THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

- ISU wins big at National Barrow Show

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- U.S. hog and pig inventory reaches new heights
- NRCS to offer Emergency Mortality Management webinar

PRODUCTION TIP

- Nutrient management is good economic practice

IT'S A DATE

- PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions
- ISU 2015 Bacon Expo
- PORK MONTH
- International Conference on Feed Efficiency in Swine

DID YOU KNOW?

- ISU Research Farms annual reports online

FOR THE RECORD

- More farmers using more technology

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

ISU wins big at National Barrow Show

The Iowa State University Swine Teaching Farm had a phenomenal run at the 2015 National Barrow Show. In addition to showing the champion Duroc boar - again - the farm showed the champion Duroc gilt, and brought home the Overall Champion and Champion Crossbred Truckload, AND the Reserve Champion Purebred Truckload. The Grand Champion Duroc Boar sold for $20,000. The judging team was 3rd high overall, 4th in reasons and 2nd in placings. Team member Dan Ammann finished 1st overall individual, making this the first time in the history of the National Barrow Show that the high individual has come from the same school for four years in a row. In addition to working with the ISU animals, a number of students assisted with the livestock judging contest, and were able to create and strengthen connections with professionals in the swine industry. See info and photos here http://www.ans.iastate.edu/isu-wins-national-barrow-show Congratulations on jobs well done!

NEWS

U.S. hog and pig inventory reaches new heights

With the release of the Sept. 25 U.S. Hogs and Pigs Report by USDA, consumers might be in for good news at the meat counter, eventually. After PEDv decreased animal numbers substantially in 2013, last year saw record high margins for producers with lower supply and sustained demand. The current inventory shows the highest inventory since 1998 when estimates began. Economists, like ISU’s Lee Schulz, say
larger supplies will lead to smaller margins for producers and lower prices for consumers, but the price decline won’t be as much as normal. Even so, pork lovers should welcome the news. Read more in this AgWeb.com article http://www.agweb.com/article/record-large-hog-and-pig-inventory-suggests-softer-margins-in-2016-NAA-fran-howard/ See the USDA report here http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/usda/nass/HogsPigs//2010s/2015/HogsPigs-09-25-2015.pdf

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NRCS to offer Emergency Mortality Management webinar
USDA NRCS is offering a free webinar on Oct. 7 to discuss its new "Emergency Management Animal Mortality Management Conservation Practice Standard and Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza." This webinar is a review of the new NRCS conservation practice standard for Emergency Animal Mortality Management (CPS 368) and presenters also will discuss APHIS’s role in the recent HPAI outbreak, and how both agencies can coordinate our roles in future events. Speakers for the 90-minute program are from APHIS and NRCS, and continuing education credits are available for both American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists and Conservation Planner. The program begins at 1 p.m. Central Time on Oct. 7, and while you don't need to preregister, you're strongly encouraged to join the program up to 15 min. early to make sure your computer is properly connected. See all the details, including links on how to access the program, on this USDA webinar website http://www.conservationwebinars.net/webinars/emergency-animal-mortality-standard-and-hpai

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PRODUCTION TIPS
Nutrient management is good economic practice
Nutrient management planning is a component of any agricultural enterprise. On swine farms, this process involves the collection, storage and land application of manure. Manure is a valuable crop nutrient, and regardless of a swine farm’s size or production stage, it’s important to annually plan for manure’s contribution to the cropping enterprise. It’s especially important to include the manure resource along with the use of commercial nutrients. The Iowa Manure Management Action Group is a great resource. Check out the IMMAG website http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/

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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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October. PORK MONTH

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Oct. 10. ISU 2015 Bacon Expo. Hansen Agriculture Student Learning Center, Ames. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Advance ticket prices: Adults - $12, students with valid ID - $10, children age 10 and under $8. See more information, including link for ticket purchases, on the Expo website http://www.baconexpo.ag.iastate.edu/

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Oct. 21-22. International Conference on Feed Efficiency in Swine. Hilton Hotel, Omaha

DID YOU KNOW?
ISU Research Farms annual reports online
More than 200 ISU faculty and staff members use the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences' research and demonstration farms annually for a variety of purposes. From teaching and research to extension and student employment, the 13 farms offer unique opportunities to study soil, climate, and crop, horticulture and livestock practices around the state. Each of the farms provides annual reports that include farm descriptions and research results. Check out all the farms and the respective report pages on the CALS farms website http://farms.ag.iastate.edu/farms

FOR THE RECORD
More farmers using more technology
According to the 2014 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll, conducted by ISU, farmers are increasingly using technology and technology devices to help with making decisions in their farming operations. For example, three years ago, 10 percent said they were using smartphones. Just two years later, that number increased to 30 percent. The poll is an annual survey of Iowa farmers that collects and disseminates information on issues of importance to rural communities across Iowa and the Midwest. It is the longest-running survey of its kind in the nation, and done every two years since 1982. Read more about the survey and the summary of the latest results http://www.extension.iastate.edu/article/iowa-state-survey-shows-farmers-using-information-technology-decision-making

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