

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

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NEWS

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IT'S A DATE

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FOR THE RECORD

- USDA testing confirms H1N1 in state fair pigs

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PQA Plus® Site Assessment rebates still available

Iowa producers who want to take advantage of a \$100 rebate from Iowa Pork Producers Association on the cost of a PQA Plus® site assessment should make those plans now. Tyler Bettin of IPPA says many producers already have completed their rebate forms, and a limited amount of funding remains for this first-come, first-served program. To be eligible, Iowa pork producers must have a completed site assessment done between July 10 and Dec. 31, 2009. Other requirements: limit of one rebate per production entity, the rebate amount may not be more than total assessment cost, all site status paperwork must be completed, and the rebate must be postmarked by Jan. 4, 2010. See more information, including a link to the rebate form, on the IPPA Web site here <http://sn.im/n5bcm> You also can contact Tyler by phone at (800) 372-7675 or e-mail at tbettin@iowapork.org

NEWS

ISU associate dean/ANR extension director to step down

Dr. Gerald Miller, Associate Dean for Extension Programs and Outreach (since 1998) and the Director of Extension to Agriculture and Natural Resources (since 2004) in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, will step down Jan. 31, 2010. On March 31, 2010, he plans to retire from ISU after a career spanning more than 35 years. Our congratulations and best wishes, and our thanks for your past service to ISU, CALS and IPIC.

ISU Swine Nutrition grad program off and running

With five new graduate students and a lab manager, the ISU applied swine nutrition program is focused squarely on the future. Four of the students are pursuing Ph. D.'s and one is pursuing a master's degree. With a wide-ranging mix of education and experience, the students are excited to be at Iowa State and share enthusiasm and optimistic outlooks for the future of the pork industry. John Patience provides leadership to the program, assisted by lab manager Amanda Chipman. Read more about the students and their research programs in this news release <http://sn.im/isuswinenutrstudents>

PQA Plus® Advisor certification program set for Nov. 19

Veterinarians and others in Iowa's pork industry have the opportunity to become Pork Quality Assurance Plus Advisors under the National Pork Board's PQA Plus® program. The certification process requires attendance at a daylong training session and passing an exam at the conclusion of that session. IPIC is

holding one such training Nov. 19, in the Ensminger Room here in Kildee Hall. Program leader James McKean says this is likely to be the last such training for some time, so anyone who's interested or needing to become a certified advisor should get their application form turned in soon. See more, including a link to the application form, in this news release <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2009/oct/151401.htm>

Estimated Returns tracks pig production costs

Pork producers continue to endure difficult economic times. Higher feed costs, a global recession and unwarranted trade restrictions have resulted in unprofitable conditions in 22 of the last 24 months, and losses are forecast to continue through early 2010. The ISU Estimated Returns Series is a widely recognized barometer of the industry's economic health. See links to the estimated returns to three production segments on the Web site of ISU Extension ag economist John Lawrence http://www.econ.iastate.edu/faculty/lawrence/lawrence_website/livestockreturns.htm Lawrence and ISU Extension economist Shane Ellis maintain the series.

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IT'S A DATE

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

Oct. 26. Think Tank on Animal Agriculture. The Broiler restaurant, Ames. Speaker is Dr. Max Rothschild, C.F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture and M.E. Ensminger International Chair in Animal Agriculture, with the topic, "Role of livestock in poverty alleviation." Social time 6 p.m., dinner, 6:30 p.m., program 7 p.m. Register by noon this Thursday, Oct. 22, with Julie Roberts at jrober@iastate.edu. Cost is \$15.18 for predetermined meal choices, or pre-order from the menu.

Nov. 5-6. Swine Disease Practitioners Conference. Scheman Building, Iowa State Center, Ames. Registration is \$275 after that date. Conference runs 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Nov. 5 and 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Nov. 7. For registration and more information, see the conference Web site <http://www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/swinedisease/home.html>

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DID YOU KNOW?

Burger King now has double cheeseburger

If you've been missing the double cheeseburger on McDonald's dollar menu, head on over to Burger King for your next fix. After market testing for more than a year and a half, BK's quarter-pound double cheeseburger is now available, for \$1. While that might sound like a great deal, remember that the sandwich also features 510 calories, 14 g of saturated fat, and 1020 mg of sodium. Get all the nutrition info on the BK Web site here <http://sn.im/bkdoublecheese>

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FOR THE RECORD

USDA testing confirms H1N1 in state fair pigs

An announcement today from USDA secretary Tom Vilsack confirmed that H1N1 virus was present in a pig sample collected at the Minnesota State Fair last month. Additional samples are being tested as well. According to a release from USDA, "The infection of the fair pig does not suggest infection of commercial herds because show pigs and commercially raised pigs are in separate segments of the swine industry that do not typically interchange personnel or animal stock. You can read the release here <http://sn.im/h1n1minnfairpigs> And stay tuned.

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