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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Keeping pigs cool and comfortable

One look at the thermometer today and you know it’s summer in Iowa. Temperatures in the mid to upper 90s, heat indices well over 100, and loads of humidity to boot. While it’s always important to follow a regular maintenance and check-up schedule for the fans and fan belts in your operation’s buildings, now is also time to check on the inside temperature, sprayer system and wellbeing of your pigs. IPIC interim director Jay Harmon says it’s the combination of air movement and wetting of the skin that helps pigs “keep their cool” during the extreme heat of summer. Because pigs can’t sweat like humans, using sprinklers to wet their skin acts like sweat. And the air movement aids in evaporation of that wetness, which leads to cooler skin temperatures and more comfortable animals. You can see more information from Jay including links to online resources in this IPIC news release http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/news/pigcomfort2014.html

NEWS
How-to's for PEDV reporting
In June, USDA announced a Federal Order that mandates reporting of PEDV and other swine corona (SECD) viruses. Now there are instructions and more information on how to do that reporting. Go to this page on the USDA-APHIS website to learn about SECD, herd plan requirements, animal movement documents and
Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act to President
With the U.S. Senate's passage last week, the Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act is headed for the President's desk and consideration. For at least the past 5 years, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has been telling vets they are not allowed to take controlled substances out of their registered locations. In most cases, this is the vet office or clinic. This meant veterinary practitioners were not legally able to have those substances at on-site visits, emergency situations, animal shelters, or even wildlife rescue or removal. The U.S. House already passed the bill, so all that's left is the President's signature. Read more in this article on the AVMA website http://atwork.avma.org/2014/07/16/veterinary-medicine-mobility-act-heads-to-the-white-house/

IPPA seeking statewide nominations
The Iowa Pork Producers Association is looking for the best representatives of Iowa’s pork industry and you’re encouraged to help. Nominations for 2014 Master Pork Producer, Master Pork Partner, and Environmental Steward awards are being accepted through Aug. 18. Master Pork Producer began in 1942 and as a joint effort between IPPA and ISU Extension and Outreach, it recognizes Iowa producers with expertise in their segment of the production cycle. Master Pork Partner is new, also a joint offering with ISUEO, that will recognize industry influencers employed in production who might not be involved in on-farm daily roles at specific farms. More info for both is on the IPPA website here http://www.iowapork.org/ProducerResources/1162/MasterPorkProducerNominations.aspx#.U8anAo1OUq0
Environmental Steward recognize producers who are proactive leaders in environmental stewardship. See more on the IPPA website here http://www.iowapork.org/ProducerResources/1163/EnvironmentalStewardNominations.aspx#.U8anHY1OUq0

PRODUCTION TIP
Weaning time takes good management
Weaning time is a potentially stressful event for both the sow and the piglets. Tips for managing the weaned pig include assisting and teaching good feeding behavior. By 36 hours after placement in the nursery, most pigs will have found water and started to exhibit feeding behavior. This is a critical time to identify pigs that lack such behavior or are becoming dehydrated, so maintain appropriate levels of management and supervision of pigs. For those piglets having difficulty, this may involve hand feeding pellets or using a gruel until the desired actions are evident and part of daily activity.
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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July. Iowa Pork Summer Conferences. Offered by Iowa Pork Producers Association, Pork Checkoff and IPIC. Speakers are Eldon McAfee (environment, nuisance, inspections) and Butch Baker (PEDV Update) Free to those who preregister two days ahead of location date by calling IPPA at 800-372-7675 or emailing lcremenson@iowapork.org $5 fee for walk-ins. All sessions run 1 to 4:30 p.m.
  • July 15. LeMars Convention Center, 275 12th St. SE, Le Mars
  • July 17. Swan Lake Conservation Education Center, 22676 Swan Lake Dr., Carroll
  • July 22. Delaware County Community Center, 709 W. Main St., Manchester
  • July 23. Washington County Extension Office, 2223 250th St., Washington
  • July 24. Dows Community Center, 119 E. Ellsworth St., Dows.

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Aug. 7-17. Iowa State Fair. "Nothing Compares"

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Aug. 20. Biofilter Conference. Iowa State University. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration is $50 when done by Aug. 12; increases $20 after that date. See more info on the conference website http://www.aep.iastate.edu/biofilter/

DID YOU KNOW?
ISU Research Farms 2013 progress reports available
The collection of Iowa State University Research and Demonstration Farms provides opportunities for scientists, student and members of the general public to try, see and evaluate a variety of research in crop, soil, water and animal agriculture. Of the 13 total farms, local nonprofit associations of farmers and business people own or lease either, and the state of Iowa owns the remaining five. The associations lease their farms to the ISU Experiment Station. Farm product sales offset research costs with the Experiment Station being responsible for the remaining operating costs of each farm. Research results are completed annually and available on the farms website. The 2013 reports are now available — as are those from 2000 to 2012 — through links from this page http://www.ag.iastate.edu/farms/progress_report.php
FOR THE RECORD
Strong pork export levels continue
According to the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF), pork export volumes in May exceeded 2013 totals and value by double digits. Pork exports showed a 4 percent increase from a year ago and a 19 percent increase in value to just under $600 million. A big part of the reason for these levels is Mexico. It had the largest monthly volume (up 8 percent) since January as well as an all-time value record of $138.8 million — up 45 percent. South Korea, Japan, and Colombia also contributed to the higher numbers. Read more in this release on the USMEF website http://www.usmef.org/news-statistics/press-releases/momentum-remains-strong-for-u-s-pork-beef-exports/

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