

Scholar Profile



Abigail Morse awarded Angus scholarship.

by Taylor Edwards, intern

Abigail Morse, Madison, S.D., is one of four youth awarded the Angus Foundation's 2023 Commercial Cattlemen Scholarship. Morse attends South Dakota State University (SDSU), where she is majoring in animal science with a science specialization. She plans to pursue a career as a large-animal veterinarian, working primarily with beef cattle in rural areas.

At SDSU, she is a member of the Collegiate Cattlemen's Club and Block and Bridle. Through these groups Morse has participated in the Little International Livestock Show and helped plan the Jackrabbits Memorial calf show.

Morse says there are multiple factors that led her to choose animal science as her major, but they all stem from her passion for cattle.

"I was involved in FFA for four years and 4-H for 11 years," Morse says. "I grew up on my family's diversified farming operation, where we raise beef cattle. My passion for the beef industry developed while showing cattle and working with the cattle on our farm."

During this time, she says, she had many opportunities to expand her knowledge of agriculture through classroom and hands-on learning.

"One of the most influential experiences from these

organizations would be participating in the FFA Vet Science CDE (Career Development Event) from the time I was a freshman," Morse says. While competing in the contest, she learned more about animal health and veterinary medicine, which solidified her goal of becoming a veterinarian.

Holding many positions in her FFA chapter, Morse says the three qualities that describe her as a leader are responsible, hardworking and driven. She continues to seek opportunities to develop these skills and make industry connections.

Growing up around her family's Angus herd, Morse always had an interest in cattle.

"From calving season to vaccinations and bull sales, I always enjoyed spending time around the cattle," Morse said.

She has a deep appreciation for the ag industry and finds working with animals and maintaining animal health very important. This is what inspired her to choose an animal science major.

"I have learned an infinite number of lessons while working in the beef industry," says Morse. "Those that stand out the most to me are the value of hard work, responsibility and honesty."

For additional winners, see "Financing for the Future" in the October 2023 issue. **ABB**