THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
- Cooperation is key

NEWS
- More pigs and pork in Viet Nam
- Animal health advisory committee seeking members

PRODUCTION TIP
- Sign up for VetsWeb.com

IT’S A DATE
- PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions
- Lauren Christian Pork Chop Open
- Leopold Center pre-proposal RFP due

DID YOU KNOW?
- New USDA knowledge-based search engine

FOR THE RECORD
- Tail biting among piglets

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Cooperation is key

Our partnership with Iowa Pork Producers Association is vital: IPIC faculty and staff serve on IPPA committees and IPPA is part of our advisory board. Thanks to this cooperative effort, pork producers and others affiliated with the industry in Iowa have easy access to the opportunities that we offer together and individually. This ongoing collaboration is highlighted in an article in the spring 2010 issue of the ISU College of Agriculture and Life Sciences’ STORIES magazine, featuring IPIC director John Mabry and IPPA producer education director Tyler Bettin. Learn more about how fortunate both entities are to have the other as a true partner in the article here IPIC and Iowa Pork Producers Association featured in spring 2010 ISU CALS Stories magazine here http://cl.lk/tws10calsstories. The rest of the magazine issue is available through links from that page, too. Thanks to our colleagues at IPPA for working with us every day.

NEWS
More pigs and pork in Viet Nam
An official with Viet Nam’s Husbandry Department says that country’s pig herd will increase to more than quadruple its current 8 million head in just the next three years. To accomplish that, breeding farms in selected areas need to be established, as well as better connections between all farms and modern slaughterhouses. The United Nations’ Food and Agriculture Organization says it’s ready to help. However, until responsibilities throughout the pork production chain are clarified and farmers receive and adopt modern processes, the anticipated growth might not occur. Read more in this article on the View Nam News website http://cl.lk/nmmoreporkinvn

---

Animal health advisory committee seeking members
A new national animal health advisory committee has been established and nominations for membership are being accepted. Members will serve two-year terms on the USDA-based committee which is charged with advising Ag Secretary Tom Vilsack on actions necessary to prevent, conduct surveillance or monitor and control or eradicate animal diseases of national importance. Consideration will be given to nominations received on or before Aug. 2. Nominate yourself or someone else by submitting contact information by mail to Michael R. Doerr, chief operating officer, USDA’s Animal and Plant health Inspection Service, veterinary services program, 4700 River Road, Unit 58, Riverdale, Md. 20737 or by e-mail to Michael.R.Doerr@aphis.usda.gov
PRODUCTION TIP
Sign up for VetsWeb.com
Keeping abreast of the latest news and information on animal health can be time consuming, but we know it’s important. One way to help yourself to current news on a worldwide basis is by subscribing to Vets Web. Informing and connecting veterinarians worldwide, the website also provides a newsletter to which anyone can subscribe. This weekly e-newsletter is provided by Reed Business of The Netherlands, with sign-up information here http://www.vetsweb.com/newsletter/

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.

---
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, and evening-only activities are $25 per person. Registration form is here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/events/LCPCObrochure10.pdf.

---
Aug. 16. Pre-proposal deadline for Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture's summer 2010 RFP. See the RFP on the Center's site http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/research/rfp/2010RFP.pdf for more information. Submissions are due by 5 p.m.

DID YOU KNOW?
New USDA knowledge-based search engine
There’s a brand new search engine waiting for all your USDA-related questions. “Ask the Expert” combines information from various existing USDA knowledge systems, including AskKaren from Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and AskFSA from Farm Service Agency. With a starting point of nearly 2,000 questions and answers, you’re more likely than not to find answers to your questions. Some of the specific knowledge areas are: animal assistance, energy and environment, food and nutrition, and rural and community development. Give it a try at http://www.usda.gov/askexpert

FOR THE RECORD
Tail biting among piglets
Recent research by scientists at Wageningen University in the Netherlands appears to show that female piglets are more likely to tail bite than male piglets. This specific study expanded typical past research focus on external factors, by looking at tail damage development over time. Researchers studied the gender effects on tail damage development in single- or mixed-sex groups of weaned piglets, and used four treatment categories: (1) all-male groups, (2) all-female groups, (3) males in mixed-sex groups and (4) females in mixed-sex groups. During the observation period, tail damage (recorded as no damage, bite marks or tail wound) of 700 weaned piglets was scored three times per week for 32 days. And even though results showed females were more likely to tail bite compared to male piglets, at the end of the observation period, all groups had similar levels of tail damage. You can read more about the study on the VetsWeb website here http://www.vetsweb.com/news/more-tail-biting-among-female-piglets-1260.html

NEWS NOW from the Iowa Pork Industry Center www.ipic.iastate.edu
Editor Sherry Hoyer, phone 515-294-4496, shoyer@iastate.edu
Find and follow IPIC on Twitter at http://www.twitter.com/IowaPorkCenter @IowaPorkCenter