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## NCTA Aggies judge at Ak-Sar-Ben

GRAND ISLAND – A whirlwind weekend workout helped prepare NCTA Aggie students for their first livestock judging contest of the season.

Animal science students with the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture livestock judging team first evaluated beef cattle in Courtland, Kansas and then more livestock in Lincoln, Nebraska during a 1-day practice session last Saturday.

On Sunday, the 10 Aggies stepped into the livestock arena at the Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Judging Contest in Grand Island and put their animal evaluation and oral reasoning skills to the real test.

The sophomore team placed 7<sup>th</sup> judging sheep and goats, and 8<sup>th</sup> overall with 8<sup>th</sup> place in beef cattle, swine and oral reasons, said Doug Smith, NCTA coach and Animal Science and Agricultural Education division chair.

"The team had a good weekend," Smith said. "We appreciated the opportunity for workouts at Jensen Bros. Herefords in Kansas, and then at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln before heading to Grand Island."

Among 80 contestants, Peyton McCord of Cairo was 9<sup>th</sup> in placings and Will Moeller of Grand Island was in the top 20 in placings. Rachel Miller of Basehor, Kansas placed 22<sup>nd</sup> in sheep and goat evaluation.

Freshman students judged individually among 93 contestants. Garrett Lapp of Adamsville, Ohio, was 9<sup>th</sup> high in beef cattle, 26<sup>th</sup> overall, and 33<sup>rd</sup> in sheep and goats. Tiffany Dickau of Elwood was 24<sup>th</sup> in swine judging.

Others on the team were sophomores Colbey Luebbe, Seward and Remy Mansour, Petaluma, California; and freshmen Emily Riley, Norton, Kansas; and Camden Wilke, Columbus.

Nathan Lashley, Curtis, is a third-year student serving as assistant coach.

The team's next contest is October 20 at the Colorado State University Classic in Fort Collins.

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The NCTA Livestock Judging Team went to Courtland, Kansas for a practice workout at Jensen Bros. Herefords.

The team also evaluated livestock at the Lincoln before completing their 2-day journey at the Ak-Sar-Ben Livestock Judging Contest in Grand Island.

(Photo by Doug Smith / NCTA Judging Coach)

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