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Congratulations to ISU judging teams

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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

Congratulations to ISU judging teams

- The ISU Livestock Judging Team competed on an individual basis at the Premier Stockman contest in Auburn, IN Oct. 16. Fourteen universities were represented by 87 contestants and ISU was represented well by the following. Kyle Dice was high individual overall, reasons winner and sheep winner, and Cole Danner was 4th overall and 2nd in reasons.
- The ISU Meat Judging Team competed at the 2011 American Royal Intercollegiate Meat Judging Contest in Omaha, NE, finishing 9th overall and the alternate team was 4th in the alternate division. Here are the team placings: pork judging-3rd, beef judging-5th, sixth in reasons-6th, overall beef-8th, total placing-9th, and beef grading-10th. Individual placings: Chelsey Branderhorst, Prairie City: lamb judging – 4th; pork judging – 4th; pork judging – 7th; and total placing – 10th; Sara Morine, Lamont: reasons – 3rd and pork judging – 9th; and Chris Sievers, Albert City: pork judging – 4th and reasons – 6th. Other team members were Daweyn Albertson, Toledo; Sandy Dion, Columbus Junction; Andrew Filipi, Davey, NE; Amanda Houge, Las Vegas, NE; and Heidi Reynolds, Rockwell City. The team is preparing for their national championship to be held Nov. 13 in Dakota City, NE.
- The horse judging team participated in the All American Quarter Horse Congress in the limited division. Monica Madsen was 1st in the halter division and 4th overall. Liz Sample was 2nd in the halter division and Sarah Tenley was 1st in performance and was the high point overall individual. The team will attend two more contests this fall: the Quarter Horse World Show and the NRHA Futurity.

Continued good luck to all involved!

NEWS

Every day is food day

Even though Oct. 24 was designated Food Day by Center for Science in the Public Interest, Miss America 2011 Teresa Scanlon says every day is Food Day for America’s farmers and ranchers. In fact, she teamed up with Animal Agriculture Alliance to create a one-minute video encouraging people to celebrate the hard work of U.S. agricultural providers. In the video, she explains that many don’t understand where their food comes from and encourages people to appreciate those who provide safe, abundant and affordable foods. You can see the video on the Animal Agriculture Alliance’s webpage here http://www.youtube.com/animalagalliance A related website with more info is http://www.realfarmersrealfood.com/

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Al Christian honored
The ISU swine teaching farm has a new name, honoring former farm manager Al Christian. A sign with the new name was unveiled at the annual Animal Science Department’s Chuckwagon breakfast on Oct. 22. Located south of Ames, the farm is an educational laboratory where hundreds of animal science students learn about taking care of pigs and about life. Al came to work for ISU in 1959 and retired in 2010. Our congratulations to Al! You can read more in this release on the ISU CALS website http://www.ag.iastate.edu/news/releases/982/

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NSIF internship applications due soon
Applications for internships in four areas at the National Swine Registry for current college students are now being accepted. The requirements (college age level, major, technology and interpersonal skills, etc.) vary according to specific area: pedigree department, field staff, marketing and communications, and National Junior Swine Association. The internships run from May through August 2012, and all have Dec. 1 application deadline. Read more about the internships, including description, job requirements, qualification and application needs, on the NSR website here http://www.nationalswine.com/Home_pages/Internships.html

PRODUCTION TIP
Crossbreed or purebred – find them here
What makes up a pig? Most pigs produced today are of a hybrid background. However, the base genetics still matter as each breed contains certain production and quality differences. Knowing the breeds can help one meet niche market needs and also plan for maximum heterosis. For a listing and review of 72 of the world’s swine breeds, along with photos of most, see: http://www.ansi.okstate.edu/breeds/swine/

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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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/

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Nov. 15. Pork Quality Assurance Plus® Advisor Certification session. VDPAM Conference room, 2215 Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center, ISU, Ames. Applications due Nov. 8. $75 fee per approved applicant is due by session time. Download the application form.

DID YOU KNOW?
Chicory: boar taint preventative?
Scientists at Aarhus University in Denmark are studying the herb chicory and how it affects boar taint. Previous studies have shown that feeding pigs this herb can replace castration, but the actual mechanisms involved are yet to be identified. The practice of feeding chicory for 14 days prior to slaughter (to avoid boar taint) is not yet widespread, primarily because of the high cost. Metabolism of chicory or specific compounds in chicory is somehow improved, including indications that the substance can decrease aggression in male pigs. The project is financed through support from the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries and ag company DLG. You can read an article about the research on the Pig Progress website here http://www.pigprogress.net/news/aarhus-uni-chicory-may-be-the-answer-to-prevent-boar-taint-in-pork-7883.html?cmpid=NLCPig%20Progress%202011%20Aarhus%20Uni:%20Chicory%20may%20be%20the%20answer%20to%20prevent%20boar%20taint%20in%20pork

FOR THE RECORD
Get your flu shot
It’s that time of year – advertisements for flu shots are everywhere. We’re reminded that while the flu is contagious, it can be prevented by getting the current vaccine at the right time. The National Pork Board also reminds us those who have contact with pigs can help protect human AND pig health by getting the seasonal flu vaccine as soon as possible. Because this year’s flu is very similar to last year’s, the vaccine is the same as well. And because immunity tends to diminish over time, it’s important to get this year’s vaccination now. Using good ventilation hygiene practices on the farm and having sick-leave policy that encourages folks with flu-symptoms to stay home will help reduce transmission of the illness. You can read more about flu on the Centers for Disease Control website http://www.cdc.gov/flu/protect/keyfacts.htm and in this factsheet on the NPB website http://www.pork.org/pig/NEWfactSheets/13-06-01g.pdf

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