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- Iowa State 4-H Youth Conference, Roundup
- Lauren Christian Pork Chop Open

DID YOU KNOW?
- New European pig veterinarian group formed

FOR THE RECORD
- Large farms benefit neighboring small towns in Iowa

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Iowa State accomplishments
ISU has been front and center with some notable accomplishments by animal science graduates and staff recently, including one of my Science With Practice students you “met” in this newsletter: Justine Hosch. Justine and fellow spring animal science graduates Garrett Skaar and Lee Christensen received the Undergraduate Travel Award at the American Meat Science Association Reciprocal Meat Conference held this past week at Texas Tech University. Also, some pigs exhibited by Iowa State at the 2010 World Pork Expo earlier this month not only were selected as champions, but sales of two were new records. ISU had both the champion and second in class gilts which sold for $5100 and $10,500 respectively, both records. And the champion Berkshire boar (also from ISU Swine Teaching Farm) sold for $50,000. You can see a photo of the prize boar and the farm staff here http://www.ans.iastate.edu/index_img/Boar.jpg

It's evident that we raise great livestock and nurture great students at Iowa State!

NEWS
June Hogs & Pigs report numbers
The latest USDA quarterly Hogs & Pigs report issued Friday showed total inventory down 4 percent from a year ago, but up 1 percent since March 1. Breeding inventory and March-May pig crop had similar results compared with a year ago: both down 3 percent. Market hogs were down 4 percent from 2009, and up 1 percent since March. Two other interesting numbers: 1)The average pigs saved per litter was a record high 9.81 for the March-May period compared to 9.61 last year, and 2)Total number of hogs under contract owned by operations with over 5,000 head but raised by contractees, accounted for 44 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory, down from 46 percent last year. Read more in the text format of the report here http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/HogsPigs/2010s/2010/HogsPigs-06-25-2010.txt

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Science-driven Solutions
This is the theme for the 2010 Allen D. Leman Swine Conference set for mid-September in St. Paul, Minn. Conference website, including links to invitation, video introduction to conference keynote speaker Jon Foley of UMN’s Institute on the Environment, and participant registration is here http://www.cvm.umn.edu/vetmedce/events/adl/home.html
PRODUCTION TIP
PORK Academy seminars online
Attending seminars is a great way to keep current on the information, rules and regulations you need to know to run the best operation you can. But finding time to attend those seminars is often easier said than done. Case in point: topics for seminars at each World Pork Expo are chosen with producers in mind, and many attend the event with those sessions at the top of their to-do lists. However, the trade show and exhibitor displays draw attention, too, and rightfully so. So this year, National Pork Board has made available in .pdf version nine PORK Academy seminars on its website. To view the list and watch or download these files, go to http://www.pork.org/Resources/990/PorkAcademy2010.aspx

IT’S A DATE
Continuing. FSQA training and testing sessions for Iowa 4-H’ers. See the IPIC web site here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA10.html for date, location and contact information.
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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.
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June 29 – July 1. Iowa State 4-H Youth Conference with the theme “Set the Stage” and Animal Science Roundup, both on the ISU campus, Ames. IPIC offers three pork-related workshops for the 4-H conference. See more about the conference here http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/StateConference/
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July 20. Lauren Christian Pork Chop Open. Veenker Memorial Golf Course and Farm Bureau Pavilion, ISU campus. Ames. Golf begins at 10 a.m. at Veenker and dinner is at the Pavilion at 5 p.m. New this year: silent auction at the Pavilion. Cost is $85 per person or $340 per four-player team, with registrations due July 6 or when the 32-team field is filled. Evening-only activities are $25 per person. Registration form is here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/events/LCPCObrochure10.pdf.

DID YOU KNOW?
New European pig veterinarian group formed
Pig veterinarians in Europe have started the process of developing a new professional organization, “European Association of Porcine Health Management (EAPHM)” with plans to host EAPHM’s first symposium in 2011. A news release on the Pig Veterinary Society website says the objectives of the new group are, “… primarily educational to increase contact and interaction across an increasingly borderless Europe but also to represent its interests and views on increasingly important aspects of welfare, health and production that are on the horizon.” Read more in the release here http://www.pigvetsoc.org.uk/news/index.php?id=86

FOR THE RECORD
Large farms benefit neighboring small towns in Iowa
To some Iowans it might be surprising, to others it’s just common sense: residents of small Iowa towns (defined as under 10,000 people in these specific studies) see quality of life as positively affected by nearby large-scale agriculture. One city per county was chosen based on size, non-adjacency to a large city and primary job and income reliance on agriculture, and 150 randomly selected households in or near each of those cities were surveyed. ISU sociologist Stephen Sapp and associates also looked at economic and social data in those towns over the 10-year period from 1991-2004. “Our study focused entirely on effects of a larger scale of agriculture,” Sapp said. “We might anticipate that communities with the presence of both large- and small-scale agriculture would likely benefit the most from overall farming practices, but we don’t have the data to look at those relationships.” What did they find? For the
most part, Sapp said, incomes rose, poverty rates declined, crime rates declined, infant mortality declined, unemployment declined and gaps between rich and poor closed in association with increases in the scale of agriculture in the counties. The study was funded by USDA's National Research Initiative, and Sapp hopes to be able to repeat the study in 2014. You can read more in a news release on the ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences website here http://www.soc.iastate.edu/newsletter/sapp.html

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