



Photos by: Kristin Natzke

Public Relations and Advertising Intern Kristin Natzke assists some customers at Wisconsin Farm Technology Days.

breeding services for A.I. Technicians and gain knowledge on reproductive services such as synchronization programs. Interns also have the chance to learn a little about sales with Accelerated Genetics farm products and the marketing of these products and services.

Never having worked for an A.I. company before, Brandon Thesing, a junior at the University of Minnesota, was interested in the Sales and Service Internship because he wanted to ‘experience being part of such a great company as Accelerated Genetics.’ During his internship, Brandon had a wide array of duties, such as covering for A.I. Technicians, running retail trucks, representing Accelerated Genetics by attending county fairs, helping with daughter pictures, and riding along with and assisting sales reps and technicians.

Having grown up on a dairy farm, he was able to put things in a different perspective and see the other side of the industry, being in sales and service, and he credits his farming background to being able to work some of the longer, harder days. Brandon said, “Not only have I been treated extremely well, working with great employees of Accelerated Genetics, but I have gained people skills, public speaking skills, improved my A.I. skills, and I’ve been able to network with other professionals and industry people.” He added, “I’ve also learned things I like and what I don’t like as well, and this is helping me realize what I’d like to pursue as a career someday.”

New to Accelerated Genetics this year was the Veterinarian Internship. Andrew Perrine, who will be attending his first year at Iowa State University’s School of Veterinary Medicine this fall, worked with the Accelerated Genetics Staff Veterinarian, Dr. Dave Brown. Andrew’s responsibilities involved special projects, animal health, blood testing, semen collections, processing of semen, and record keeping.

After talking to Roger Hanson and setting up an internship opportunity at the Iowa State University Ag Career Fair, Andrew was excited to come to Accelerated Genetics and gain experience. “I really enjoyed the experience of working with bulls and handling them, since I hope to be working with animals the rest of my life,” Andrew commented. “Dr. Brown was willing to let

me do a lot of hands-on things, from pulling blood, to sedating bulls and treating them.”

For Andrew, a new journey will begin in a few weeks as he begins his four years of vet school. “Learning how to deal with cattle, specifically bulls, has benefitted me and helped me with my career goals, and I know I’ll use this experience in the future. I will be able to put into practice what I’ve done. Although I’m not sure where life will take me, I know I want to become a large mixed animal practitioner.” Andrew added, “I enjoyed my time with Accelerated Genetics. I not only got to see how the bulls were managed, but also how people manage others. Someday I may have my own office staff, and will be able to put this into practice as well.”

On top of everything, Accelerated Genetics interns receive a broad-range of experience with all Accelerated Genetics programs and services by working hands-on or riding along with employees such as A.I. Technicians, Herd Analysts, and Sales Representatives. Most importantly, interns are welcomed with open arms and treated as a part of the Accelerated Genetics team. All of the above make an internship with Accelerated Genetics an unforgettable experience!

To apply for an Accelerated Genetics internship, or for further information, please visit www.accelgen.com/Internships.aspx. The deadline to apply for all internships is November 15, 2009.

HEARING PROTECTION FOR FARMERS

Loud noise is the most common cause of permanent hearing loss. Noise-induced hearing loss does not heal and cannot be corrected by hearing aids. No one is ever too young or old to suffer from the effects of hearing loss from noise. Protect your hearing by wearing the right personal protective equipment. Ear muffs, ear plugs and canal cups can all reduce the amount of noise exposure.

Make sure that everyone on the farm understands the effects of noise. Tell them that noise exposure can damage hearing. Space out or shorten noise-related activities. This gives your ears a rest and reduces general daily exposure. Household appliances, power tools, recreational vehicles and loud music can all damage hearing. The louder the noise the greater the chance of permanent hearing loss.

DECIBEL	EXAMPLE OF SOUND
0	Lowest sound audible to the human ear.
30	Crickets, distant frogs, whisper.
40	Kitten meowing, song birds, distant dog bark.
50	Refrigerator running, babbling trout stream, quiet empty barn.
60	Average conversation level.
70	Chicken coop, busy restaurant. At this decibel level, noise may begin to affect your hearing if you’re exposed to it over the long term.
80	Tractor idling, barn cleaner, conveyers, elevators. These noises can damage hearing if exposure to them is for more than eight hours continuously.
90	Tractor at 50% load, blower, compressor, combine. As loudness increases, the ‘safe’ exposure time decreases; damage can occur in less than eight hours.
100	Tractor at 80% load, pig squeal, power tools. Even two hours of exposure can be dangerous. With each 5 decibel increase, the ‘safe time’ is cut in half.
120	Tractor at full load, bad muffler, old chain saw. The danger is immediate.
140	Gunshot, back-fire, dynamite blast. Any length of exposure time is dangerous. At this level, the noise may actually cause pain in the ear.