

United States Department of Agriculture

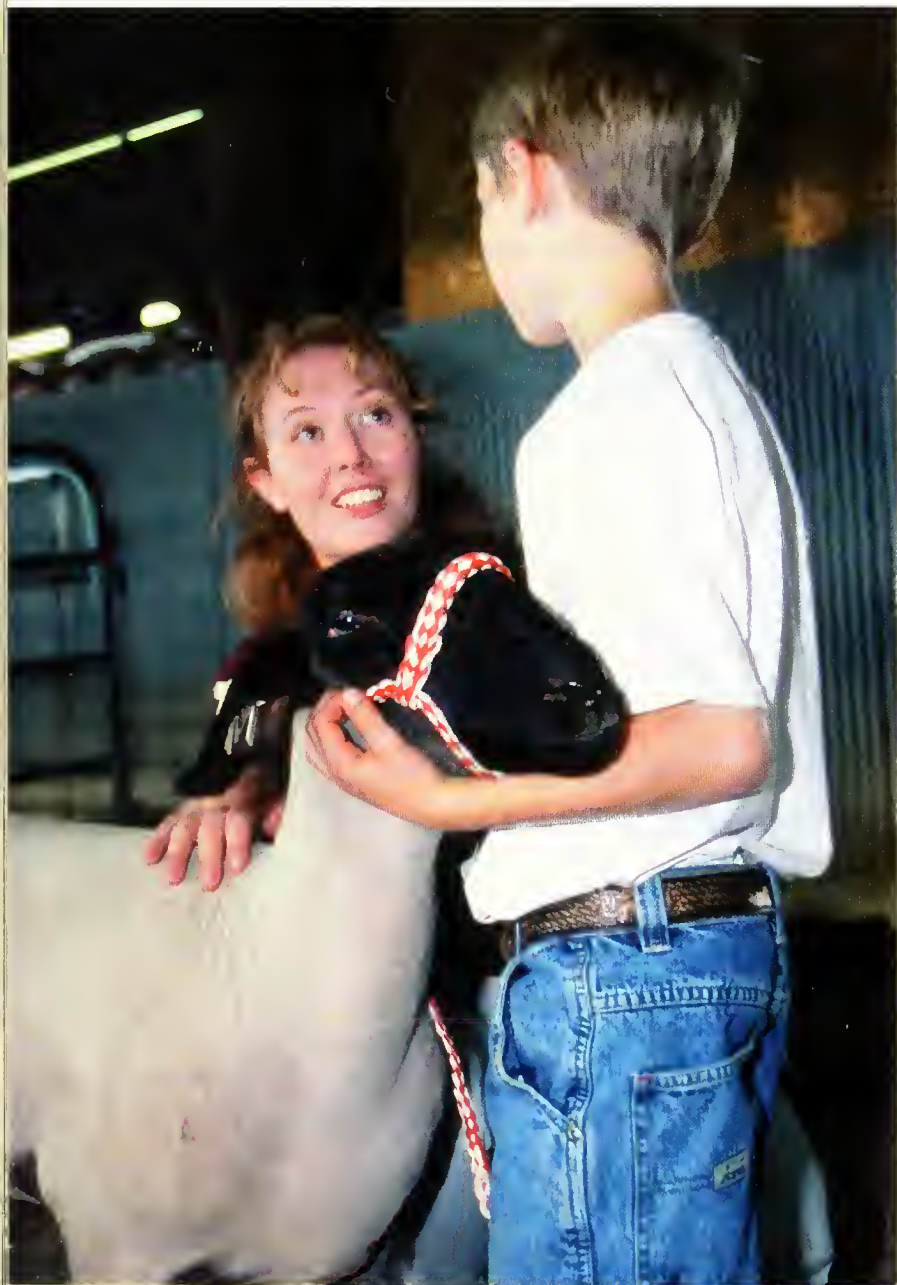
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

APHIS 91-25-002

Ag-DISCOVERY:

Investing in the Future of Veterinary
Science

June 11 – June 30, 2006



What Is Ag-DISCOVERY?

Ag-DISCOVERY is an outreach program to help teenagers learn about careers in plant science and veterinary medicine. The program allows students to live on a college campus and learn about science from university professors and practicing veterinarians and animal health technicians working for the U.S. Government. For 2006, this 3-week summer boarding program targets students 12–16 years of age who are interested in learning more about animal science and/or veterinary medicine. Students chosen to participate in Ag-DISCOVERY will gain experience through hands-on labs, workshops, and field trips. Students will also participate in character- and team-building activities and diversity workshops.

Who Is Sponsoring the Ag-DISCOVERY Program?

Alcorn State University and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)—an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)—are joining forces to sponsor Ag-DISCOVERY. Many of the Federal Government's professional veterinarians work for APHIS. The National Civil Rights Leadership Committee of APHIS' Veterinary Services program is funding Ag-DISCOVERY, and Alcorn State is hosting program participants on its campus in Alcorn State, MS. The university will make a variety of animal species available to Ag-DISCOVERY students. Every participant will work with live animals. Dr. Cassandra Vaughn, of the Alcorn Department of Agriculture, will facilitate the program.

How Much Will It Cost?

Students selected for the 2006 Ag-DISCOVERY summer session will pay only the cost of their transportation to get from home to Alcorn State for the start of the session on June 11 and back again at the end of the session on June 30. The cost of tuition, room and board, and lab supplies for the whole session will be covered by the National Civil



Rights Leadership Committee of APHIS' Veterinary Services program.

How Do I Apply?

Students between the ages of 12 and 16 are eligible to apply for admission to Ag-DISCOVERY. *Note:* You must be at least 12 and no older than 16 as of May 31, 2006.

You must submit a complete application package to USDA-APHIS **before April 28, 2006**. Packages post-marked after that date will not be accepted.



Here's what to put in your application package:

- A two-page essay entitled "What I'd Like To Know About Animal Science and Veterinary Medicine, and Why." In the essay, include information on your interests, hobbies, and plans for the future. Be sure to include your full name, age, home address, and home telephone number.
- Three character references—letters from people not related to you who know you well. At least one of the three references must come from a teacher or counselor.

Mail your completed package to:

Ms. Beatrice Jacobs
USDA, APHIS, Office of the Administrator
Civil Rights Enforcement and Compliance
4700 River Road, Unit 92
Riverdale, MD 20737-1234

In May, APHIS will notify you if you have been selected for this summer's Ag-DISCOVERY program. Meanwhile, if you'd like to learn more about APHIS or about Alcorn State, visit these Web sites:

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov>
<http://www.alcorn.edu>



Alcorn State University



Founded in 1871, Alcorn State is a historically Black college for African Americans. It is located in Alcorn State, MS, 80 miles southwest of Jackson, the State capital. The university provides students with education and training through bachelor's and master's degree programs in numerous fields of study, including the animal sciences. Alcorn currently offers a Veterinary Science option in the Animal Science discipline within the Department of Agriculture.

For More Information

To find out more about the Department of Agriculture at Alcorn State University, you may contact

Dr. Cassandra Vaughn
1000 ASU Drive
Box 750
Alcorn State, MS 39096-1500
Phone: (601) 877-6541
e-mail: cfvaughn@lorman.alcorn.edu

For additional information about the Ag-DISCOVERY program, contact

Ms. Terry Henson or
Ms. Beatrice Jacobs
USDA, APHIS, Office of the Administrator
Civil Rights Enforcement and Compliance
4700 River Road, Unit 92
Riverdale, MD 20737-1234
Phone (301) 734-6312
Fax (301) 734-3698
e-mail terry.a.henson@aphis.usda.gov
beatrice.f.jacobs@aphis.usda.gov



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Issued April 2006