

U of A Division of Agriculture Trains National Guard Agribusiness Development Team

FAYETTEVILLE, ARK.

The Arkansas National Guard's Agribusiness Development Team 2 received training from University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture faculty members about production basics for livestock, poultry and plant crops.

This team of 12 Army and Air Force National Guard soldiers will deploy to southern Afghanistan in January to replace Agribusiness Development Team 1, which is serving now in Afghanistan. Lt. Col. George Barber, executive officer of the team, said their mission is to work with Afghan farmers to increase their produc-

tion capacity and improve the quality of their lives.

"The Afghans already have a lot of base knowledge of what works in their country," said Col. Paul Norris of the 87th troop command. "So what we try to do is find out what they're doing and try to leverage that with our knowledge and technology to try to help them."

The team, led by Col. Norris, consists of an agribusiness development section made up of a group of agriculture professionals, headquarters and a security force section. △



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