

## Greetings from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dr. Barry Lambert, Interim Dean



As we finish the semester and head into the holidays, the students, faculty, and staff in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources are proud of what we have accomplished and look with optimism to a brighter 2022. I wish each of you a wonderful holiday season and a joyous New Year.

Thanks for all you do for our students, each other, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, and for Tarleton State University.

Be safe! The best is yet to come!



Barry Lambert, PhD

## Important Dates

- 12/2-8 - Finals
- 12/10 - Commencement
- 12/24-1/3 - Winter Break
- 1/13- Classes Begin
- 1/17 - MLK Day, Campus Closed
- 2/22 - Spring Networking Event
- 3/11 - Start of Spring Break
- 3/24 - FFA CDE Invitational

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS



**3** Take a Paws

**4** Block and Bridle

**5** Student Teams Spotlight

**6** Fire Ecology

**7** White-Tailed Deer Capture

**8** Student Research

**9** SALE Visits

**10** Tarleton COANR Happenings

**11** Events

**12** Happy Holidays!





# STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT



## Tarleton Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society

The Tarleton Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society had a busy November. The chapter hosted a trash pick-up, the last meeting of the semester, volunteered at the deer capture and held a movie night.



On November 8th, the Tarleton SCTWS hosted a trash pickup. The trash pick-up was spent cleaning up around their designated section of the Stephenville Highway. This is just one of the ways the Tarleton SCTWS impacts the community through service. Thank you to everyone who participated! Keep an eye out for information about future trash pick-ups.

The Tarleton Student Chapter of the Wildlife Society hosted a meeting and movie night to end the semester. The last meeting of the semester was hosted on November 9th. Guest speakers at this meeting included National Resource and Conservation Services (NRCS) Employees Levi Gage and Steve Smith. The movie night was hosted on November 17th where members enjoyed watching Shrek II in the Tarleton Planetarium.



The Tarleton Pre-Veterinary Medical Association hosted the "Take a Paws" event on November 18, 2021. This event allowed students to stop by from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM and pet some pups. Thank you to everyone who joined us and made the event great! Like the @TarletonPVMA Facebook page to stay up-to-date with everything happening!



The Tarleton Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow held a workshop on Wednesday, November 3, 2021, to discuss cover letters and résumés. During the workshop, students' résumés were critiqued. Students also had the opportunity to gain skills on how to improve their résumés to fit the jobs they are applying for. For more information about the Tarleton Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, please contact Dr. Chandra Andrew at [candrew@tarleton.edu](mailto:candrew@tarleton.edu).



# STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT



In October and November, the Tarleton Block and Bridle Food Drive took place. The goal was to raise 1,500 lbs of food to donate to the Erath County Food Bank. Thank you to everyone who donated to the food drive!



The Tarleton State Block and Bridle hosted the Texan 2 Step on October 30, 2021. The event was a lamb and goat jackpot along with a Halloween Costume Contest. Sponsors included Triple Crown Ford Lincoln as the Champion Prize Sponsor; and Cooper's Country Store, Rockin' B Cattle Company, and Woodrow's Barber Shop as the Bronze Sponsors. Thank you to all our awesome families and supporters who participated in the first Texan 2 Step Jackpot Show!



On November 9, 2021, the Tarleton Block and Bridle November General Meeting welcomed guest speaker, Mr. Shawn McCoy. McCoy is currently the Advertisement Sales Representative for Morris Communications and Agricultural Publications. At the meeting, McCoy shared his experience of working in the agriculture industry and gave members pointers on how to get connected and involved in the industry. One piece of advice he shared with members was, "Don't be afraid to ask, don't be afraid to be yourself, and don't be afraid to try."





# STUDENT TEAMS SPOTLIGHT

## Tarleton Stock Horse Team Takes on Stock Horse of Texas World Show



The Tarleton State Stock Horse Team had a great week in Abilene, TX on October 30th, during the Stock Horse of Texas World Show. In Division II, the White Team placed 6th overall, and the Purple Team placed 4th overall. Along with impressive team performance, we had some spectacular individual awards. The following individuals were awarded:

- Jordyn Baxter was the Collegiate Limited Reserve Champion in Trail
- Khyman Taylor won the Collegiate Novice Reserve Champion Reining Title, along with a 9th place overall finish in Go Round 1
- Daeleigh Partridge placed 9th in the Collegiate Limited for Go Round 1

## Tarleton Dairy Challenge Team Competed in the Southern Regional Dairy Challenge Competition

Animal Science Associate Professor and Southwest Regional Dairy Center Director, Dr. Barbara Jones hosted the Texas A&M Southern Regional Dairy Challenge on November 14th thru the 16th in Granbury, TX with the help of Dr. Sushil Paudyal. Tarleton had two teams compete in this competition as well. Tarleton team members who competed from left to right are Claudia Dobrient, Maeleigh Geijssel, Alyssa White, Faith Weimerskirch, Kyla Miller, and Lyndon Teichman. The Tarleton team is coached by head Dr. Barbara Jones and assistant Grance Canny. The team is looking forward to participating in the national competition in March in Wisconsin.



## Tarleton Equestrian Team Finishes the Semester Strong



The Tarleton Equestrian Team finished the semester competition season strong. The western team competed on November 6th and 7th. Several team members placed including Amber Fearn, Addie McGinnis, Terra Hansen, Layne Miller, Stevi Bothel, Jenna Evans, Ally Fitcher, Riley Wood, and Rachel Scott.

The English Team competed on November 20th and 22nd. Numerous team members placed including Jessica Dziekan, Chloe Flick, Terra Hansen, Katie Pennington, Madisson Smith, Amber Fearn, Alyssa Casillas, Jordan Mott, Nadia Leeah, Josie Mesa, Roquelle Speede, and Rachel Scott.



# IN THE CLASSROOM

## Going Hands-On to Learn Fire Ecology



The shouts of “Deploy! Deploy! Deploy!” and of many tools scrapping the earth echoed across the Tarleton State University Agriculture Center on November 2nd. These sounds seem out of place at the Ag center but are commonplace throughout the US when wildfires are present. Today however, instead of having to combat an out-of-control wildfire, students of Fire Ecology (WSES 4311) were presented the unique opportunity to complete the field training portion in pursuit of their Wildland Firefighter Type 2 (Crewmember) certification.



Members of the Texas A&M Forestry Service office in Mineral Wells taught students throughout the day which consisted of a written test, fire shelter emergency deployment timed drills, and an introduction to the different tools used to create fire lines for controlling the spread of wildfires. The training culminated with the students digging a fire line is imperative to contain fires. This experiential learning provides students in the Fire Ecology class with hands-on reinforcement of principles and knowledge first presented in the traditional classroom setting. “This training was extremely enjoyable and really reinforced the principles we learned. The instructors continued to quiz us throughout the whole process during the field day driving home this important knowledge,” said Fire Ecology student Bryan Dunn.

With the completion of the online training and the accompanying field day, the only remaining requirements for students to be certified as a Wildland Firefighter Type 2 is the work capacity test (WCT) and to observe and assist in a prescribed fire burn. Attaining their Type 2 certification prior to graduation allows students to be more competitive for careers in wildlife and natural resource management upon completing their degree.

# TEXANS TRAVELING

## Texans Attend National Angus Convention



On November 6th-7th, the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Ambassadors and Tarleton COANR Interim Dean, Dr. Barry Lambert attended the National Angus Convention in Fort Worth, Texas. The ambassadors were there to promote the college and answer any questions people had about the college. The booth attracted alumni, potential and current students, and companies offering internships. The ambassadors who attended were Anna Belenski, Tyler Cooper, and Haley Dunavant.



# TEXANS TRAVELING

## Wildlife Students Attend White-tailed Deer Capture in South Texas



In November, twelve undergraduate students from the Department of Wildlife and Natural Resources attended a weekend-long white-tailed deer capture on East Foundation ranches. Participants had the chance to gain hands-on experience with white-tailed deer under the supervision of wildlife biologists and East Foundation workers.

This annual event provides students with the opportunity to learn many hands-on skills, including proper handling of deer and minimizing stress to an animal while handling, data collection techniques, animal health checks, techniques for aging deer, general field safety, and management of wild deer populations. This is an important part of a comprehensive study conducted by East Foundation to increase understanding of how drought, range management, and disease influence the age structure of the population, antler development, body size, and longevity of white-tailed deer.

Students learned so many new things about white-tailed deer in the duration of the trip. We are glad to be able to be a part of this experience. \*Deer handling in pictures was done with the proper permitting and training.



Students who attended include Catherine Edwards, Lark Holland, Ty Cospser, Ryan Holcomb, Alex McBryde, Emily McGhee, Nancy Montealvo, Emily Vincik, Alex Boltik, Caden Clark, Eli Marjonen, Ross Michaels, Junior Rodriguez, Samantha Schriver, and Kyndal Underwood



# STUDENT RESEARCH

## Graduate and Undergraduate Students Present Research at the Wildlife Society Virtual Conference



In early November, seven students from the Department of Wildlife and Natural Resources attended the virtual conference for The Wildlife Society and presented original research during the poster session. This included the students creating the poster and participating in a question and answer session over their research. Students also were able to attend working group meetings, special sessions, discussion panels, and interact with professionals and other students via the virtual platform.

The following \*Undergraduate and \*\*Graduate students presented:

- Ty Cospers\*, M. Koeck\*, H. Mathewson, A. Mitchell, and D. Beard. 2021. Grazing pressure of bison on arthropods and vegetation communities at Caprock Canyons State Park, Texas.
- Josef Leachman\*\*, H. A. Mathewson, D. B. Murray, A. B. Mitchell, and K. Burton\*\*. 2021. Arthropod biodiversity in response to juniper removal within riparian buffers.
- Ian Mack\*\*, T. W. Schwertner, H. Kafley, H. A. Mathewson, and J. Breeden. 2021. Spatiotemporal habitat partitioning between sympatric jackal species, in Limpopo Province, South Africa.
- Doreen Mata\*\*, and H. A. Mathewson. 2021. Population dynamics and movement patterns of semi-aquatic turtles.
- Emily McGhee\*, H. Mathewson, K. Burton\*\*, and J. Palarski\*\*. 2021. A comparison of sparrow diversity in Northeast Texas.
- Marshall Mills\*, K. Burton\*\*, J. Leachman\*\* and H. A. Mathewson. 2021. Herptile microhabitat usage within the Palo Pinto Mountains, Texas.
- Emily Vincik\*, J. Palarski\*\*, H. A. Mathewson, B. W. Kubecka, and D. Rollins. 2021. Translocation of northern bobwhite in Texas: year three.

## Tarleton Graduate Student's Research Published on Texas Dairy Matters



Tarleton Graduate Student Alexandra Corpus recently had her research published on the Texas Dairy Matters Extension Website. Corpus' research is titled, "Effectiveness of footbath design and solution on lameness rates in dairy cattle." Texas Dairy Matters is provided by the Texas A&M AgriLife Dairy Extension team to provide up-to-date events, fact sheets, DOPA information, and much more. View Corpus' research at [Texas Dairy Matters](#).



# STUDENT RESEARCH

## Northern Bobwhite Translocation Research Update

By: Emily Vincik, undergraduate researcher, Wildlife and Natural Resources Dept.

During the first week of March 2021, Tarleton State WLNR students kicked off year 3 of the Erath County bobwhite translocation project. Objectives of this study are to evaluate differences in survival, reproduction, and dispersal for 2 different subspecies of translocated bobwhite. Researchers have translocated bobwhite from northwest Texas (*Colinus virginianus taylori*) and south Texas (*C. v. texanus*) to Erath County where *C. v. taylori* is the native subspecies. During the past 3 years, we have translocated over 600 bobwhite to Erath County.

Survival and dispersal have been similar between both source populations; however, the reproductive effort has been markedly better for individuals from northwest Texas. On average, hens from northwest Texas have produced 39% more nests per hen than south Texas. Using reproductive data from the study and extrapolating to a per 100 hens estimate, we estimate 409 chicks would be produced per 100 hens from northwest Texas,

while only 251 chicks would be produced per 100 hens from south Texas. This difference could have major implications for future translocation efforts. Based on our findings, managers should be aware of potential reductions in reproductive effort for bobwhite sourced from non-native subspecies.

We thank Bass Pro Shops, Park Cities and Cross Timbers Chapters of Quail Coalition, Steve and Joan Smith, Jim and Barbara Salter, East Foundation, the Rolling Plains Quail Research Foundation, Texas Parks and Wildlife Dept., and Tarleton State Wildlife and Natural Resources Department for facilitating this project. We also thank J. McLaughlin (TPWD), B. Ruzicka (RPQRF), and D. King (RPQRF) for their advice and insight. Technicians K. Bashaw, K. Theisen, E. Brogan, M. Koeck, C. Carter, B. Consalus provided skilled support during trapping and surveillance tasks. Lastly, we thank all our "Quail Donors" for allowing us to trap on their property to gather birds for this effort. Dr. Dale Rollins (RPQRF), Dr. Heather Mathewson (TSU) are Co-PIs on this research and John Palarski (RPQRF) and Brad Kubecka (RPQRF) are coauthors.



## SALE Visits Tarleton State University



Several members from the executive team of the San Antonio Livestock Exposition visited Tarleton State University on October 8. The group spent their time touring the Tarleton Agriculture Center, the rodeo facility, and the Stephenville campus while learning about the different programs offered by the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Tarleton appreciates the long-time support of the SALE and looks forward to growing our partnerships together in the future!



# Fall on Campus



Please join us for a  
*Retirement Reception*

in honor of

*Dr. Sandy Graham*

Friday, December 17, 2021

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

Math 125

Come and Go

*Hosted by her colleagues*

*Congratulations,  
Graduates!*



Tarleton COANR Faculty and Staff enjoyed time together at the annual Holiday Potluck. Thank you to our Faculty and Staff for a great semester!





College of  
**Agriculture and  
Natural Resources**  
TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**



*Snap a picture of your finished product and tag us on Facebook or Instagram @TarletonCOANR*

# COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES NETWORKING EVENT



**FEBRUARY 22, 2022 | 5:00 PM- 7:00 PM**

**TARLETON AGRICULTURE CENTER 1322 CR 518 Stephenville, Texas 76401**

**Network with Tarleton agriculture students about internships or career opportunities your company has to offer.**

**TO RESERVE YOUR TABLE**



**TARLETON  
STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Member of The Texas A&M University System



# Happy Holidays



College of  
Agriculture and  
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TARLETON STATE UNIVERSITY.



COANR Dean's Office

AEC Office

ANSC Office

WNR Office

## COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND NATURAL RESOURCES