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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

ISU CVM Science with Practice award to Howard Hill
During the 19th annual Swine Disease Conference for Swine Practitioners held earlier this month at ISU. ISU alum Howard Hill was honored for his dedication to the swine industry in general and his impact on the Iowa pork industry specifically. He was named the recipient of the Science with Practice Award from the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine, which recognizes exemplary integration of science and the art of veterinary practice to benefit swine productivity and welfare. IPIC associate director and conference chair James McKean presented the award. “Dr. Hill has worked for his entire career to put swine practice and pork producers in the forefront of science and its practical application. He represents the practical demonstration of what this award recognizes. He has been pivotal in Iowa and national disease control and eradication efforts in both the production and program development arenas.” After earning his master’s and Ph.D. degrees in veterinary microbiology at ISU, he became head of the microbiology section of the ISU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. He then worked for Murphy Family Farms and currently is with Iowa Select Farms. He’s continued to be involved with professional organizations, including the American Association of Swine Veterinarians, National Pork Board and National Pork Producers Council, and was appointed earlier this year to the USDA Advisory Committee on Animal Health. Our congratulations to Howard on this award for his work with and for Iowa pork producers and the pork industry.

NEWS
Leopold Center director candidates on campus
The interview process for the director of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at ISU is under way. The three identified candidates are Abdullah Jaradat of USDA’s North Central Soil Conservation Research Lab, Thanos Papanicolaou of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Iowa, and Mark Rasmussen of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Veterinary Medicine. Candidates are on campus for two days and each presents a seminar open to the public. These seminars (Nov. 28, Dec. 1, and Dec. 5 respectively) will be recorded and available for viewing from archive links on the Leopold Center website. Read more about each candidate and view archived presentations here http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/about/director-search

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Pork donated to food pantries and organizations
Nearly 55 tons of pork loin is being donated to community organizations, food pantries and banks in Iowa this holiday season by the Deb and Jeff Hansen/Iowa Select Farms Foundation. Iowa Select employees are delivering loins directly to 30 Iowa communities and areas in Nebraska and southern Minnesota. In cooperation with the Iowa Food Bank Association other deliveries are directed to food bank locations in Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska.
PRODUCTION TIP

Manure applicator certification requirements

If you have more than 500 animal units in confinement you must meet manure applicator certification requirements to land-apply manure coming from these facilities. It doesn't matter if the manure is liquid or solid. If you have 500 or less animal units in confinement or you have an open feedlot, manure applicator certification requirements do not apply. This means if you have more than 500 head of beef cattle, 357 head of mature dairy cows, 1,250 finishing hogs or the equivalent numbers of poultry in confinement housing you need to become certified. Certification is accomplished in one of two methods: you can attend the required 2 hours of annual training at your local county extension office, OR you can make an appointment at the local DNR field office to take the certification exam. A list of 2012 training dates offered by ISU Extension and Outreach is available at: http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/confdates.html. For more information contact your local county extension office or visit the Manure Applicator Certification Web page at: http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html

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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Dec. 6-8. Managing Margins: Risk Management for Pork Producers. 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at all locations. Held in Sheldon, Nashua and Iowa City respectively. $10 per person when preregistered, or $15 at the door. Contact IPPA’s Tyler Bettin at tbettin@iowapork.org to preregister.

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January – February 2012. Iowa Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshops. See interactive map and list of dates and locations here http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/confdates.html

DID YOU KNOW?

Learning about liquid feeding

A University of Guelph researcher provided intriguing information about liquid feeding of swine at the International Conference on Feed Efficiency in Swine cosponsored by ISU and KSU in early November. Case de Lange told attendees that while liquid feeding might not be common in the U.S., it is being used successfully elsewhere. In fact, nearly 20 percent of Ontario’s pigs are raised on liquid systems. They allow control and flexibility in developing unique feeding programs, with good records, positive environmental impact and profits, de Lange said. One important factor: the size of a feeding operation has little to do with its efficiency. The conference was a kickoff event of the 5-year USDA-AFRI grant focused on swine feed efficiency, led by John Patience of ISU. Read more about this specific presentation on the Midwest Producer website here http://www.midwestproducer.com/news/livestock/liquid-swine-feed-gaining-in-popularity/article_11469c8e-1062-11e1-ade5-001cc4c002e0.html

FOR THE RECORD

Canadian sow numbers hold steady

For the first time in six years, Canadian breeding sow numbers appear to have stayed steady over the past 12 months instead of decreasing. This was according to the quarterly Canadian pig breeding inventory as of Oct. 1. The national sow herd of 1.29 million and the total on-farm inventory of 12 million were very similar to the same period in 2010, but both account for the lowest October numbers in more than 10 years. You can read a short article on the Watt AgNet website here http://www.wattagnet.com/146603.html You can view, download and print