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- Iowa Pork Congress focuses on your needs

FOR THE RECORD
- Iowa 5th Congressional district is #1, for now

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Seasonal thoughts
It’s December and that means lots of reminders, thoughts and wishes are in store. First, a reminder that NEWS NOW is not sent at the end of the calendar year, so this is the final issue until 2013. We enjoy bringing a bit of news to you the rest of the year and hope you’ll consider sharing your email copy of the newsletter or sending on the URL for the newsletter archive on the IPIC website http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/newsreleases.html#newsnow

Second, as flu season swings into full gear, producers and those who work with pigs are reminded that it’s not too late to get a seasonal flu vaccination. Iowa State University Extension swine veterinarian James McKean said the vaccination helps protect both people and animals. In addition to getting vaccinated, the use of good ventilation and hygiene practices can help reduce transmission of flu and other viruses on the farm. IPIC associate director and ISU Extension swine veterinarian James McKean said people who are shedding the virus can transmit the virus to animals, so policies for keeping acutely infected humans apart from pigs should be considered. And, because people can remain contagious for up to a week after being sick, it’s imperative for everyone over the age of 6 months to receive an annual flu vaccination.
Finally, remember that even though NEWS NOW takes a break, IPIC continues to be available to you as usual, by phone (515-294-4103 or 800-808-7675—Iowa only); e-mail (ipic@iastate.edu) or fax (515-294-5698.)

NEWS
$2,500 Scholarship for outstanding pork industry youth
NPPC invites applications for the 2013 Lois Britt Memorial Pork Industry Scholarship Program. This scholarship program was introduced in 1990 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of live hog futures and is sponsored by the CME Group. It recognizes outstanding youth in the pork industry and provides four $2,500 scholarships to college students who intend to pursue a pork industry-related career. Application postmark deadline is Jan. 4, 2013, so encourage qualified students to submit their materials soon. This page on the NPPC website has all the details http://www.nppc.org/programs/scholarships/

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Future DGS prices and uses
In this month’s Renewable Energy & Climate Change Newsletter from the Agricultural Marketing Resource Center (AgMRC), retired ISU university professor Robert Wisner provides historical and marketing information on availability and pricing of distillers grain and solubles (DGS) in the U.S. and abroad. Bottom line: as global feed grain supplies remain tight, DGS availability decreases and pricing increases. But, many plants are installing technology to remove corn oil from DGS. This alteration in nutritional values could make the producer more valuable to the beef industry. Read the entire article on the AgMRC website http://www.agmrc.org/renewable_energy/agmrc-renewable-energy-newsletter/?distillers_grains_and_solubles_its_role_in_the_livestock_industries&show=article&articleID=954&issueID=238

PRODUCTION TIP
Take care of business, and yourself
With winter comes shorter and darker days. We often start chores in the dark and finish in the dark. Did you know that decreased exposure to sunlight can lend itself to seasonal depression and mood variation? Be sure to take time to enjoy family and extracurricular activities during the coming holidays and winter season, and remember that enjoying time off the job can help with better productivity on the job. The Iowa Concern Hotline offers information, assistance and referrals for a variety of areas. You can call the toll-free number 800-447-1985, chat online through the website http://www.extension.iastate.edu/iowaconcern/ or browse through the wealth of resources linked from the site.
IT’S A DATE
Continuing. PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions. See the IPIC website here for date, location and contact information.

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January – February 2013. 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

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Jan. 4. Commercial manure applicator training. No cost but you must preregister by Dec. 28 by calling the location you plan to attend. More info here http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/confdates.html

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Jan. 23-24. Iowa Pork Congress. Iowa Events Center, Des Moines. See more information on the event website http://www.iowaporkcongress.org/

DID YOU KNOW?
Iowa Pork Congress focuses on your needs
The 2013 Iowa Pork Congress is about 6 weeks away – just enough time to finish all the family and social obligations of the holiday season before turning your thoughts toward the new business year. The Jan. 23-24 event includes a variety of seminars and educational sessions, ranging from regulations and sow housing options to economic outlooks and pit foam updates. ISU Extension swine program specialists will offer PQAPlus and TQA certifications, and this year’s schedule presents the Lauren Christian Endowed Lecture on Swine Reproduction by Billy Flowers and Jason Ross. See all that’s on the schedule and who will be part of the trade show on the event website http://www.iowaporkcongress.org/

FOR THE RECORD
Iowa 5th Congressional district is #1, for now
With changes in population, the district boundaries were redrawn and the number of districts decreased from 5 to 4. But here’s a different look at the value of Iowa’s current congressional districts. The National Pork Producers Council compiled a listing of the dollar value of pork production in the top U.S. states, and guess what? Iowa’s 5th congressional district is tops in the country, selling $1,586.8 million of pork products in 2012. Coming in second was Iowa’s 4th congressional district which sold $1,505.1 million of pork products. With the redistricting, it’s certain that there’ll be a new top district next year, but to see current numbers and to find out more about hog production in congressional districts in Iowa as well as other states, go to this page on the NPPC
website http://www.nppc.org/pork-facts/ and scroll down to “Top Pork Producing States.”

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NEWS NOW from the Iowa Pork Industry Center www.ipic.iastate.edu
Editor Sherry Hoyer, phone 515-294-4496, shoyer@iastate.edu
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