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- Swine health management programs

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- PQA Plus® 2.0 Advisor trainings
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- Safe Pork 2013
- Allen D. Leman Swine Conference

DID YOU KNOW?
- Wood chips and sawdust: not just for bedding anymore?

FOR THE RECORD
- Is this bacon? Uhhh…

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Swine health management programs
A series of swine health management programs has been set for four Iowa locations. IPIC, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, and IPPA are offering these free sessions that will focus on PEDV, PPRS, residue and inspections, and financial implications of short corn supply and future hog demand. There’s no preregistration necessary, just attend the location of your choosing. Dates, locations and times are Monday, Aug. 26, Sheldon, 1 to 4 p.m.; Wednesday, Aug. 28, Carroll, 1 to 4 p.m.; Friday, Aug. 30, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, Sept. 3, 1 to 4 p.m. See more information in this release on the IPPA website http://www.iowapork.org/News/4116/IPPAtoupdatehogfarmersonswinehealthmanagementissuesatconferences.aspx

NEWS
Bananas to aid in PRRS fight
Researchers from the National Taiwan University have developed a type of transgenic banana that will vaccinate swine against PRRS (porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome.) Pigs eat the raw bananas, which contain some of the virus genetic material as part of the fruit’s chromosome, thus ingesting the vaccine in a convenient and safe manner. Co-leader of the research team Huang Pung-ling says patents already have
been granted in Taiwan, the U.S. and mainland China. You can read more in this article on the Taiwan Today website http://taiwantoday.tw/ct.asp?xItem=207524&CtNode=436

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Staying up-to-date on information that affects your life and your business takes time -- often time that you don't have. CAST (Council of Agricultural Science and Technology) is changing that. If you have 2 minutes to spend on accessing information any time of day or night, you need to know about Ag quickCAST -- a new publication series from CAST. Each publication focuses on a companion CAST document, and is done in an easy-to-read or skim format with topic sentences, bullet points, expert contacts list and a link to the full version publication. The list of Ag quickCAST pubs is at the top of the list on the left http://www.cast-science.org/publications/

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PRODUCTION TIP
On “your” farm research
Successful farmers try new things every year, whether that be new genetics, new feed ingredients, new management practices, or new equipment. Nothing is more valuable than taking public or private products and research, and placing them in your farm’s real-world conditions. Tried something before with insignificant or ill-measured results? ISUEO swine program specialists in your area can gladly help you design and monitor a valid on-farm trial. Talk with your specialist today.
http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/whoweare.html

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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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Aug. 6-27. (Tuesdays.) Animal Science Research webinars. No cost online sessions offered by National Pork Board. All sessions start at 1 p.m. central time. Register here http://www.pork.org/Resources/2456/AnimalScience.aspx

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Sept. 9-12. SafePork 2013. Portland, Maine. Registration is $575 per person. 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/

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DID YOU KNOW?
Wood chips and sawdust: not just for bedding anymore?
A cattle cloning specialist in Taiwan has switched focus recently and if his work is successful, producers might need to re-think using wood-based bedding. Tunghai University professor Cheng Teng-kuei said his team has isolated five gut bacteria from termites and spliced the enzymes into rats. These enzymes can break down cellulose, a primary component of wood. The first litters of transgenic rats were born this summer, leading to cautious optimism about splicing the genes into pigs. Eventually, these transgenic pigs could eat diets including wood waste that would decrease odorous manure. Read more in this Taiwan Today article http://taiwantoday.tw/ct.asp?xItem=207623&CtNode=436

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FOR THE RECORD
Is this bacon? Uhhh…
The MacKnight Food Group, Inc. of Florida is offering a new twist on one of America’s favorite foods, but purists might turn up their noses. According to the company’s website, the new “salmon bacon” is rich in Omega 3 and full of antioxidants. While some current articles say the product is new, the company website has a 2011 date. It also isn’t complimentary of pork bacon. In any case, I think I’ll stick with the real thing. The pictures are intriguing, though. http://www.macknight.com/pictures-2011-02.aspx

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