The first Ag Day was created by "Fum" McGraw, a CSU football legend who also served as athletics director from 1976 to 1986. At the suggestion of Professor of Animal Sciences John Matsushima, a pioneering beef nutritionist who is now retired, McGraw asked the Colorado Cattle Feeders Association to donate a steer for a pre-game barbecue. The steer was processed by the CSU Meat Laboratory. Utensils, buns and other supplies were donated by Safeway Stores and the beverages were supplied by Coors. Soon, McGraw and his crew were roasting beef in an underground pit for Ram boosters and ag supporters. Ag Day debuted in 1981 with 10 commodity groups. About 500 Rams fans and "aggies" perched on straw bales under the Aggie "A" at Hughes Stadium to enjoy the Colorado-grown fare. Proceeds from the event supplied one scholarship.

The event has grown dramatically through the years and now annually draws some 3,500 people for a football-day feast of Colorado-grown food. Ag Day showcases many commodities that have blossomed in Colorado with knowledge gained from CSU research. The menu, which started with beef as its primary feature, now includes a number of other Colorado commodities such as lamb, pork, beans, potatoes, onions, wheat and dairy products, green salad, watermelon, and more. "He'd be tickled pink -- no, he'd be tickled green and gold," Beryl "Brownie" McGraw said of her late husband. McGraw was a longtime Ag Day volunteer herself and recalled serving beef alongside the Larimer County Cowbelles, now the Larimer County Cattlemen.

Ag Day proceeds also provide critical funding for scholarships granted to deserving students in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Each year, the event typically funds between 12 and 15 student scholarships amounting to $2,000 each. Since 2000 alone, Ag Day has funded more than 160 scholarships totaling more than $300,000 for agricultural students.

In addition to live music, interactive exhibits will also feature some of the cutting-edge research taking place in the College of Agricultural Sciences. Student organizations will also have booths at the event and a number of farm implements will be on display.

Students and faculty members from the environmental horticulture program will be showcasing techniques used for integrating sustainability into residential landscapes as well as urban agriculture. Demonstrations will include the latest technology to reduce outdoor water consumption, methods to integrate recycled materials, composting and plant selections. The Gillette Entomology Club will also have a variety of insects available to look at and will host the always popular cockroach races.

What began 33 years ago as a small beef barbecue has grown into what we now call Ag Day, a giant tailgate featuring food from Colorado commodity groups, music, and interactive demonstrations from College of Agricultural Sciences faculty, staff, and students.

EXPLORING THE VALUE OF VETERANS SYMPOSIUM
Come celebrate veterans, and learn more about the value they bring to our campus and living and working communities. CSU researchers and veterans will bring an array of presentations along with opportunities for students to engage in discussion. Advisors from the Association of Colorado Veterans are invited to join the event.

Presented by the College of Agriculture, CSU Extension, the CSU Alumni Association, and the CSU Student Veterans Association. For more information or to register, please contact Ms. Dusty Provine.

LORETTA'S COMMUNITY LECTURE SERIES

Lori Peck, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, at the University of Colorado. Peck's research focuses on disasters and resilience in communities of color.

Kathrina to Colorado: How Children of Disaster Change Lives
Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2014 • 6:30 p.m.
Lory Student Center Theatre
advance.colostate.edu/ProseLectureSeriesSept14
Food and drinks will be provided. Tickets are required since space is limited. Please reserve your tickets no later than September 24.

Special Advertising Section created by Colorado State University Special Publishing Services
Colorado State University's Annual Flower Trial Garden

of being named a "Best Of" at CSU. For further information visit: flowertrials.colostate.edu

Seed companies and plant growers from across the globe compete with their unique plant varieties in hopes public, while promoting Colorado State University's mission of outreach, teaching, and research programs.

The garden is a wonderful exhibit of beauty available to the
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Monfort Quad reopens with new facade, state-of-the-art learning spaces

A sight that was both new and old
greeted students as they returned to the
Monfort Quad this fall – the renovated
Animal Sciences Building was once again open for business. The building, which had been
down for nearly two years, was once again buzzing with students, faculty, and
staff who found a building designed with
state-of-the-art labs, smart classrooms,
and an atrium that encourages students to
use the building as a study and meeting space.

"The renovations on this building were long overdue," said Animal Sciences Department Head Kevin Pond. "Now we have a space that is inviting to guests, has cutting-edge equipment, and will help us attract top-notch faculty and students from across the country and around the world."

Built in 1959, the 41,000-square foot building had not seen any significant revisions in many years. The entire building renovation project was budgeted at $15 million, with nearly $3 million coming from private donors, many of whom have named spaces throughout the building.

On Sept. 17, the college hosted an official
building reopening attended by alumni,
donors, and students as well as faculty and
staff from the department and the College of Agricultural Sciences. Other attendees included representatives from the campus administration including Colorado State University President Tony Frank and members of the Board of Governors.

"As we position our students for suc-
cess beyond graduation, buildings like this will set us apart from our peers and keep us competitive in recruiting and retaining faculty and students," said Dean Craig Beyrouty. "This building is a shining example of the ways in which our college is at the leading edge of teaching, research, and engagement across agriculture."

The Department of Animal Sciences is the largest department in CSU's College of Agricultural Sciences with approximately 800 undergraduate students and 50 graduate students as well as 31 faculty members. The department has nationally and internationally recognized programs in food safety and meat science; beef cattle; equine science; and animal handling and well-being.

Agritourism in Colorado: Q&A with Dawn Thilmany

Dawn Thilmany is a professor of agricul
tural and resource economics in the
College of Agricultural Sciences.

How do you define "agritourism"?

Lacking a formal definition, agritourism can be summarized as anything that connects consumers with the heritage, natural resource or
culinary experiences unique to the
agricultural industry, or a particular region of the country's rural areas. The list of agritourism activities continues to grow, and includes a variety of participant, educational, and spectator experiences including outdoor recreation (fishing, hunting, wildlife photography, horseback riding), educational experiences (farm and cannery tours, cooking classes, wine tasting, cattle drives, or help work the ranch), entertainment (harry festivals or corn mazes), hospitality services (farm and ranch stays, guided tours or outfitter services), on-farm direct sales (u-pick operations or roadside stands), and; off-the-farm direct sales (farmers' markets, country and state fairs, special events).

How does agritourism in Colorado differ from other states?

There is no typical agritourist, but those most loyal to making agritourism part of their travel are returning based on past experiences or connections to agriculture (family history, met produc
ers through farmers markets). Some want their families to be exposed to the heritage of agriculture and how food is produced, others want a deeper connection to where their food comes from, and others want a different twist on our access to our great natural resources and scenery (camping, photography, birding, hunting and fishing on privately owned lands).

What do you see as the future of agritourism here in Colorado and around the country?

This number is difficult to measure, but last time CSU estimated, the economic contribution of agritourism to the state was $1.26 billion (in 2006). You can find more information on the College of Agricultural Sciences website at agsci.colostate.edu.

Who is the typical agritourist?

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The US Ag Census reported a
marked increase in agritourism activity nationwide, and Colorado saw one of the greatest increases. And those numbers are likely down when one considers the revenues and activity such tourism brings to the rural communities surrounding farms and ranches that host visitors.

The continued interest in reconnecting, with our food source, recruiting to move more experiential ways and investments in the natural resources of our state would suggest that agritourism will continue to grow in Colorado.
CSU wins $10 million grant to study beetle-kill wood as biofuel

Tress killed by beetle infestations are a continued problem across the western United States. A team led by Colorado State University and funded by a $10 million US Department of Agriculture grant is partnering with industry to look for new ways to utilize beetle-kill wood, wood that has the potential to serve as a new fuel source.

There are many benefits to using beetle-kill wood for renewable energy. There are no cultivation, circumvents concerns over using food waste biomass from forest thinning and fire-kill timber. This localized production leads to significantly lower costs related to wood harvest and transportation. Their distributed scalable bio-refinery approach is a key element in making the use of insect-damaged trees as feedstock for

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Food banks are always searching for more fresh produce to meet the needs of the communities they serve. Foraged Feast, a Denver-based nonprofit, has found a new way to support local farmers and food banks through a $20 million grant from the Colorado Agriculture Clean Energy and Rural Resilience (BANR) project.

Aubriel Jones, Junior, Ag Literacy and dual Ag Marketing/Global Environmental Sustainability

“Growing up on an organic farm, Aubriel Jones appreciated the holistic approach to the environment and Agriculture. A key factor that brought Jones to CSU was the opportunity to work with and staff who she found to be inviting, helpful, and passionate. Jones is项链了 that the faculty and staff in the college truly support her dreams and aspirations and are genuinely interested in her future. Jones’ interest in CSU dates back to her early childhood. “When I was little my family and I would visit Fort Collins and I would see the A on the Foothills,” she said. “I would always say to my mom ‘I want that’ that made me realize I was going to go to college here.”

Bugs Rule!

"Bugs Rule!" is the mantra of renowned CSU Professor of Agricultural Sciences and Plant Pathology Whitney Cranshaw. In fact, Cranshaw has never met a bug he didn’t like, with the possible exception of the western yellowjacket.

As a child growing up in Massachusetts, what would become a lifelong fascination with praying mantis began at a young age. "When asked, ‘How do insects benefit us?’ his response is swift and sure: ‘Insects are responsible for our food supply, pest management and handling organic ecosystems. They make our ecosystems work.’

Cranshaw’s illustrious career was fueled by a fascination with praying mantis. "They look like aliens on the earth,” says Cranshaw. Beside the critical role insects play in the ecosystem, Cranshaw thinks they are just the most captivating creatures.

Matthew Stermer, Senior, Soil and Crop Sciences

With tons of support from his wife, Matthew Stermer remains focused on working at a local car dealership in Fort Collins.

Stermer will graduate in December and plans to enroll in a master’s degree program to become an agricultural extension specialist, a position he hopes to serve the College of Agricultural Sciences will prepare him for a successful and impactful career.

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Morgan Gaither, summer 2014 graduate, Bachelor of Science in Animal Science

Morgan Gaither was drawn to the College of Agricultural Sciences because she was passionate about individual health and nutrition. Gaither recently completed an internship with Colorado State University’s Michael Bennett that she received through the American Society of Animal Science. “This exciting opportunity opened my eyes to many opportunities in agriculture-related fields – both foreign and domestic, government and non-government,” said Gaither. “This experience heightened my interest in public policy and continued improvement.”

Gaither hopes work will allow people to come together to solve the pressing global issues that will continue to affect the United States. She is confident that her education will take her around the world and ultimately propel her into a position where she can continue to learn and also be a leader in sustainable, innovative agriculture and education, both personally and professionally.

Faces College of Agricultural Sciences

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Earning hands-on agricultural degrees online? CSU makes it work

When you think about learning from the experienced agricultural faculty members such as Colorado State University's Associate Professor of Animal Science Kragg Pe, you may think of students working side-by-side, rolling up their sleeves, and getting dirty. But agricultural degree opportunities, such as CSU’s Integrated Resource Management program, now extend much further than just to individuals within driving distance of the university’s northern Colorado agricultural facilities. Educational technology allows agricultural managers across all types of industry – professional land and ranch management, animal and cattle production, wildlife and forest, local, state, and regional agencies dealing with land and resource management (think the Bureau of Land Management or the Forest Service) – access to Colorado State University’s extensive agricultural knowledge – online.

“The integrated resource management graduate online program is unique; it’s the only one like it in the United States,” said Peal, who is also director of the online program. “We take disciplinary faculty in animal science, range, ag business, land and resource management, and human resources, and we bring their expertise to bear in each individual course. These are full professors who work full time at the University doing cutting-edge agriculture work as well as research.”

While many people may think online learning is primarily book-based, this program is an example of how CSU’s hands-on degrees translate very well into the online environment. CSU currently offers over 30 degrees online. Peal cites just one example of the bridge between face-to-face and online learning: “We have a feed efficiency learning. “We have a feed efficiency.

CSU helps Coca-Cola bring the prairie to Denver

Associate Professor of Landscape Design and Contracting Zach Johnson recently completed a landscape plan for the Coca-Cola bottling facility in Denver that greatly reduces the consumption of water while at the same time bringing natural beauty to the area surrounding the facility. “We based our design on the prairies of the Great Plains found along the Front Range of Colorado,” said Johnson. “Our intention was to reintroduce native plants and grasses to the site. By doing this we were able to increase the aesthetic of the landscape as well as reduce maintenance and water consumption.”

This design concept also provides a strong learning opportunity for visitors to the facility. Included in the design is a space which will be used as an outdoor teaching area. In that teaching space, Coca-Cola representatives will describe the original landscape found in the area as early settlers began to call Denver home. This native landscape demonstrates Coca-Cola’s commitment to sustainability by reducing water consumption as well as the carbon footprint involved in maintaining a traditional landscape.

A key component of this project included the latest water management technology, such as a small onsite weather station working in conjunction with a smart irrigation controller. This technology ensures water is only used when actually needed and delivers water consumption reports and sends text messages or emails if water is delivered outside of expected parameters. The alerts call attention to leaks and ensure necessary repairs are immediately brought to attention.

Through the newly installed landscape and water management techniques, water use should drop by more than 75 percent. Coca-Cola and Johnson are exploring possible opportunities to expand this model into additional facilities throughout the nation. Johnson was assisted on this project by Ryan Larscheid, a recent graduate of both the Landscape Design and Contracting program and the Landscape Business program.

Agricultural Experiment Station

The Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, an integral part of Colorado State University, was established in 1888 after the Colorado General Assembly ratified the provisions of the Hatch Act. The Morrill Act of 1862 provided for the establishment of agricultural experiment stations in all states as a means to improve agriculture, and the Hatch Act became a source of much needed revenue to assist in teaching agricultural subjects at the universities. The Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station is one of the original 25 state agricultural experiment stations established in order to undergird the educational mission. State agricultural experiment stations are located in every state and territory, covering all the ecological, environmental and socioeconomic regions of the nation.

The Agricultural Research Station in Fort Collins supports seven off-campus research centers which conduct agricultural research specific to the region of Colorado in which they are located.

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ABOUT THE PROGRAM

This integrated resource management online master’s program has been offered since 2008 and has enrolled students from 25 states. It, along with other programs offered through CSU OnlineAnytime, supports the University’s land-grant mission of expanding access to education by connecting students who control or choose not to come to campus with Colorado State’s renowned faculty, research, and academic curricula. For more information, please visit CSUanywhere.com or call 877-4CSU-48.

Mike Bathke is a manager and researcher at the Arizona Valley Research Center, a part of the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station. He is also coordinator of the Water Conservation and Irrigation Technology project and a licensed irrigator. He has been with the Colorado State University Agricultural Experiment Station since 2007.