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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Hot weather reminders
Heat and humidity in Iowa is nothing new. But the ordinary can become extreme, especially when livestock is concerned. Keep an eye on the forecast and be sure maintenance on ventilation equipment, waterers and feeders is up to date. Check emergency generators and alarms. Review emergency procedures with employees – both for the animals and themselves. Take rest breaks and have plenty of water available for those working in the buildings. For more information, see these links.

- Heat stress information from ISU’s Ag and Biosystems Engineering department. (http://www3.abe.iastate.edu/livestock/heat_stress.asp)
- Heat and humidity chart for grow-finish hogs from ABE. (http://www3.abe.iastate.edu/livestock/swine.gif)
- Animal comfort and care from National Hog Farmer. (http://cl.lk/heatipic710)

NEWS
Chris Tuggle is 2011 Fulbright Scholar
ISU animal science professor Chris Tuggle has been named a Fulbright Scholar. As such, he’ll spend January to July 2011 with the Roslin Institute in Edinburgh, Scotland. He’ll work with colleagues from around the world on developing systems biology tools for increased understanding of disease resistance. As one of 135 participants in the 2011 program, he’s the only U.K. Fulbright scholar from ISU. Read more in this news release on the ISU CALS website http://www.ag.iastate.edu/news/releases/871/

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Corn and soybean production forecasts on the way
This year’s first USDA survey-based yield and production forecast for the 2010 corn and soybean crops will be released in the August 12 Crop Production” report by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). The reports, which continue through November, are compiled using information from two sources: a random sample of growers asked to report expected yields, and a random sample of corn and soybean fields used for objective plant counts and measurements for calculating yields. About 800 Iowa farmers will be contacted, and 290 Iowa corn fields and 210 soybean fields will be sampled during the growing season. You can learn more about this and other NASS-related information on the Iowa-specific web page here http://www.nass.usda.gov/ia
PRODUCTION TIP
Full value pigs™
At this year’s World Pork Expo, Dennis DiPietre presented a session on “Full Value Pigs™.” Now, he’s launching a newsletter published by Elanco Animal Health dedicated to that topic. DiPietre said getting more money for more of one’s pigs is everyone’s goal, and hopes that this free newsletter “FVP Practitioner” is a great way to learn more about the idea, and understand how to set and achieve reasonable FVP goals with better management skills. To sign up, go to this URL https://www.fullvaluepigs.com/default.aspx and enter the required information. If you have questions, contact DiPietre by e-mail at dr.dipietre@fullvaluepigs

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.

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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?
ISU Research Farms annual reports online
Annual reports of research conducted at the 12 Iowa State Research and Demonstration Farms are now available online in a new database. Articles are organized by research farm, university departments, broad research categories and more specific topic categories. This new site also allows a user to “save” selected articles into a personal binder, which includes an individual table of contents. Read more about the online features in this release http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2010/jul/161501.htm and learn more about the farms and their organization here http://www.ag.iastate.edu/farms/

FOR THE RECORD
GIPSA extends comment period
The comment period regarding conduct in violation of the Packers and Stockyards Act for regulations required by Title XI of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 has been extended to Nov. 22, 2010, according to a news release today. The proposed rule was published in the June 22, 2010 Federal Register and originally included a comment period ending Aug. 23. National Pork Producers Council and other entities requested more time to review and provide comments on the proposed rule, saying in part that it included provisions difficult to enforce and didn’t adequately define various terms, processes and prohibitions. Read more in the USDA release, and visit related links on this page http://cl.lk/gipsacomments0710

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