



University of Missouri

College of Veterinary Medicine

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NEWS & EVENTS

CVM Student's Article Featured in Publication

An article penned by Kenton Hoernig, a second-year student at the MU College of Veterinary Medicine, was featured in the February 2014 issue of M-2 Magazine, a Belgian publication that focuses on mastitis and milk quality and serves dairy professionals. The article is a summary of Hoernig's master's thesis.

Hoernig earned his bachelor's degree in animal science from MU. He went on to complete a master's degree under the guidance of Dr. John Middleton, a professor of large animal medicine in the Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery at MU's College of Veterinary Medicine. As part of his master's thesis, Hoernig researched whether an antimicrobial fusion protein could be used to kill *Staphylococcus aureus* cells. *Staph. aureus* bacteria are a frequent cause of contagious mastitis in dairy cattle. The study used a protein from the Human Immunodeficiency Virus as a delivery mechanism to carry a bacteriolytic enzyme lysostaphin into cells in an effort to kill *Staph. aureus* sequestered intracellularly in the mammary glands of chronically infected Holstein cows.

Middleton said that the Hoernig's article was selected for publication after the M-2 editorial board asked members of a multistate mastitis research project and mastitis research workers for suggested graduate student theses for the edition. Middleton proposed Hoernig's paper, which was subsequently accepted.

Hoernig, a member of the CVM Class of 2016, serves as the captain Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital After Hours Clinic Crew. He is also a member of the Veterinary Business Management Association, Student Chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association, Student Chapter of the American Association of Bovine Practitioners, Student Chapter of the Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society, and American Animal Hospital Association. He was raised on a family farm in Perryville, Mo. He initially hoped to work with companion animals. However, his interest in food animals developed as he pursued his studies in animal science and worked part-time at the Land O' Lakes Inc. dairy, a part of Purina's Longview Animal Research Center in Gray Summit, Mo. Although he has no definite plans upon completion of veterinary school, he looks to pursue a career as a mixed animal practitioner.

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