

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

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NEWS

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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

ISU help with financial risk and marketing strategies

On Feb. 16, ag economists and livestock nutritionists from Iowa State shared their experience and expertise on ways to manage various risk factors in livestock production via a Webcast. The program was recorded and the individual presentations are archived online for you to access. This program provides a lot of knowledge from these folks, and each of the presentations provides contact information for the speakers. If your questions aren't answered by the presentations and you don't know how to reach the presenters, let us know and we'll work to put you in touch.

Following are the names of those who presented and the links to their individual presentations. Please note that the URLs go to streaming video of each presenter and the length of each segment can be seen at the bottom left of the browser window that opens.

Introduction by John Lawrence <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p47143549/> approximately 3 min.

Chad Hart, grain economist: <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p20929927/> approximately 20 min.

John Patience, swine nutritionist <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p19019736/> approximately 21 min.

Questions for John Patience <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p52924127/> approximately 6 min.

John Lawrence, livestock economist <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p10538888/> approximately 40 min.

For those with beef operations, here are links for Dan Loy's parts of the program.

Dan Loy, beef nutritionist <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p74486283/> approximately 18 min.

Questions for Dan Loy <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p67915626/> approximately 4 min.

NEWS

No "pork checkoff" referendum this time

The request for referendum was held from December 8, 2008, through January 2, 2009, at USDA's county Farm Service Agency offices, and just 94 valid requests for the referendum were cast. According to the USDA, at least 15 percent of the country's 69,446 eligible pork producers and importers – that's 10,417 – would have needed to vote for the referendum in order for it to be held. Iowa had the highest number of "yes" votes cast at 39, more than ½ of the total. You can read more in a release and see the state-by-state results of the vote on the USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service Web site here <http://sn.im/cg5t6>

New director of operations at ISU Veterinary Diagnostic Lab

Earlier this month, ISU vet med alum Rodger Main rejoined his alma mater as director of operations at the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. Mains earned his DVM from ISU and a Ph.D. from Kansas State University, and most recently was director of production systems for Murphy-Brown. While there, he initiated the production medicine research program and assisted the company in moving its practice to evidence-based medicine. Last year he received the prestigious Allen D. Lemman Science in Practice Award for his contributions to "improving the body of knowledge related to swine health and production." You can read a news release about Mains coming to ISU on the ISU Vet Med news site here <http://sn.im/ci9p2>

Essay contest scholarships to ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences

High school freshman and sophomores who are thinking about attending ISU should consider entering an essay contest that provides scholarships to the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. A quick look at requirements:

- Topic: What Agriculture Means to Me: My Family
- Length: 500-750 words
- Due date: Postmarked by March 20
- Scholarships: First place \$500, second place \$300, third place \$200; held until student enters ISU's CALS.
- Notification: Winners will be notified by March 27, with the formal announcement and recognition of the winners on campus during VEISHEA on April 11.

Download the registration form here <http://www.ageds.iastate.edu/ISUACTEssayForm09.pdf>

Ten-year U.S. agricultural projections

Want to know where U.S. agriculture is headed? Wondering whether to plant more beans, more corn or something else? USDA has just released its latest 10-year agricultural projections. The "*USDA Agricultural Projections to 2018*" includes long-term projections developed by interrelated committees from within USDA. These projections cover agricultural crop and livestock commodities, agricultural trade, and aggregate indicators such as farm income and food prices. Check out these estimates on the USDA Web site here <http://www.usda.gov/oce>.

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IT'S A DATE

Continuing. PQAPlus certification sessions. See the IPIC web site here <http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPlus.html> for date, location and contact information.

Continuing. FSQA training and testing sessions for Iowa 4-H'ers. See the IPIC web site here <http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA09.html> for date, location and contact information

Continuing. 2009 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshops. These workshops are scheduled for January and February throughout Iowa. See the list of dates, times and locations here <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/2009ConfineSP277.pdf>

March 2, 19, 20. Advanced Swine Reproduction Seminars. Topics include case studies featuring common reproductive failures, air filters and ventilation systems, parity segregation, disease management and monitoring strategies. Registration is at 9:30 a.m. with a 10 a.m. program start. Preregistration is required to ensure pork loin lunch. For more information, contact Dave Stender at 712-225-6196 or 712-261-0225. These are three separate programs with identical content.

- March 2. Cherokee, Iowa. WIT Building. Preregister by calling Dave Stender at 712-225-6196.

- March 19. Waverly, Iowa. Civic Center. Preregister by calling Mark Storlie at 563-425-3331.
- March 20. Norfolk, Nebraska, Community College. Preregister by calling Don Levis at 402-584-3816.

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DID YOU KNOW?

Introductory RUSLE2 workshop scheduled

If you've wanted to learn how to use the RUSLE2 (Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation) and Iowa's P-index (phosphorus), but thought perhaps the concepts were too technical, an introductory workshop scheduled for April 1 in Polk County might be your answer. There is a limit of 30, so if you're a livestock producer or service provider, consider registering soon for this workshop to be held at the Polk County Extension Office. Cost is \$150 if you're registered by March 25, and goes up to \$165 for those registered after that date. The fee includes handout materials, refreshments and lunch. For more information, including a list of what you need to bring to the workshop, see this news release on the ISU Extension Web site <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2009/feb/162001.htm>

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FOR THE RECORD

Vilsack says MCOOL will happen

USDA secretary Tom Vilsack has announced that the final rule for Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (MCOOL) will go into effect as scheduled on March 16. Read the USDA news release here <http://sn.im/ciehd> He also released a letter inviting industry stakeholders (read that retailers and their suppliers) to follow additional voluntary labeling practices. Vilsack said, "I strongly support Country of Origin Labeling - it's a critical step toward providing consumers with additional information about the origin of their food. The Department of Agriculture will be closely reviewing industry compliance with the rule and will evaluate the practicality of the suggestions for voluntary action in my letter." You can read his letter on the USDA Web site here <http://sn.im/chk1e>

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NEWS NOW from the Iowa Pork Industry Center www.ipic.iastate.edu
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