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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

Iowa State University is a big deal. With the official student enrollment at ISU topping 36,000 (okay, it’s 36,001) and records also set for undergraduate, graduate, international students, diversity, Iowa resident enrollment (total and undergrad), and three U.S. nonresident categories, you can see why campus is teeming with life these days. And while trips by foot across campus are better planned during class times rather than between classes, having a great student population brings energy, excitement and enthusiasm every day. Official enrollment reports are released on the 10th academic days of both fall and spring semesters and on the 10th days of the second summer session. The ISU registrar’s Web page has more info http://www.registrar.iastate.edu/enrollment And if you want to see a detailed accounting of this fall’s enrollment statistics including majors, classifications and departments, check out this 11-page pdf document http://www.registrar.iastate.edu/sites/default/files/uploads/stats/major/MajorF15.pdf

NEWS
Two Iowans named top Honoring Caregivers
Earlier this year Zoetis launched the Honoring Caregivers program to recognize pig farm owners and employees for exemplifying superior pig care and providing positive contribution to the pork industry. Nominations were open from April 30 to June 22, and
then a panel of judges selected five grand prize winners. Of the newly announced
winners, two are from Iowa. John Finn is a unit manager with HC Feeders of Algona,
and Tim Morgan is a sow farm manager with AMVC LLC in Audubon. Our
congratulations on jobs well done. You can read more about the contest and see all
winner names on the Zoetis website http://o.zoetisus.com/honoring-caregivers.html

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Effects of restricted farming practices on food choices
A recently released report on research conducted at the University of California-Davis
shows that increasing specified attributes of production practices may actually limit
consumer choices of eventual food products. Researchers from UC-Davis's Department of Agricultural & Resource Economics looked at what happens
when intermediary buyers (those between the consumer and the retail outlet —
restaurant or store) require restrictive production practices, including the economic
impacts and effects on producers and consumers. They developed a simulation model
and used it for three distinctly different cases involving pork production practices,
focusing on prohibiting antibiotics for growth promotion or disease prevention.
Interesting reading and food for thought by all in the production and consumption chain.
Read the article on the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's website
here http://farmdocdaily.illinois.edu/2015/09/what-happens-when-food-marketers-
require.html

PRODUCTION TIPS
On being green (and all other natural colors)
As the original recyclers, pork producers will soon be applying manure to fields. Using
manure as a fertilizer provides nutrients for future crops. Be sure to test manure before
application, and always use proper safety precautions. For more information visit this
great ISU resource, the Iowa Manure Management Action Group (IMMAG) website
http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/ Please be safe when agitating and pumping
pits, power washing, welding or any activity that can create a spark that can lead to fire
or explosion. (See related article under “Did you know?” below.)

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.

Sept. 16. Workshop on "stewardship of medically important antimicrobial drug use in
animal," sponsored by Farm Foundation. Gateway Hotel, Ames, Iowa. 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Free, but please preregister on FarmFoundation website.

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DID YOU KNOW?
BPEX officially becomes AHDB Pork
Earlier this summer, the British pork checkoff agency known as British Pig Executive (PBEX) officially changed its name to AHDB Pork, a division of the national Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board. (The new website is here http://pork.ahdb.org.uk/)
Along with the name change came a rebranding effort and new leadership. Pork producer Meryl Ward is the new chairman of AHDB Pork, and she says she wants to maintain the UK’s high health and welfare status while continuing a great research program focused on the country's needs. Read more about the new "Mrs Pig" in this Pig Progress article http://www.pigprogress.net/Growing-Finishing/General/2015/9/UKs-new-Mrs-Pig-sees-talks-and-learns-1778120W/

FOR THE RECORD
Keeping safe around manure
Information from a three-year manure pit foam research project has some answers that are leading to more questions, according to scientists involved in the project. Iowa Pork Producers Association funded the $1 million effort for a collaborative effort among Iowa State University, Illinois Extension and the University of Minnesota. This article on the Illinois Pork Producers Association website describes some findings to date, including connections between foam that’s recently caused problems and how its structure and composition creates potential for fires and explosions. Read more here http://www.ilpork.com/news/248424/Pit-Foaming-Safety-Materials.htm

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