

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

- New look to PIG Web site

NEWS

- USDA to provide master seed virus for H1N1 flu vaccine
- Pork, Knife and Spoon blog
- H1N1 not the only reason for Chinese halt to pork imports

IT'S A DATE

- PQAPlus™ certification sessions
- 4-H FSQA sessions
- State 4-H conference and animal science Roundup

DID YOU KNOW?

- National Pork Board uses YouTube

FOR THE RECORD

- Unique transgenic pigs aid Danish scientists

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

New look to PIG Web site

There's a new look to the Pork Information Gateway Web site and you're invited to take it for a spin. In addition to a redesign, the home page now features current headline news from pork and agriculture-related media such as National Hog Farmer and Farms.com, as well as some new pull-down menu items. Also, the U.S. Pork Center of Excellence (which created and controls the PIG) has assembled a swine faculty and staff directory that lists people in teaching, research and extension positions involved with swine from throughout the U.S. If you've seen our annual "Swine Research and Extension Faculty and Staff at Iowa State University," you'll be able to navigate the USPCE listing with ease. As you peruse these sites and others, including that of IPIC ([www.ipic.iastate.edu](http://www.ipic.iastate.edu)) remember that our common goal is to provide accurate and timely information in an easily accessible format. If you have questions, comments, suggestions or concerns, look for a contact information link and share that info. We appreciate hearing from our site viewers and use your communications to help make our sites even better. Thanks in advance for helping us improve.

NEWS

USDA to provide master seed virus for H1N1 flu vaccine

The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Service's Center for Veterinary Biologics will make available the master seed virus (MSV) for the novel H1N1 flu as soon as it's fully characterized and tested. With the estimated availability of sometime next month (July 2009), the vaccine could be ready for use on swine by this coming November or December (2009). USDA officials said that by providing all interested vaccine manufacturers with the MSV that's already been through the CVB testing, those manufacturers will have a quicker timeline to market with their products. Read more in this USDA news release.

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2009/06/h1n1vac.shtml>

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Pork, Knife and Spoon blog

Co-written by the husband and wife team of chef Daniel Fitzgerald Ahern and author Shauna James Ahern, the blog feature recipes, explanations, and descriptions of pork cuts and products. Its informal style, along with the requisite personal family updates, makes it easy to read and enticing enough to mark and return often. See it here <http://sn.im/ja2la>

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H1N1 not the only reason for Chinese halt to pork imports

Although China banned U.S. pork imports earlier this spring purportedly because of fears about the H1N1 influenza situation, there's more at work in that country. A short article on the Xinhua News Agency Web site shows that the Chinese government is buying and stockpiling domestically produced pork because of an oversupply. May prices fell 32 percent. Read more in the article here [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-06/15/content\\_11546373.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-06/15/content_11546373.htm)

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**IT'S A DATE**

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

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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.

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June 30-July 2. Iowa State 4-H Youth Conference with the theme "Voyage to Greatness" and Animal Science Roundup, both on the ISU campus, Ames. IPIC offers three pork-related workshops for the 4-H conference and also will provide a session for swine roundup attendees.

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

National Pork Board uses YouTube

Known as a place where anyone can post videos on virtually any subject, YouTube is helping National Pork Board's Pork Checkoff get the word out when it comes to pork. The channel is known as The Other White Meat YouTube Channel and is available at this URL

<http://www.youtube.com/user/nationalporkboard> Currently, the site is inviting viewers to submit their own videos in its "Search for the Next Pork Personality contest." Three finalists will meet and compete in a live grill-off in New York, where Celebrity chef Guy Fieri will decide who goes home with the \$5,000 top award and a Char-Broil® grill.

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**FOR THE RECORD**

Unique transgenic pigs aid Danish scientists

This litter of nine chocolate brown colored pigs born in late March at Aarhus University in Denmark looks good enough to eat, but that's not in their future. Instead, these cloned transgenic pigs will help Aarhus Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and Aarhus University Hospital physicians learn more about arteriosclerosis and cloning techniques. The pigs contain the human PCSK9 D374Y gene which can affect cholesterol level, an important factor for arteriosclerosis. Take a look at the photo of these deep brown pigs and learn more in this release on the Aarhus Web site <http://sn.im/jfd1w>

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**NEWS NOW** from the Iowa Pork Industry Center [www.ipic.iastate.edu](http://www.ipic.iastate.edu)

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