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- Heat stress app just in time for summer

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- FSQA training sessions for Iowa youth
- Lauren Christian Pork Chop Open
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DID YOU KNOW?
- Agricultural Health Study follow-up survey coming soon

FOR THE RECORD
- Tastier, juicier pork in Sweden

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Heat stress app just in time for summer
It’s nearly the official start of summer, yet so far we haven’t had many consecutive days of high temperature and humidity levels in Iowa. That’s good for people and for pigs. We know those stretches are coming, however, and remind you of the need to be adequately prepared. The production tip below has one such reminder, and here’s a bit of info on a new app on heat stress available for use by the livestock industry. “The Heat Stress in Livestock and Poultry App” allows the user to calculate heat stress based on measured barn temperature and relative humidity. It then offers suggestions on reducing heat stress and improve comfort. The app works in English, French and Spanish for 7 types of livestock, uses two-degree temperature increments and five-degree humidity changes (both in metric and English measurements); includes a variety of ventilation systems and offer practical actions to reduce heat stress. It’s available from the OMAF and RA (Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food and Ministry of Rural Affairs) and the University of Guelph, and best of all -- it’s a free download! Take a look at the download informational page, especially at the screen shots, and give it a try. https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=ca.uoguelph.cmer.heatstress
Leopold Center invites pre-proposals for research and projects
Director Mark Rasmussen says the Leopold Center is looking for a few good ideas, and invites people to consider submitting a pre-proposal for the center’s Summer 2013 round of grants. With three focus areas (and several portals within those) there are a wide variety of opportunities for collaborative work between Iowa non-profits and individual/private business entities. A systems approach is preferred and the center encourages participation by those who are interested in any of the topics. Deadline for submitting the pre-proposals is July 19. Information on the program, including focus areas, topics, managers and submission is available on the Leopold Center website here http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/grants/rfp

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Glass walls project features pork and beef plants
The American Meat Institute (AMI) has created print and video tours of typical pork and beef plants, to provide accurate information on the slaughter process in U.S. meat packing plants. Colorado State University animal science professor Temple Grandin was on site during the filming of the videos and does the narration for these tours. You can watch the pork plant video and learn more from a variety of links on this page of the AMI’s animalhandling.org website http://animalhandling.org/ht/d/sp/i/80622/pid/80622

PRODUCTION TIP
Keeping pigs cool
Summer is coming and with that, the time to start keeping pigs cool “within their thermal neutral zone.” A common means of cooling finishing pigs and sows is by sprinkling or misting. If you use sprinkling, periodically evaluate and adjust the sprinklers’ on-off times to ensure that the pigs or flooring are almost dry before being rewetted. The cooling effect is accomplished by the evaporation process, not the initial wetting.

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. PQA Plus® 2.0 Advisor trainings. See the IPIC website at www.ipic.iastate.edu/pqaplus2.html for dates, locations and registration deadlines.

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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.
June 26. Lauren Christian Pork Chop Open. Veenker Memorial Golf Course, Ames. Registration is $85 per person ($340 per four-person team) until limit of 32 teams is reached.

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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

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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?
Agricultural Health Study follow-up survey coming soon
Beginning this month, a follow-up survey will be mailed to all Agricultural Health Study (AHS) participants. More than 40,000 people completed the most recent one and investigators are looking for even greater participation this time. AHS is a large, long-term study of farm families and pesticide applicator and their spouses that began in 1993. Study leaders want to have complete records on everyone, so if you've participated in the past but haven't continued with the surveys for whatever reason, contact the lead committee. To find that information or to learn more about the study, findings, publications, etc. visit the website at http://aghealth.nci.nih.gov/

FOR THE RECORD
Tastier, juicier pork in Sweden
With the advent of “designer pork” in Sweden, that country’s pork consumption may soon be on its way up. HKScan says Swedish sales of the “Rapsgris” brand of pork has two advantages (claims) that are helping increase sales in retail stores and restaurants. Read this article on the Watt AgNet website site to learn more about what’s making the meat a healthier choice for consumers http://www.wattagnet.com/159005.html

NEWS NOW from the Iowa Pork Industry Center www.ipic.iastate.edu
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