

Please register by phone, fax or e-mail so we can send you viewing materials and help you understand how to call in. Call 712-225-6196, e-mail dstender@iastate.edu, or FAX this completed form to 712-225-3173.

Name _____ Phone _____ Address _____
Town _____ ZIP _____ E-mail _____

The registration fee is covered by grant funds. Enrollment to these sessions may be limited to 20 producers

Internet hookup is recommended. The workshops will also be by phone, but visual access to the materials will be available at any high speed Internet site. If you do not have high speed Internet access and a separate phone line available, county Extension offices can help you. Mark the box below or call (712) 225-6196 if you want to find a computer to watch from a county Extension Office.

- I will link up at home with my high speed Internet and call in on my phone
- Please arrange for me to hookup at an Extension Office
- I will look at the slides on the CD (will be mailed to you) on my computer and call the toll free number to connect from home.

Questions? Contact Dave Stender at 712-225-6196 Cell 712-261-0225 or at dstender@iastate.edu



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
University Extension



University of Nebraska Extension
Practical Farmers of Iowa

MEETING WEB SITE:

<http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/niche>

Call in times (from noon to 1:30 p.m.) on the following Tuesdays:

January 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

March 3, 10

Iowa State University Cooperative Extension educational programs abide with the non-discrimination policies of the Iowa State University and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Eight Virtual Niche Pork Farm Tours Coming Your Way



**Participate at home on your
computer and phone or at your
local Extension Office**

**Tuesdays (noon - 1:30 p.m.)
Jan. 20 - March 10, 2009**

Sponsors

Iowa State University Extension
Iowa Pork Industry Center
Practical Farmers of Iowa
University of Nebraska Extension
Iowa Pork Producers Association

Funded by the Innovative Swine Industry
Enhancement Grant Program
of the Iowa Attorney General's Office

Why join these tours?

Participating will be a great way to conveniently connect with niche pork producers and see how they are managing their operation.

Each week a different farmer will present a picture tour of his operation and discuss technologies, ideas and strategies used in the operation. Emphasis will be placed on new and innovative techniques and ideas.

There also will be opportunities to discuss operation-specific solutions to challenges, and a mini discussion topic will be addressed each week. Having the opportunity to interact with others who share your interests will be rewarding and educational.

What will be involved?

Participants will view a common set of images of each farm. These images and accompanying materials will be mailed out or available to download and they will also be available on-line during the calls. (See the "How do I hook up?" section for more information.)

Host farmers will describe the images, and you will be able to discuss the pros and cons of options with your peers and university swine specialists. This type of peer-to-peer learning through shared experiences will deepen your knowledge of effective niche pork production techniques.

Who will be involved and what topics will be discussed?

Calls will be hosted by Dave Stender, ISU Swine Field Specialist, plus Gary Huber and Rick Exner of Practical Farmers of Iowa. Other specialists will include Jay Harmon of ISU, and Don Levis and Duane Reese, University of Nebraska Swine Specialists.

Iowa farms to be visited include:

- **Martin Kramer, Algona**
- **ISU Allee Research Farm, Newell**
- **Steve Howe, Thurman**
- **Dan Wilson, Paullina**
- **Tim Roseland, Gilman**
- **John Kenyon, Mallard**
- **Ron Mardeson, Elliott**
- **Tom Frantzen, Alta Vista**

Discussion topics will include:

- keeping baby pigs alive/pre-weaning sow comfort
- setting up for artificial insemination
- finding alternative feeds
- basics of ventilation
- remodeling conventional facilities for niche production
- basic principles of successful reproduction
- cost effective feeding of sows for max performance
- using records to make informed decisions

Do I need a computer?

Yes, but there are options:

- 1. Access at home through high speed Internet connection**
- 2. Access at your Extension Office**
- 3. Run the presentation from a CD (mailed in advance) and call in on your phone**

How do I hook up?

Option 1. If you have high speed Internet access and a separate phone line, you will need to open the following web page:

<http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/niche>

Then you will type in your name, enter the meeting room, type in your phone number, and the computer will automatically call you.

Option 2. Same as option 1 except at an Extension Office.

Option 3. Put the CD that you are mailed in your computer to look at the slides, and then call a toll free number to join the conference.

Note: option 3 will be slightly less interactive.

Note: You need to indicate on the registration form if you need a county office hookup.

Questions?

Dave Stender @ 712-261-0225 (cell) or 712-225-6196 (office) or dstender@iastate.edu.

Gary Huber @ 515-232-5661 (x103) or gary@practicalfarmers.org.