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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
ISU alum never stops learning
ISU animal science alum and former IPIC advisory board member Steve Kerns is featured in the summer 2011 edition of STORIES, the alumni magazine for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. In the article, Steve explains how ISU mentors helped him discover and redefine his passion for innovative practices and opportunities in the agriculture world. One comment is especially revealing: “I learned early on in my career to always be looking forward. I've tried to be at the forefront of adopting and adapting new technology or the next generation of ideas. Attending meetings, serving on a variety of advisory boards for industry and education and networking with people in and out of the swine industry is valuable.” We appreciate Steve's past experience on our board and look forward to working with him in the future. You can read the entire article at this URL http://www.ag.iastate.edu/stories/2011/06/enacting-the-entrepreneurial-nature-of-ag/

NEWS
How one producer benefits from biogas production
For nearly a decade, Danish hog producer Jens Peter Lunden has been making a profit by operating a GrønGas A/S biogas plant. Since 2002, Lunden has sold off the excess heat generated by the anaerobic digestion plant to a nearby district heating company, generating electricity for the National Grid in Denmark and while reducing his farm’s carbon footprint. He raises 900 head annually, has 500 hectares of crops and is planning to install a second biogas unit next year. To learn more about what he’s done, how it’s working and what he thinks about the future, see this article on the Pig International website http://www.piginternational-digital.com/piginternational/20110506_1#pg16

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The search is on for next Leopold Center director
ISU has begun a nationwide search for the next director of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture. President Geoffroy has appointed ISU Vice President for Research and Economic Development Sharron Quisenberry to lead the 10-person search committee which includes representatives from ISU, Iowa Department of Natural Resources and private individuals. The research and education center comprises statewide programs to develop sustainable agricultural practices that are both profitable and conserve natural resources. Applications are due Oct. 1, with interviews expected in November. Geoffroy will select the new director from a list of
candidates from the board. You can read more in this news release from the Leopold Center
http://www.ag.iastate.edu/news/releases/944/

PRODUCTION TIP
Walking the pens
An essential element in pig management is a daily walking of the pens. A good caretaker walks the pens and
interacts with the pigs routinely. This includes checking the barn daily for observations of every pig, checking and
adjusting waters and feeders, and looking for and treating unthrifty/sick pigs.

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

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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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June 28-30. Iowa State 4-H Youth Conference, “Aiming for Adventure.” ISU campus, Ames. IPIC will offer two
pork-related workshops to conference goers. See more on the conference website here
http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/StateConference/

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June 30. IPIC Advisory Board meeting. Kildee Hall, ISU campus. Ames.

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July 12. PQAPlus® Advisor Recertification session. For those who were certified during the initial training period
in 2007-2008. Cost is $50 per person. See the news release at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/article/pqa-plus-
advisor-recertification-session-july-12 for more info, including a link to the registration form.

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Register yourself or your team for golf ($85/person OR $340/team) or the evening meal and program
($25/person) using this form: www.ipic.iastate.edu/events/LCPCObrochure11.pdf

DID YOU KNOW?
International hog market prices at just one click
The IPIC website links to a listing of international hog markets and prices. The page is provided by pig333 and
includes, “… the latest prices and the historical evolution of the most important swine markets. The prices can be
seen in different currencies (the conversions are made according to the exchange rates of each date.)” If you
want to make comparisons of markets, years and currencies, you’ll need to register (it’s free) and sign in. The
page is linked from here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/topics.html#marketing under Other Websites and Resources.
Look for “Worldwide Markets and Prices.”

FOR THE RECORD
Figuring your operation’s carbon footprint
Announced during this year’s World Pork Expo, the National Pork Board now offers a “swine carbon footprint
calculator.” The term carbon footprint refers to the measurement of greenhouse gases produced, and is
measured in units of tons (or kg) of carbon dioxide equivalent. From the main page on the NPB website
(http://www.pork.org/Resources/1220/CarbonFootprintCalculatorHomepage.aspx) you can order a new copy of
the calculator, learn what data from your operation you need to use the calculator, read through FAQs and see
ways to help reduce your operation’s carbon footprint. You can learn more about “carbon footprint” here
http://www.carbonfootprint.com/carbonfootprint.html)