Sequencing Rationale

The animal science unit on digestion will be sequenced based on the concept of student alignment. Since there will be a state standardized test at the end of the course we must meet the benchmarks it requires. There is no requirement of the order you have to teach the course; however it fits best after learning the basic knowledge of the livestock animals.

Within this unit it is crucial for the students to get a solid understanding of each system of digestion. If we dissect an animal before the students understand its parts, then there is not real education to be gained. To start with terminology of the animals and then proceed through nutrition and end with dissection would be the most logical in learning about digestive systems.

The first subunit will give students a basic knowledge and understanding of the digestive systems within each animal taught. The will learn the functions of the organs and what they look like. Students will be able to differentiate the organs and what they are composed of. It will be taught by power point so students can see and identify the organs.

The second subunit looks at what nutrition does for an animal based on the animal’s purpose. We will discuss they different purposes that animals have and how it is crucial they get the correct diet. We will balance rations for swine and determine if there are deficiencies in the feed. Students will learn how to see problems in animals that are deficient in additives and how that can be corrected. Through this subunit students will be able to understand the importance of feeding livestock an appropriate diet.

The last subunit covers dissections. Students will work in groups and dissect different digestive systems. They will dissect the individual organs and be able to understand the real look and feel of them. They will be able to compare and contrast systems between species. We will discuss each system and answer any questions students have about the digestive tracts.

Working in this logical order is the best way for students to truly grasp and understand the livestock digestive systems. Students will have an in-depth understanding of how digestive systems work and what an animal requires in order to be a productive and profitable asset to a livestock producer.