THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
- Congratulations from IPIC

NEWS
- Safety first, and always, with deep pits
- IPPA gift for ISU Agriculture Pavilion project

PRODUCTION TIP
- Production or show?

IT'S A DATE
- PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions
- Allen D. Leman Swine Conference
- Pork Month
- International Conference on Feed Efficiency in Swine

DID YOU KNOW?
- Just the facts on meat, animal science and food safety

FOR THE RECORD
- 2011 Cyclone and Hawkeye Tailgate Challenges

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Congratulations from IPIC
At IPIC, we enjoy being able to recognize our colleagues and co-workers when they are honored by others. In this NEWS NOW, we congratulate Jay Harmon and Max Rothschild. Jay, with agricultural and biosystems engineering, received the Henry Giese Structures award and was named an ASABE fellow at the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers annual international meeting held last month in Kentucky. Max, C.F. Curtiss Distinguished Professor in Agriculture in ISU’s animal science department, is a member of a research team that received an award for technology transfer related to pig genomics. His team -- the Swine Genome Sequencing Consortium -- developed the SNP (single nucleotide polymorphism) chip for pigs. The chip allows breeders and breeding companies to employ “genomic selection,” a method to estimate the breeding value of each animal based on these individual gene differences. The team received the award last week.

NEWS
Safety first, and always, with deep pits
Foaming pits are not new, yet exact cause(s) remain elusive to researchers. The number of reports of foaming pits increases this time of year, likely due to the fact that foaming is more noticeable as it nears the building pit slats or starts coming through those slats. The foam can act as a barrier to the natural release of methane that is generated in the pits, and when the foam is broken it can cause a rapid release of the methane potentially causing an explosive situation. The foam surface can be broken or disrupted by a variety of reasons including pig activity, power-washing, and pumping and agitation. Along with the rapid release of methane, broken foam also can cause interference with normal ventilation procedures. As always, use caution when pumping and agitating from all manure sources, especially foaming pits. An Iowa State University video on safety considerations when pumping from foaming pits that was first made available last year has been updated. Take time to watch the video http://www.vimeo.com/15463270 and, if your operation has foaming pits, please complete the survey at the video’s conclusion. For more information and links to other foaming pit resource websites, visit the Iowa Manure Management Action Group’s website here http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/

IPPA gift for ISU Agriculture Pavilion project
Iowa Pork Producers Association is a thoughtful and consistent co-sponsor of many of our educational and information programs here at IPIC. The announcement today of a $200,000 commitment by IPPA to the planned ISU Agriculture Pavilion is another example of that group’s generosity. IPPA president Leon Sheets said the gift will help ISU and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences continue to enhance educational and outreach in animal agriculture. “The Agriculture Pavilion will enhance the educational opportunities for those people who will be Iowa farmers in the future and those people who will be providing important services to Iowa’s farmers,” he
The all-weather heated pavilion, with its arena, classrooms and animal holding areas, will serve a broad array of multiple teaching and public events. Four energy-efficient classrooms accommodating up to 35 people each will be constructed beneath the arena seating area. The project is still in the fundraising stage, with a goal of raising $7 million. To date, the project has raised over $3.5 million. The facility will be built on a site south of campus near other campus animal science teaching and research operations.

PRODUCTION TIP
Production or show?
Agricultural youth programs like 4-H and FFA are great venues for engaging youth in the pork industry. However, the idea of competition in the show ring occasionally overtakes the educational value. IPIC supports numerous youth and collegiate swine activities and encourages all producers to embrace the concept of preparing the next generation of pork producers and instilling proper education and production components to youth swine projects. Show day is only a success if all participants have an industry learning experience.

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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October. Pork Month!

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Nov. 8-9. The International Conference on Feed Efficiency in Swine. Hilton Hotel/Qwest Center. Omaha, Neb. Cosponsored by Iowa State University and Kansas State University. See more information, including registration and lodging details on the event website http://www.ans.iastate.edu/ICFES/

DID YOU KNOW?
Just the facts on meat, animal science and food safety
If you’re looking for a meat and animal science website that’s short on hype and long on facts, you’ll want to check out the Meat Mythcrushers website. Provided by the American Meat Institute and the American Meat Science Association, this website http://www.meatmythcrushers.com/ helps consumers understand the science behind the sensational media pieces in an easy-to-understand manner. From videos to brochures, the site offers a variety of web-based resources with answers to today’s questions. Meat Mythcrushers is also on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/meatmythcrushers

FOR THE RECORD
2011 Cyclone (and Hawkeye) Pork Tailgate Challenge
Ladies and gentlemen: start your grills for this year’s tailgate competition, brought to you by the Iowa Pork Producers Association. In this autumn event, sponsors IPPA, Fareway Stores and Chairman's Reserve Premium Pork invite everyone to enter up to two of their favorite pork recipes in either the Cyclone or Hawkeye Pork Tailgate Challenge. Each person may enter two recipes in any of three categories, but entries are limited so register soon. Categories are loins, ribs, and any other cut. Prizes range from $300 cash, autographed team football and 4 tickets to a later season game for the grand champion to $50 in pork coupons for third place. The Cyclone competition will be Oct. 1 at Jack Trice Stadium with entry deadline of Sept. 23. More info and registration link here http://www.iowapork.org/Newsroom/NewsForProducers/2011ISUPorkTailgateChallenge/tabid/1683/Default.aspx The Hawkeye competition is Oct. 15 at Kinnick Stadium with entry deadline of Oct. 7. More info and registration link here http://www.iowapork.org/Newsroom/NewsForProducers/2011HawkeyePorkTailgateChallenge/tabid/2088/Default.aspx
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