

Practitioner Competency Input

JM Gay 7/08 **DRAFT 1.11** updated 11/12/2008

Setup Paragraphs:

As Ag Curriculum Coordinator, I need your input on the key clinical procedures that make a new graduate “practice ready” for your segment of agricultural animal practice. My idea is that if we identify a limited set of key procedures for each major practice segment (e.g., beef cow-calf, dairy, feedlot, small ruminant, mixed), students interested in that segment can be taught the key skill components of these early in the curriculum, leaving the balance of the 4 years for them to improve their competency. Meanwhile, these students will still be enrolled in a traditional veterinary education in which clinical skills are emphasized in the final year. The problem with this traditional approach is that the student has limited time to gain experience and confidence across the broad range of clinical skills they are expected to be familiar with. We want to improve this situation. As this is not a tracking program in which a selected set of clinical skills are taught, only a very limited set can be taught early. So the first step is to identify that set in which having increased competency would make the new graduate more “practice ready”. I need your help to identify these.

For your information, I've put the somewhat dated published clinical skill rankings by practitioners on my webpage “Ag Animal Veterinary Curriculum Resources” at <http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/courses-jmgay/AgCurriculumResources.htm>:

U Illinois (Morin et al.) combined bovine skill list [pdf xls](#) (97K)

U Missouri FADACUM combined food animal competency lists [pdf xls](#) (250K)

Questions: Please answer the following, listing the 5 to 10 or so specific skills in priority order, 1 being the highest, for your segment of or perspective on agriculture animal practice.

I'll combine responses by practice type for sharing with faculty and students but otherwise they will be anonymous. In the near future I hope that we have established a mechanism for practitioners to evaluate and provide input on our entire ag animal curriculum routinely.

Practitioner Responses:

Responders - thank you very much for your time and thoughts; they are much appreciated!

Practitioner responses are categorized by emphasis – beef cow-calf (CC), feedlot (F), dairy (D), small ruminant (SR) and mixed (M). Within each category, the responses of an individual practitioner have the same bolded identifier under each question. **CC1** is the first cow-calf practitioner, **CC2** the second and so on. These are numbered approximately by the date of response. For “reader friendliness” of future drafts as more responses come in, the responses are ordered from newest to oldest. I have edited these slightly to remove identifying information, corrected the few misspellings and reformatted to make the document easier to read. If I've changed your meaning, please let me know. Otherwise, except where noted the following remain essentially verbatim. (**Note to responders:** If in doing that I've inadvertently changed your meaning, please let me know! The line numbers are temporarily present to help in this process.)