THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
- Congratulations to new Honorary Master Pork Producer Steve Hoff

NEWS
- ISU veterinarian looks at financial impact of PRRS
- Are you America’s next Pig Farmer of the Year?

PRODUCTION TIP
- Biosecurity control points on your farm

IT’S A DATE
- PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions
- FSQA sessions for 4-H and other youth
- Regional conferences
- Common Swine Industry Audit sessions

DID YOU KNOW?
- U.S. House subcommittee looks at FMD preparedness

FOR THE RECORD
- National Pork Industry Forum is March 3-5

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Congratulations to new Honorary Master Pork Producer Steve Hoff
Steve Hoff of the ag and biosystems engineering department was named a 2015 Honorary Master Pork Producer by IPPA during its annual Iowa Pork Congress banquet in January. Steve worked to develop and continues to refine the Community Assessment Model used since 2005 for siting Iowa hog operations. He also works with evaluating animal housing emissions and gas and odor emission mitigation technologies, and is a leader in a multi-state manure foam research project. Steve has been a valuable resource to IPIC people, research and programs through the years and we are proud to work with him on a variety of pork industry-related projects.

NEWS
ISU veterinarian looks at financial impact of PRRS
Derald Holtkamp has begun a three-year study, funded by the National Pork Board/Pork Checkoff, to look at the financial impact of PRRS to the pork industry. He did a similar study a few years ago, which estimated the cost to the industry of $664 million annually. This time he’s using information provided by producers and veterinarians to measure both progress in the fight against the virus and the economic effects of this fight. Results will be compared with previous findings, and an economic update will be released quarterly for the three years of the study. Read more in this ISU article http://www.news.iastate.edu/news/2016/02/11/prrsupda
Are you America’s next Pig Farmer of the Year?
The National Pork Board is accepting applications for its Pig Farmer of the Year award through March 13 at www.americaspigfarmer.com/apply/. Any pig farmer who exhibits and lives by We Care ethical principles, and would like to share his or her farming story with the American public is encouraged to apply. Applicants will be evaluated by a team of third party judges, who will then pick a winner to be announced in October during National Pork Month. The winner will spend approximately 15 days away from the farm during the following 12 months speaking to consumers how responsible farmers do what is right for the people, pigs, and planet. There’s also a $15,000 honorarium for the winning pig farmer to compensate for the days spent away from the farm. For more information, please visit https://www.americaspigfarmer.com/pork-checkoff-opens-nominations-for-the-2016-americas-pig-farmer-of-the-years-award/.

PRODUCTION TIP
Biosecurity control points on your farm
Do you ever stop to think about the number of entities that interact with your farm on a daily, weekly or monthly basis? Employees; feed, health and equipment suppliers; veterinarians; maintenance/construction workers; manure haulers, these are just a fraction of those who might step on your property. Secondly, do you ever think in detail about where these folks have been in the hours or days prior to visiting your farm? In the time of health concerns -- for people and animals -- it is imperative that biosecurity be your utmost concern. Consider evaluating your farm’s biosecurity control points and enhancing your efforts.

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.

Continuing. Food Safety Quality Assurance trainings for Iowa 4-H and other youth. See the IPIC website at http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/FSQA.html for dates, locations and contact information.

Feb. 22-25. 2016 Iowa Regional Pork Conferences. 1 to 4:30 p.m. at all four locations. Preregister and attend for free. No-cost PQA Plus training offered 9:30 a.m. to noon at all locations, but please preregister to ensure adequate materials. More details here http://www.iowapork.org/2016-iowa-pork-regional-conferences-slated-for-feb-22-25/
Ongoing through July 6. Common Swine Industry Audit sessions. No cost, but preregister to ensure your space at these limited attendance sessions, sponsored by IPIC, ISUEO and IPPA. [http://www.iowapork.org/common-swine-industry-audit-training-sessions-offered-2/](http://www.iowapork.org/common-swine-industry-audit-training-sessions-offered-2/)

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

**U.S. House subcommittee looks at FMD preparedness**

Two people with Iowa connections were on a House subcommittee witness list for a hearing on FMD preparedness last week. Dr. Jim Roth, director of the Center for Food Security and Public Health at the College of Vet Med, and Dr. Howard Hill with Iowa Select Farms, provided testimony during the hearing on what’s been done and what still is needed to establish a vaccine stockpile to use within 24 hours of a FMD outbreak in this country. The hearing was organized by Rep. David Rouzer, Chairman of the House Agriculture Livestock and Foreign Agriculture Subcommittee. More info, including witness list, links to opening statement, press release and audio of the hearing, is on the U.S. House Agriculture committee web page [http://agriculture.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=3123](http://agriculture.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=3123)

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**FOR THE RECORD**

**National Pork Industry Forum is March 3-5**

Delegates from across the U.S. appointed by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack will join members of the National Pork Board and Pork Checkoff staff at the annual Pork Industry Forum early next month. This year’s theme is “Inspiration Starts Here” and the meeting includes education and information sessions, as well as segments for candidate elections and research priority updates. More info is on the forum website [http://www.porkindustryforum.com/](http://www.porkindustryforum.com/)

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**NEWS NOW from the Iowa Pork Industry Center** [http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/](http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/)

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