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- UK producers want to invest in better facilities

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Lauren Christian Pork Chop Open is June 26
The 2013 Lauren Christian Pork Chop Open is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, and registrations are starting to come in. Remember that this is several weeks earlier than usual. This is the day before Iowa State’s annual Iowa Swine Day in Ames. Cost of the golf tournament and golf associated activities remains the same as the past several years at $85 per person -- that’s $340 per four-person team -- and the registration deadline is June 12 or when the field of 32 teams is reached. The 18-hole best ball tournament has a shotgun start at 10 a.m. and includes lunch at the golf course. Following the tournament, there’ll be a short reception and awards program. Winners of the Lauren Christian undergraduate and graduate scholarships for 2013 also will be honored during the program. The registration form is on the IPIC website here http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/events/LCPCO2013brochure.pdf Don’t delay!

NEWS
PQA Plus 2.0 advisor certification sessions filling quickly
Do you need to be initially certified or recertified as a Pork Quality Assurance Plus 2.0 advisor? If so and if you want to attend a session sponsored by IPIC, you’ll need to act quickly. Each session has a 15-person minimum and a 30-person maximum, with a
deadline two weeks prior to the specific session date, or when filled. No walk-ins are allowed for any of the sessions and individual spots for all sessions are not guaranteed until specific payment is accepted by IPIC. Initial certification is $75 per person and recertification is $50 per person. You can read more in this news release http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/news/pqaplus2sessions2013.html and find session-specific information, including forms and available spots, on this webpage http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/pqaplus2.html

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These bugs may be good for pork production
Coming soon (maybe) to a hog operation near you: larvae of the Black soldier fly, the Common housefly and the Yellow Mealworm. A recent study by researchers from Wageningen University and Research Centre in the Netherlands shows that using insects in pig (and poultry) feed is technically feasible, and these larvae are most promising for large scale production. And similar to most any type of production, the use of insects needs increased scale of production, continuous quantity and consistent quality, as well as lower input costs in order to be a realistic choice in the future. You can read more about the study in this article on the Wageningen University website http://www.wageningenur.nl/en/show/Insects-as-a-sustainable-feed-ingredient-in-pig-and-poultry-diets-1.htm

PRODUCTION TIP
Health and disease management
Both new and reemerging diseases can have devastating impacts on the health and well being of a herd. It also creates stresses on labor and the operation’s bottom line. Take time to be sure that you have the most current biosecurity, vaccination and treatment programs available by maintaining a routine and regular working relationship with your veterinarian. And, be sure you have the staff, labor, technology, commitment and capital to withstand the impacts of disease.

IT’S A DATE
Continuing. PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions. See the IPIC website at www.ipic.iastate.edu/events.html for date, location and contact information.

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Continuing. Food Safety Quality Assurance trainings for Iowa youth. See the IPIC website at www.ipic.iastate.edu/events.html for date, location and contact information.

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June 27. Iowa Swine Day. Scheman Building, Iowa State Center, Ames. Cost is $60 when registered by June 14. See details and registration links http://www.aep.iastate.edu/iowaswineday/homepage.html

Sept. 9-12. SafePork 2013. Portland, Maine. Early registration (July 15 deadline) is $450 per person, increases to $575 after then. IPIC associate director James McKean is conference chair and Annette O’Connor from ISU’s VDPAM is scientific chair. See conference information here http://www.safepork2013.com/

DID YOU KNOW?
ISU researchers looking at seasonal infertility
Two ISU animal science faculty members are leading a study of seasonal sow infertility that has taken an unusual focus. Aileen Keating and Jason Ross are looking at the possible role of insulin in the problem, estimated to have a $60 million annual impact in Iowa alone. The $53,000 one-year grant is funded by Iowa Pork Producers Association. Read more in this ISU release http://www.ag.iastate.edu/news/releases/1097/

FOR THE RECORD
UK producers want to invest in better facilities
A recent survey of pork producers about investment in facilities has mixed results. Completed by the British Pig Executive (BPEX), the study shows many buildings are at least two decades old. And while producers would like to invest in newer, more efficient facilities, they currently don’t have the financial means to do so. One key finding according to an article on the Pig Progress website is that 90 percent of the sampled farms want to invest in new buildings because their current facilities are not ideal. http://www.pigprogress.net/Growing-Finishing/Management/2013/4/BPEX-Producers-cant-invest-in-pig-buildings-1239431W/ You can download and read the entire survey report on the PBEX website here http://www.bpex.org.uk/Article.aspx?ID=302909

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