

Vander Ley Earns NE Beef Industry Endowment Award



Courtesy Photo-Clay County News

Dr. Brian Vander Ley, right, a veterinary epidemiologist at the University of Nebraska's Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center, earned the Nebraska Beef Industry Endowment Award; he was granted \$4,000. His research efforts are currently focused on investigating congestive heart failure in feedlot cattle and population level disease surveillance tools.

The Nebraska Beef Industry Endowment Award was recently earned by Sutton's Brian Vander Ley, a veterinary epidemiologist at the University of Nebraska's Great Plains Veterinary Educational Center.

The award was established in December 2009, and provides grants to beef industry-related research and/or teaching positions at Nebraska post-secondary educational institutions.

Vander Ley was granted \$4,000; his current research efforts are focusing on investigating congestive heart failure in feedlot cattle and population level disease surveillance tools.

The NE Beef Industry Endowment Award serves as a thank you and an incentive to those professors/instructors that are providing cutting edge research and/or student instruction in a beef industry related area.

The grant helps fund valuable research that might not occur otherwise or allow the continuation of research already being conducted that might not continue because of lack of funding and/or reward a professor/ instructor for outstanding educational instruction to their students.

Since 1968, the Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation has supported the beef industry by financially supporting research and educational projects/programs.

Early on the Foundation was instrumental in prompting research in the area of calf-scours and center pivot irrigation and more recently providing funding for the new research feedlot at the Panhandle Research Center in Scottsbluff and the new educational facilities at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis.

The Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation established the Nebraska Beef Industry Professorship of Animal Science at UNL in December 1994 with \$200,000. This fund allows an annual stipend of \$10,000 to be awarded to a worthy professor with the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation wanted to duplicate that effort and create a fund that would not be limited just to UNL, but benefit a post-secondary educational institution and/or teaching position anywhere in our great state of Nebraska, thus the Nebraska Beef Industry Endowment was created.

The board plans to grant \$5,000 annually to an outstanding professor/instructor. The Nebraska Beef Industry Endowment was endowed with \$100,000.

The Nebraska Cattlemen Foundation board of directors hopes others will see the vital importance of this endowed account and contribute. As the endowed account grows, more grants will be awarded to professors/instructors and/or research projects that benefit the beef industry, especially the beef industry in Nebraska.