

In the months of February and March, the youth in Juab County have had the opportunity to expand their knowledge of local agriculture and learn about small ruminant digestive systems and nutrition.

A gracious thank you to Dr. Chad Page, Utah State University's Sheep and Goat Specialist for being willing to educate kids on sheep and goat nutrition. 4-Hers were able to attend the Sheep and Goat Nutrition Clinic to learn about the nutritional needs of lambs and goats from weaning to slaughter. Dr. Page presented a very educational presentation on nutrient requirements and had the kids eat saltines to show how animals need water in order for feed to be palatable. The kids were split in two groups, one with water, one without and given as many saltine crackers as they thought they would be able to eat. This activity kept kids involved and learning, as well as proving the valuable point that animals must have water because their feed is high dry matter, making it hard to digest and utilize nutrients without it. My hope is that the youth in attendance will retain and utilize the great information Dr. Page taught.

With the cooperation and willingness of local producer Brady Blackett, 4-H kids were able to tour the Intermountain Genetic Alliance Bull Operation and Feedlot located in Nephi, UT. While there they learned about the importance of Expected Progeny Differences (EPD's) and Nutrition in Bull production and development. The youth were also able to walk through the pens and discuss confirmation and carcass qualities in Bulls, as well as selecting for certain needs using EPD's and calculated gain. This was a great opportunity to get kids out into local agriculture as well as providing them an opportunity to broaden their knowledge base that will help in all aspects of future agriculture dealings.

Juab Extension Livestock Coordinator Hailey Holden, as well as all youth in attendance of these events would like to extend a thank you to all involved in putting on these learning-based activities and being willing to share your knowledge and experience with the youth of Juab County.

In the future there is a lot more coming up for youth to participate in, so watch extension social media as well as emails or contact the extension office for information on upcoming events.

Pictured above: IGA Bulls Tour (starting on top row from left to right) Rylan Orton, JaLeigh Burton, Drake Nuccetelli, Gavin Reynolds, Justus Reynolds, Rhett Brinkerhoff, James



Brinkerhoff, Brady Blackett, Samantha Reynolds, Brinlee Brinkerhoff, Jessica Reynolds, Tenley Blackett, Hailey Holden.



Pictured Above: Sheep and Goat Nutrition Clinic with Dr. Chad Page; Youth participating in activity pertaining to the importance of having water for livestock utilizing saline crackers.