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THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Final Smithfield grants awarded
Two ISU faculty members and the Iowa Pork Producers Association are the recipients of the final allocation of Smithfield grant funds, according to Iowa Attorney General Tom Miller, whose office coordinated this 10-year program. The original federal decree agreement from 2005 stated that Smithfield Foods, Inc. would pay $100,000 annually for 10 years to fund a program … “for the awarding of annual grants to Iowa citizens or entities that demonstrate both a need for funding and an innovative program to advance swine production in the State.” In this final year, 15 proposals were submitted, and the total funded for the three recipients was nearly $225,000. Part of the award agreement includes making sponsored research results publicly available. You can read the news release from the AG office that includes a listing of all projects funded by this program here https://www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov/newsroom/committee-awards-nearly-225000-in-grants-to-enhance-swine-industry/

The recipients and their grant information are:
- Dr. John Patience, ISU ($49,696): The study will look at the effects of dietary fiber supplements with or without NSP degrading enzymes on the health and performance of weaned pigs challenged with enterotoxigenic Escherichia coli (E. coli). The disease causes economic losses for pig producers.
- Dr. Anna Johnson, ISU ($123,693): The project will attempt to validate the sow lameness diagnostic manual, to determine whether the lameness diagnostic guide can identify naturally occurring sow lameness. Sow
lameness is a major production issue and is the second most important reason for culling.

- Iowa Pork Producers Association ($50,000): The project will enhance pork producer knowledge and awareness of on-farm safety hazards and standard operating procedures associated with manure storage areas.

NEWS

Two ISU students are NPPC scholarship winners

ISU senior Matt Kerns and junior Lexi Marek are among the five college students named 2016 Lois Britt Memorial Pork Industry Scholarship winners by the National Pork Producers Council this past weekend. Members of this select group each receive a $2,500 scholarship from the program that recognizes outstanding youth in the pork industry. The scholarship is named after the late NPPC vice president from Mt. Olive, N.C. and is in its 26th year of honoring young people intending to pursue a career in the pork industry following their post-secondary education in swine/agriculture.

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Early start vital for good immunity

The first few hours after birth are vital for developing immunity for piglets, and Zoetis vet Lucina Galina says successful farmers focus on these three items: 1. Enhancing immunity in the sow before farrowing, including a determined vaccination program; 2. Ensuring all piglets, regardless of litter and animal size, suckle colostrum immediately after birth; and 3. Providing individual care for piglets beginning with farrowing. You can read more in this article on the National Hog Farmer website http://nationalhogfarmer.com/animal-well-being/3-essential-things-build-solid-immunity-piglets

PRODUCTION TIP

Growing pigs and fertilizer make a great team

Iowa is the pig state, and more specifically, the “pig growing” state. With assets of feed, farmers and packing capacity, Iowa is the ideal location for pork production. The “Tall Corn” state also needs plenty of fertilizer to produce the bushels of corn and soybeans fed to pigs. Approximately 10 finishing pigs from weaning to market provides the nutrient needs of an acre of Iowa cropland on a semi-annual basis. And a half-section of land (240 acres) benefits from a 2,400-head pig barn.

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.

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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/

DID YOU KNOW?
Responsible antibiotic use takes information and understanding
The new website, www.animalantibiotics.org, was launched earlier this year by Phibro Animal Health Corp. It features a “Meet the Vet” segment; a variety of resources ranging from an industry glossary to effects and benefits on people, animals and the planet; and an FAQ page organized by subject matter for easier searching. A resource library also is organized alphabetically, is searchable and includes a specific section on the Veterinary Feed Directive. Take a look, share with others, and consider submitting questions via the online form.

FOR THE RECORD
Disease fact sheets from SHIC
As part of its mission to protect and enhance the health of the U.S. swine herd, the Swine Health Information Center has posted on its website a Swine Disease Matrix and more than 20 fact sheets on swine diseases of concern. The matrix prioritizes pathogens of threat that direct SHIC activities, and the fact sheets provide information for producers and veterinarians that’s vital to know in the event of an outbreak. The existing fact sheets were developed by the Center for Food Security and Public Health at ISU’s College of Veterinary Medicine, and the center continues to work on additional topical ones. Find links to the matrix and the fact sheets here http://www.agcreate.com/shic/fact-sheets/ The SHIC website is here http://www.swinehealth.org/

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