeiser Stepp has also served as the Dairy Initiatives Manager for the Center for Dairy Excellence in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and as the Dairy and Beef Extension Coordinator at the University of Maryland. Currently, she is the Director of the National Dairy FARM Animal Care Program with National Milk Producer Federation. Emily and her family maintain a small herd of registered Holsteins and Brown Swiss under the Spots-Pride prefix, that are housed at Palmyra Farm in Maryland.

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4-H Dairy Goat Judges

Mark Baden

In 1982, Mark became a member of ADGA with his first dairy goat, a 50% Alpine/Nubian experimental kid, one of his 4-H projects. Through the use of ADGA programs, he upgraded his herd into a nationally competitive breeding program under the Olentangy herd name. 35 years later, every doe in his current herd traces their lineage back to that first 4-H doeling. He earned his first ADGA judges license in 1992 and since then, has judged numerous shows across the United States and Canada. Mark achieved his judging tenure in 2009 as an ADGA advanced judge. He has judged at the ADGA National Show three times, including this summer in Harrisburg, PA as well as judging youth events at the National Show five times in the past. Mark has served as an ADGA Board of Director representing District VII and is currently a member of the Judges Training and Genetics Advancement committees and an ADGA Linear Appraiser. The Olentangy herd is enrolled in ADGA Plus; participating annually in linear appraisal, DHIR, and DNA typing. His Alpine herd exhibits at many shows and fairs throughout the west each show season. Mark is an alumnus of The Ohio State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Aviation and Criminology & Criminal Justice. He is also a commercial pilot and since 1999, he has been employed as an air traffic controller at the Seattle EnRoute Air Traffic Control Facility just outside Seattle, Washington where he is currently a Traffic Management Coordinator.

Cameron Jodlowski

Cameron Jodlowski has been actively engaged in the dairy goat project his entire life. Cameron grew up on an acreage outside of Atlanta, IL where his family raises French Alpines and Sables under the herd name Kickapoo Valley Dairy Goats. Kickapoo Valley Dairy Goats has combined to win 17 National and Reserve National Champions between 5 different breeds over their 30 years of showing, including Reserve National Champion and Junior National Champion Sable at this year's ADGA National Show. He was active in the 4H and FFA programs back in Illinois as well as his dairy goat project. Cameron has placed in showmanship at the National level numerous times, and was a member of the National Champion Fitting & Grooming Team in 2012 at the ADGA National Show. He has been judging goats for 4 years, and is now serving as an ADGA Apprentice Judge for 2016, and will be a fully licensed ADGA Judge next year. Cameron is a Senior at Iowa State University in Ames, IA studying agricultural communications. Cameron says this about judging the MN State Fair 4-H Show, "I am so excited to be giving back to a program that has helped mold me into the person I am today, the 4-H program. I look forward to a day of excitement and learning for both myself and the exhibitors. I can't wait to see your 4-H projects at the 2016 MN State Fair!"

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4-H Meat Goat Judge

Ron Dilley

Ron Dilley and his wife, Debbie, live on a small acreage near Stillwater, Oklahoma. They started raising meat and dairy goats in 2001. They primarily focus on producing and marketing quality breeding stock. Some highlights over the years included raising and exhibiting the ABGA 2012 National Grand Champion Doe and Judging the 2013 ABGA Nationals. Recently, the 2016 National Champion Buck was sired by a son of their national champion doe. Currently, he is specializing in small ruminants at a firm that custom collects semen and does E.T. work on cattle, sheep, goats, and boers. He enjoys spending time with his family and traveling the country judging both junior market and breeding goat shows.