

Michigan ranks No. 1 in the country after winning high team award overall and in oral reasons at National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest at World Dairy Expo

Michigan Dairy Youth Program earns sixth invitation to Europe in nine years

Michigan is home to the No. 1 youth dairy judging team in the country. The Michigan youth delegation earned enough points to oust out teams representing 31 other states in this year's National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest held Oct. 1 at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis. The team was the highest ranking team both overall – beating out second place Minnesota by 44 points – and in oral reasons. The double-win is a first for the Michigan Dairy Youth Program, which is led by Dr. Joe Domecq, Michigan State University (MSU) animal science specialist and coordinator of the Michigan dairy judging program.



Pictured left to right are members of the Michigan 4-H dairy cattle judging team and 2012 national champions: Savannah Katulski, Hayleigh Geurink, Dr. Joe Domecq, Sarah Black, Megan Bush and Megan Filhart. (Photo provided courtesy of Agri-Graphics Ltd.)

By winning first place overall, the team earns an invitation to travel to Europe for a two-week International Livestock Judging Tour, an honor awarded to the three top-ranking teams at the national contest. This year marks the sixth time in nine years that the youth team from Michigan has earned this honor – it placed second or third five times in the last eight years – but 2012 marks the first time it has finished alone in the top spot.

Competing on the Michigan youth team were MSU students Megan Bush, Swartz Creek; Hayleigh Geurink, Allendale; and Savannah Katulski, Goodrich; and Alma College student Megan Filhart, Rosebush. The team was coached by Domecq and Sarah Black, volunteer assistant coach from Eagle.

As a team, Michigan placed first in the Ayrshire breed, first in the Guernsey breed, second in the Holstein breed and fifth in the Jersey breed.

Individually, each team member placed among the top 10 in one or more breeds.

Bush finished second place overall, fourth place in placing points only and fifth place in oral reasons. She was high individual in the Guernsey breed, third high individual in the Ayrshire breed and sixth place in Jerseys.

Filhart was third high individual overall, second in both the Ayrshire and Holstein breeds, fifth place in placing points only and seventh place in oral reasons.

Geurink placed eighth place in oral reasons, ninth overall and was the second high individual in the Guernsey breed. Katulski placed seventh in the Brown Swiss and Guernsey breeds and was 20th high individual overall.

Team members will travel to Europe in June 2013. While in Europe, the delegation will visit England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. In addition to seeing the sites, they will visit the Royal Highland Show and compete in a judging contest in Scotland and be assigned to live with a different host farm family for three days during their stay in Ireland.

IN THIS ISSUE...

- » Michigan 4-H dairy judging team ranks No. 1 in the country
- » On the road with Michigan's dairy judging program
- » Frahm wins \$1,000 scholarship at All-American Dairy Show
- » Europe-bound judging team plans fundraising events

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Michigan Dairy Judging Program conducts fundraising for trip to Europe

Dairy judging team members traveling to Europe in summer 2013 will be conducting several fundraising activities over the next few months to raise the \$20,000 needed to make the trip.

For more information, see page 5.

MICHIGAN'S DAIRY JUDGING PROGRAM

Collegiate Division

The 2012 Michigan State University (MSU) collegiate team members were: agribusiness junior Jon Woodrow (J.W.) Hart, North Adams; animal science junior Katelyn Horning, Manchester; agribusiness management junior Sarah Michalek, Deckerville; and animal science senior Cassie Parks, Clinton.

The team competed in three competitions: the 44th annual All-American Invitational Youth Dairy Judging Contest, Harrisburg, Pa.; the 92nd annual World Dairy Expo Dairy Cattle Judging Contest, Madison, Wis.; and the 39th annual North American International Livestock Exhibition (NAILE), Louisville, Ky.

TEAM PLACINGS

HARRISBURG (18 teams competed)

- » 6th high team, Holstein breed
- » 6th high team, Jersey breed
- » 8th high team, Ayrshire breed
- » 8th high team, oral reasons
- » 13th high team, overall

MADISON (19 teams competed)

- » 4th high team, Brown Swiss breed
- » 8th high team, Guernsey breed
- » 8th high team, oral reasons
- » 11th high team, Milking Shorthorn
- » 13th high team, overall

LOUISVILLE (20 teams competed)

- » 2nd high team, Guernsey breed
- » 5th high team, oral reasons
- » 7th high team, overall
- » 8th high team, Ayrshire breed



Pictured left to right are: J.W. Hart, Katelyn Horning, Sarah Michalek, Cassie Parks, Sarah Black and Dr. Joe Domecq. (Photo provided courtesy of Agri-Graphics Ltd.)

SARAH MICHALEK

- » 7th high individual, Brown Swiss breed; Madison
- » 9th high individual, Guernsey breed; Louisville
- » 11th high individual, Guernsey breed; Madison
- » 11th high individual, Jersey breed; Madison
- » 12th high individual, Brown Swiss breed; Harrisburg
- » 12th high individual, oral reasons, Madison
- » 14th high individual, Ayrshire breed; Madison
- » 16th high individual, overall; Louisville
- » 16th high individual, Holstein breed; Harrisburg

CASSIE PARKS

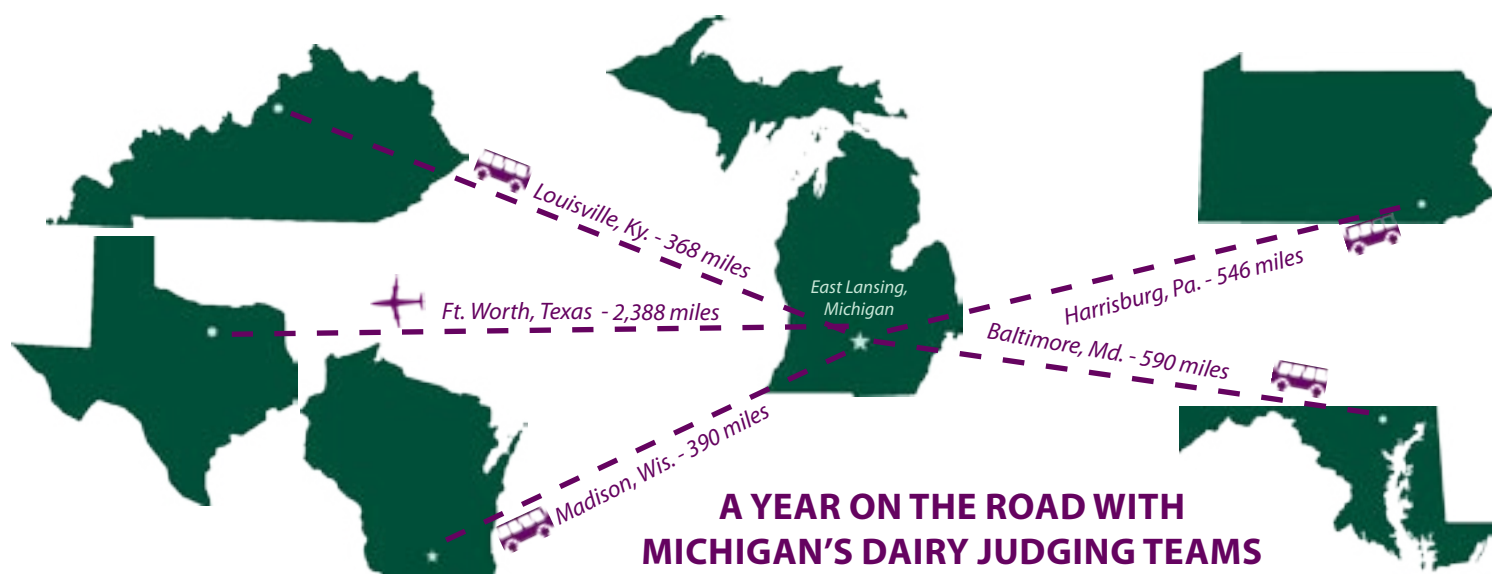
- » 13th high individual, Brown Swiss breed; Louisville
- » 18th high individual, Milking Shorthorn; Madison

KATELYN HORNING

- » High individual, Ayrshire breed; Harrisburg
- » 5th high individual, oral reasons; Louisville
- » 6th high individual, Ayrshire breed; Madison
- » 8th high individual, Ayrshire breed; Louisville
- » 14th high individual, Jersey breed; Harrisburg
- » 16th high individual, Guernsey breed; Madison
- » 19th high individual, Milking Shorthorn; Madison
- » 20th high individual, overall; Louisville

J.W. HART

- » 6th high individual, Guernsey breed; Louisville
- » 18th high individual, Brown Swiss breed; Madison



MICHIGAN'S DAIRY JUDGING PROGRAM

44th annual All-American Invitational Youth Dairy Judging Contest

Harrisburg, Pa. (12 teams competed)

TEAM PLACINGS

- » 3rd high team, Brown Swiss breed
- » 4th high team, Guernsey breed
- » 5th high team, Ayrshire breed
- » 6th high team, overall
- » 8th high team, oral reasons
- » 9th high team, Jersey breed

ANNA MUSOLF

- » 17th high individual, Guernsey breed

T.J. FRAHM

- » High individual, Guernsey breed
- » 2nd high individual, Ayrshire breed
- » 10th high individual, oral reasons
- » 15th high individual, overall

LUCAS MOSER

- » 8th high individual, Ayrshire breed
- » 15th high individual, Brown Swiss breed
- » 23rd high individual, overall

KELLY RATERINK

- » 10th high individual, Brown Swiss breed
- » 10th high individual, Guernsey breed
- » 11th high individual, Holstein breed
- » 19th high individual, overall



Pictured left to right are: Dr. Joe Domecq, T.J. Frahm (Saginaw Co.), Kelly Raterink (Ottawa Co.), Anna Musolf (Ingham Co.) and Lucas Moser (Ingham Co.). (Photo provided courtesy of Dr. Joe Domecq)

National 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest

Madison, Wis. (31 teams competed)

TEAM PLACINGS

- » High team, overall
- » High team, oral reasons
- » High team, Ayrshire breed
- » High team, Guernsey breed
- » 2nd high team, Holstein breed
- » 5th high team, Jersey breed

MEGAN FILHART

- » 2nd high individual, Ayrshire breed
- » 2nd high individual, Holstein breed
- » 3rd high individual, overall
- » 5th high individual, placing points
- » 7th high individual, oral reasons

MEGAN BUSH

- » High individual, Guernsey breed
- » 2nd high individual, overall
- » 3rd high individual, Ayrshire breed
- » 4th high individual, placing points
- » 5th high individual, oral reasons
- » 6th high individual, Jersey breed

HAYLEIGH GEURINK

- » 2nd high individual, Guernsey breed
- » 8th high individual, oral reasons
- » 9th high individual, overall

SAVANNAH KATULSKI

- » 7th high individual, Brown Swiss breed
- » 7th high individual, Guernsey breed
- » 20th high individual, overall



Pictured left to right are members of the Michigan 4-H dairy cattle judging team and 2012 national champions: Savannah Katulski (Genesee Co.), Hayleigh Geurink (Ottawa Co.), Dr. Joe Domecq, Sarah Black, Megan Bush (Genesee Co.) and Megan Filhart (Isabella Co.). (Photo provided courtesy of Agri-Graphics Ltd.)

39th annual North American International Livestock Exhibition (NAILE)

Louisville, Ky. (12 teams competed)

TEAM PLACINGS

- » 4th high team, Ayrshire breed
- » 7th high team, oral reasons
- » 10th high team, overall

JAY LUOMA

- » 3rd high individual, Brown Swiss breed
- » 12th high individual, overall
- » 13th high individual Holstein breed
- » 13th high individual, oral reasons



Pictured left to right are: Dr. Joe Domecq, Jay Luoma (Calhoun Co.), Kelvin Webster (Clinton Co.), Kayle Jakus (Clinton Co.) and Natalie Horning (Washtenaw Co.). (Photo provided courtesy of Dr. Joe Domecq)

The Michigan dairy judging program appreciates the support of its sponsors: ABS Global, Inc.; NorthStar Cooperative; the Michigan Holstein Association; the Michigan District 1 and District 6 Holstein Associations; the Michigan Jersey Cattle Club; the United Dairy Industry of Michigan; the Michigan Milk Producers Association and the Michigan Dairy Memorial Foundation.

Thank you for your support.

MICHIGAN'S DAIRY JUDGING PROGRAM

Ag Tech Division

Four second-year MSU Institute of Agricultural Technology dairy production management program students competed in the 2012 International Postsecondary Dairy Judging Contest held during World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis., and the 39th annual North American International Livestock Exhibition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky.

Team members were: sophomores Adam Guernsey, Ionia; Allison Oesch, Alto; Malissa Reed, Owosso; and Britney Zondlak, Byron Center.

TEAM PLACINGS

MADISON (12 teams competed)

- » High team, Ayrshire breed
- » 3rd high team, Jersey breed
- » 3rd high team, Red and White breed
- » 4th high team, overall
- » 5th high team, Brown Swiss breed
- » 5th high team, Milking Shorthorn

LOUISVILLE (6 teams competed)

- » 2nd high team, Ayrshire breed
- » 3rd high team, Holstein breed
- » 3rd high team, Jersey breed
- » 3rd high team, overall
- » 4th high team, Brown Swiss breed
- » 4th high team, Guernsey breed
- » 5th high team, oral reasons

BRITNEY ZONDLAK

- » 1st place individual, Jersey breed; Louisville
- » 4th high individual, oral reasons; Louisville
- » 5th high individual, Red and White breed; Madison
- » 8th high individual, Ayrshire breed; Madison
- » 8th high individual, Brown Swiss breed; Madison

ALLISON OESCH

- » 6th high individual, Brown Swiss breed; Louisville
 - » 6th high individual, Jersey breed; Madison
- ADAM GUERNSEY**
- » 7th high individual, Ayrshire breed; Louisville
 - » 9th high individual, Holstein breed; Louisville
 - » 10th high individual, overall; Louisville

MALISSA REED

- » 3rd high individual, Milking Shorthorn breed; Madison
- » 4th high individual, Ayrshire breed; Louisville
- » 5th high individual, Ayrshire breed; Madison
- » 8th high individual, overall; Madison
- » 9th high individual, Guernsey breed; Louisville
- » 9th high individual, overall; Louisville



Pictured left to right are: Adam Guernsey, Allison Oesch, Malissa Reed, Britney Zondlak, Sarah Black and Dr. Joe Domecq. (Photo provided courtesy of Agri-Graphics Ltd.)



Left: Traveling with the dairy judging team provides students with opportunities to visit major dairy industry sites, such as the Hoard's Dairyman farm in Fort Atkinson, Wis.

Right: Hours and hours of preparation are put to the test: Ag Tech team members compete on the colored shavings at World Dairy Expo in Madison, Wis.



Frahm is high individual in the Junior Dairy Management Contest at All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg, wins \$1,000 scholarship

Timothy J. Frahm, of Frankenmuth (Saginaw Co.), was the high individual in the 26th annual Junior Dairy Management Contest held in Sept. at the 2012 All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg.

"It's an honor to win," Frahm said. He is a freshman at Michigan State University (MSU) and was a member of the Michigan youth dairy judging team who also competed at the All-American Dairy Show.

The dairy management contest is a practical, hands-on competition that tests contestants' knowledge about a variety of dairy management-related topics. Participants competed in six classes, including dairy cattle selection, dairy linear type, feed identification and management, nutrient management, dairy tools and equipment, Dairy Herd Improvement records and dairy business management. They evaluated cows to identify the most profitable ones before then determining how best to feed them, keep them healthy and measure their performance.

"This contest is a training ground for young dairymen," said Carl Brown, one of the event organizers. "It provides an exercise in the width and breadth of dairy management."

The Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association sponsored the \$1,000 scholarship for the high ranking individual.

(Portions of the above report were provided by the All-American Dairy Show)



Dave Smith (left), secretary of the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association, presented a \$1,000 scholarship to T.J. Frahm (right), Frankenmuth, as the award for earning the high individual ranking in the Junior Dairy Management Contest at the 2012 All-American Dairy Show in Harrisburg in Sept. (Photo provided courtesy of the All-American Dairy Show)

Michigan dairy youth organize fundraisers to earn \$20,000 to travel to Europe for International Livestock Judging Tour

Earning national championship honors at the National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest last October at World Dairy Expo was just the beginning of the life-changing experience for members of the Michigan youth dairy judging team. They are embarking on a new mission: raising money to travel to Europe this summer for the International Livestock Judging Tour.

Winning the contest earned the Michigan team – Megan Bush, Swartz Creek; Megan Filhart, Rosebush; Hayleigh Geurink, Allendale; Savannah Katulski, Goodrich; and team coach Dr. Joe Domecq – an invitation to travel to Europe for two weeks in June 2013. While in Europe, the delegation will visit England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. In addition to seeing the sites, they will visit the Royal Highland Show and compete in a judging contest in Scotland and be assigned to live with a different host farm family for three days during their stay in Ireland.

Participating in the International Livestock Judging Tour to Europe will cost the team \$20,000. The amount covers airfare to and from Europe, transportation throughout Europe, lodging, entry to various events and activities, and some meals.

In addition to ongoing support provided by program donors and other money-raising projects such as the MSU Spartan Spectacular Sale held each spring, the team members traveling to Europe will be conducting several fundraising activities this winter and spring to earn money for the trip. Most recently, Bush and Geurink headed the crew of 15 Michigan State University (MSU) students who helped feed, do related chores, milk, and night hawk (watch over the animals at night) during the "Holiday Harvest Sale" held in East Lansing in December. Each student volunteered time ranging from two hours to 20 hours over the four-day period; together, Bush and Geurink donated more than 50 hours of time. In return for working, the team received the profits from selling the milk produced by the sale animals.

Coming up during the Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference (GLRDC) in February, team members will hold a "Say cheese!" fundraising auction on Feb. 7 during the evening program. Attendees will have an opportunity to bid on one of 10 packages of cheese curds produced by the MSU Dairy Plant. The successful bidders will have their photographs taken with members of the national champion dairy judging team present at the conference.

Team members will also be conducting a statewide fundraising project every Tuesday now through April in cooperation with the Rosebush Sale Barn, Inc., near Rosebush.

Youth dairy judging team members will be contacting dairy producers throughout the state seeking donated bull calves and heifer calves. The donated animals will be sold through the Rosebush Sale Barn at its regularly scheduled Tuesday sale, and all proceeds

Michigan youth dairy judging team members will be holding two fundraising projects this winter.

- "Say cheese!" – purchase one of 10 packages of MSU cheese curds at the GLRDC on Feb. 7
- Donate a bull calf, heifer calf or cull cow – every Tuesday now through April at the Rosebush Sale Barn, Inc.



Students will have an opportunity to participate in a dairy judging contest at the Royal Highland Show in Scotland. Pictured here during the International Livestock Judging Tour in 2011 are (left to right): J.W. Hart, Levi Westendorp, Eric Sneller, Matthew Mann, Sarah Mowry, Katie Arndt, Emily Butcher, Sarah Michalek, Lauren Bush and Dr. Joe Domecq. (Photo provided courtesy of Dr. Joe Domecq)

will be earmarked to go to the team's fundraising project. Producers can also donate the proceeds from the sale of a cull cow or another dairy animal marketed through the Rosebush Sale Barn.

Team members will help dairy producers arrange transportation of their donated animals to the sale barn, or producers can deliver their own. Rosebush Sale Barn also has collection points in West Branch and Shipshewana, Ind. Those who are donating animals only need to advise upon drop-off of the animal at the sale barn that its proceeds be designated to the Michigan youth dairy judging team.

For more information about the fundraising projects designed to raise money for the trip or to donate an animal, contact Bush at bushmeg1@msu.edu or 810-597-9011; Filhart at filhart1me@alma.edu or 989-330-9128; Geurink at brownha3@msu.edu or 616-260-1777; Katulski at katulsk1@msu.edu or 810-834-2952; or Domecq at domecqj@msu.edu or 517-353-7855.

In addition to the winning Michigan team, the teams who finished in second and third place overall at the national contest also received an invitation to take part in the International Livestock Judging Tour. It was the sixth time in nine years that the Michigan youth dairy judging team earned an invitation to travel to Europe – it placed second or third five times in the last eight years – but 2012 marked the first time it finished No. 1.



The Royal Highland Show is an annual celebration of Scottish agriculture. The show attracts up to 5,000 head of livestock annually and draws more than 180,000 visitors each year.



Seeing the sites is one of the highlights of the International Livestock Judging Tour. Many times this may be the only opportunity someone may have to visit Europe. (Photos provided courtesy of Sarah Michalek)



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MICHIGAN 4-H DAIRY YOUTH 2013 Calendar of Events

- Feb. 7-9** 11th annual [Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference](#), Frankenmuth
- March 22** Spartan Spectacular Calf Sale, East Lansing
- June 19-21** 4-H Exploration Days, Michigan State University, East Lansing
- July 15-19** Michigan Youth Dairy Days and Michigan Dairy Expo, East Lansing

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