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DID YOU KNOW?
- Just in time for holiday gift giving (or maybe not)

FOR THE RECORD
Final NEWS NOW for 2014

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Congratulations and welcome

Congratulations to animal science professor Christopher Tuggle, who has been named a 2014 Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. This award honors Tuggle specifically for “distinguished contributions to the field of animal genetics and genomics, particularly for the application of transcriptional profiling to study networks controlling porcine immune response.” He’s developing a unique line of immunodeficient pigs as a model for biomedical research. An immunodeficient pig model would be valuable in testing vaccines and cancer drugs, and in improving therapies for people with immune deficiencies. You can read more in a CALS news release here http://www.news.iastate.edu/news/2014/11/24/aaas14

And, welcome to Chris Rademacher who has been hired as swine extension veterinarian through the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine. He comes to ISU from Murphy-Brown where he most recently worked with the MBMO division in Princeton, Missouri. As swine extension vet, he will continue his focus and interest in using research methodologies to answer specific health and production questions and work with existing faculty and staff to disseminate that information broadly to swine veterinarians and others in Iowa’s swine industry. Read more in this CVM news release http://vetmed.iastate.edu/news/Rademacher
News
Worth of water
Water is vital to life, but it’s also pretty important for other aspects of pork production including waste management and facility maintenance. An article in Pig Progress by Professor Peter Brooks of the UK offers reminders on knowing what to do and not do in terms of water consumption (whatever the source), and ideas on how to use that knowledge to conserve usage while improving production. Read more in the article at http://www.pigprogress.net/Growing-Finishing/Nutrition/2014/12/Saving-water-without-compromising-pig-welfare-1656231W

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You want numbers? Check out Pork Stats
National Pork Board’s publication, “Pork Stats” was updated in late November, and has a wealth of information on all facets and segments of the pork industry. Formerly known as Pork Quick Facts, this 43-page pdf publication can be saved to your computer or printed for sharing. Or you can bookmark the web address and return as often as you like http://www.pork.org/pork-quick-facts/ You can find productivity benchmarks, nationwide illustrations of hogs and pigs inventory, slaughter capacity, seasonal price indexes, per capita meat consumption and expenditures, impacts and influences of Canada pork production, and more. Additional numbers and more historical data are in the 2013 version of Quick Facts that’s linked from the same page listed above.

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Risk and Reward of Livestock Production conference set
The Coalition to Support Iowa’s Farmers will host its annual conference Friday, January 23, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Quality Inn & Suites in Ames. The conference theme, “The Risk and Reward of Livestock Production,” will feature breakout sessions with several farmers who have found unique opportunities in the livestock industry. It also will include a panel of experts focusing on the financial feasibility of raising livestock today and what lenders are looking for in potential borrowers. No cost to attend, but preregistration is required. For more information and coming preregistration information, visit the CSIF website. http://www.supportfarmers.com/Programs/farming-for-the-future-conference

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Production Tip
Taking care of business means taking care of 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 lead 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, look through the lists of “Frequently Asked Questions,” chat online through the website http://www.extension.iastate.edu/iowaconcern/ or browse through the wealth of resources linked from the site.

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IT'S A DATE
Continuing. PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions. See the IPIC website at http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPlus.html for dates, locations and contact information.

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Jan. 6, 2015. Iowa Commercial Manure Applicator training. 9 a.m. to noon in Iowa county extension offices, plus one Minnesota location and two Wisconsin locations. Must register by Dec. 30. See the list here.

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Jan. 9, 2015. Come and go reception for former IPIC director John Mabry. Stop by 109 Kildee Hall and wish him well on his final day before retirement at ISU. Specific time to be determined, but plan on late morning.

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January to February 2015. Iowa Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshops. See the brochure with list of dates and locations. Call the ISU County Extension and Outreach office where you plan to attend for exact locations and times, and weather-related changes to the schedule.

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DID YOU KNOW?
Just in time for holiday gift giving (or maybe not)
James Henderson of Concord, Virginia, claims to have uncovered one of the world’s best-kept secrets for skin care: pig lard. Henderson, a hog farmer, said pig lard is good for treating acne, wounds, and burns in addition to its cooking capabilities. Along with assistance from essential oil experts, researchers, and biochemists, Henderson has launched the “HealFast” company. You can read more in this news release http://washington.cbslocal.com/2014/12/02/farmer-launches-skin-care-line-made-of-pig-lard/ or visit the Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/HealFastBody or check out the products and ordering info on the company website http://healfastbody.com/
FOR THE RECORD

One more NEWS NOW in 2014

It’s December and that means seasonal notes 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 2015. We enjoy bringing a bit of news to you the rest of the year on a regular basis 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, remember that even though NEWS NOW takes a break, IPIC continues to be available to you as usual, by phone at 515-294-4103 or 800-808-7675 (Iowa only); e-mail ipic@iastate.edu and fax at 515-294-5698.

Finally, our warmest wishes for a great holiday season and good start in 2015. May your choices and decisions bring peace, prosperity and well-being to your family and your operation.

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