

For Immediate Release
Ayrshire Breeders' Association

1224 Alton Darby Creek Rd., Suite B

Columbus, Ohio 43228

Phone: (614) 335-0020 ~ Fax: (614) 335-0023 ~ E-mail: bpayne@usayrshire.com

For more information, contact Becky Payne

US AYRSHIRE BREEDERS' FOUNDATION NEWS

COLUMBUS, OH – The US Ayrshire Breeders' Foundation reported exciting news at the National Ayrshire Convention in Oklahoma City, OK on Thursday, June 16, 2016. The Foundation, still in its infancy, has received \$53,800 in donations from individuals and businesses, and has a current fund balance over \$61,000.

The committee announced that three grants will be awarded in 2016.

The University of West Virginia will receive \$3,000 for an Ayrshire research project. The study will involve comparing feed efficiencies of Ayrshires and Holsteins in the University's dairy herd. They will also analyze DHIA test day data from herds with both Ayrshires and Holsteins to document competitiveness between breeds. The study will take approximately two years to complete.

The Foundation will award \$2,500 for the 2016 World Ayrshire Conference. Specifically the funds will be used to sponsor parts of the business and education sessions to be held on September 30-October 1, 2016 at the Dells, WI.

A grant of \$1,000 will be awarded to the Ayrshire Breeders' Association for the continued advancement of Ayrshire genomics testing.

In its reorganization meeting following the ABA's annual meeting, the committee elected Neal Smith of Smyrna, TN to serve as chairman for the next year. Sharon Tentinger of Remsen, IA will continue as treasurer. John Rodgers, Belleville, PA; John Dalton, Hartland, WI; and Doug Fenton, Winchester, OH round out the committee.