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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Honors and awards galore!
As the school year winds down, honors and awards for IPIC and ISU animal science folks mount up. Organizations, groups and events provide a variety of recognition to faculty and students. Here are some of the most recent:

- Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Society of Agriculture: these five animal science faculty members were recognized. Mission Award, Teaching - Curtis Youngs; Mission Award, Research - Elisabeth Huff-Lonergan; Mission Award, Extension - John Patience; Alumni Award of Merit - Maynard Hogberg; and Distinguished Achievement in Agriculture - Susan Lamont.

- ISU awards: University honors program award for excellence in honor mentoring/advising - Curt Youngs; and from division of student affairs, Wilbur Layton Faculty Recognition award - Howard Tyler,

- American Society of Nutrition: Peter J. Reeds Young Investigator award - Nicholas Gabler.

- Southeastern Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest – ISU Meat Judging Teams (two) finished in third place and fourth place overall in a field of 11 teams comprised of 49 individuals. Results included two top finishes in overall beef and pork judging, and two second place finishes in beef grading and beef judging.

NEWS
NPB requests funding applications
On an annual basis, the National Pork Board requests funding proposals in a variety of areas for research pertinent to pork products and pork production. This year, the specific areas included in these requests are: Environment, Swine Health, Pork Safety, Human Nutrition, Nutritional Efficiency and Sow Lifetime Productivity. All proposals must be submitted via the NPB website no later than May 24, 2011. Decisions will be made in late July 2011 with successful applicants notified in late August. Project funding will start Oct.1. To learn more, including details on how to submit and contact information for each specific area, visit the NPB website here http://www.pork.org/Research/499/ResearchRFP.aspx

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Best Iowa breaded tenderloin contest under way
The Iowa Pork Producers Association’s annual “Best breaded tenderloin in Iowa” contest is in full swing, and you’re invited to submit a nomination for your favorite now. If you don’t have a favorite, start checking out area restaurants, cafes, and other eating establishments. Perhaps you’ll find the best! The rules are simple: “Any café, restaurant or tavern that serves breaded pork tenderloins is eligible to be nominated. An establishment must receive three nominations to be considered for the top prize. Owners and operators are prohibited from nominating their own establishment. Nominations are limited to one per household and all nominations must be received no later than June 10, 2011. Read more on the IPPA website here http://www.iowapork.org/Newsroom/NewsForProducers/2011TloinContest/tabid/1961/Default.aspx or go directly
PRODUCTION TIP
Making “sort loss” pay
“Sort loss” is the discount a producer receives for each pig marketed above or below a packer’s preferred market weight range. Reducing or eliminating sort loss results in more income received from each truckload of hogs. Methods to reduce sort loss include more frequent marketing, weighing pigs (or using auto-sort) and minimizing genetic variation. Sometimes it is necessary to retrain one’s eye to see the appropriate market weight range.

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/FSQA11.html for date, location and contact information

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.

June 8-10. World Pork Expo. Des Moines, IA. See more here http://www.worldpork.org/

DID YOU KNOW?
Pigs to help power plant
According to an article on the Iceland Review website, the first power plant in Iceland which will use biological waste to produce methane is scheduled to open by the end of next year. The “waste” will come from the farm of pork producer Stjörnugrís and energy company Metanorka will use it to produce methane which could power up to 1,000 vehicles. Read more here http://www.icelandreview.com/icelandreview/daily_news/Icelandic_Pigs_to_Power_One_Thousand_Methane_Cars_0_377200.news.aspx

FOR THE RECORD
Web viewers from the South Pacific
More than two-thirds of the 91 countries represented by IPIC web site viewers in March visited our site more than once. That’s good news because single visits – by anyone – can mean an accidental visit or a search result that wasn’t what the viewer wanted. Multiple visits can mean that not only are people finding what they want, they’re returning to learn more. The most interesting country name this month? Tuvalu. According to the CIA’s World Factbook, this country was granted independence in 1978. Population is approximately 10,500 with a fairly even split between male and female citizens. If you want to read more about this South Pacific Island country, go here https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tv.html

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Editor Sherry Hoyer, phone 515-294-4496, shoyer@iastate.edu
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