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- Hot dog hotline ready to help

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
ISU to develop pig line with unique immune system
ISU animal science professor Chris Tuggle will lead a $2.5 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to develop a line of pigs with a unique immune system. Because of the similar size, physiology and genetic makeup of pigs and humans, this immune system will allow testing of a variety of medical therapies for people. How so? The discovery of pigs with the inherited disorder Severe Combined Immunodeficiency (SCID) happened four years ago during ISU research on swine feed efficiency led by ISU animal science professor Jack Dekkers As part of that collaborative study with Kansas State University, pigs were exposed to a virus to see whether their feed efficiency status affected their immune response, and some were found to have severely affected immune organs. Before then, only people, mice, horses and dogs were thought to inherit the disorder. With the discovery that pigs also are affected, Tuggle said he’s heard from researchers in many areas associated with regenerative medicine who are interested in the new line of pigs. Read more in this article on the ISU CALS website http://www.cals.iastate.edu/news/releases/iowa-state-university-seeks-develop-pig-benefit-human-medical-therapies

NEWS
ISU veterinary science program ranks high
For the first time, ISU’s veterinary science program has been included in a worldwide ranking by the British organization Quacquarelli Symonds (QS). ISU’s veterinary science program ranked 35th in the world and 16th nationally. The college focuses on animal and human health, food safety and animal welfare to the benefit of animal agriculture, economic development, and the health and well-being of humans and animals. As part of the College of Veterinary Medicine, the Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory serves Iowa’s $14 billion animal agriculture industry by providing access to timely, high-quality diagnostic testing on 73,000 cases per year. For this third edition of the QS World University Rankings by Subject, the firm evaluated more than 3,500 universities and ranked 894 of those institutions in 36 subject areas. You can see all of this year’s university rankings on the QS website http://www.topuniversities.com/subject-rankings/2015

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Pig farm of the future in the works
Five companies will work jointly to develop a pig farm of the future in Jiangsu Province, China. Each will provide specific expertise during the two-year creation and construction process that will eventually house 5,000 sows and eventually grow-finish barns. The companies and their expertise areas are: Alltech - animal nutrition; Big Dutchman and Betco - equipment, facility and house design; PIC - genetics; and Pipestone - management support. Read more about the plan and its partners in this article on the PigProgress website http://www.pigprogress.net/Breeding/Management/2015/5/Pig-farm-of-the-future-to-be-built-in-China-1765455W/

PRODUCTION TIP
Economic sustainability vital
An important key to long-term success is economic sustainability. Pork producers must continuously strive to improve their business management skills and education for themselves, their employees and pork industry partners. Two upcoming events provide great ways to do just that: World Pork Expo (June 3-5) and Iowa Swine Day (register by June 12 for $60 per person.)

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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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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June 3-5. **World Pork Expo.** Iowa State Fair Grounds, Des Moines.

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June 10 and 11. **Advanced Swine Reproduction Seminars.** Le Mars and Waverly. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. $30 per person with preregistration strongly encouraged.

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June 25. **Iowa Swine Day.** Scheman Building, ISU, Ames. [Read this news release.](http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/)

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

FDA proposes revision to antimicrobial reporting requirements

Comments are now being accepted on the Food and Drug Administration's proposed changes to annual reporting requirements for companies providing antimicrobials sold or distributed for use in food-producing animals. The agency says these changes would require those companies to provide estimates of sales by the four major food-producing species: cattle, swine, chickens and turkeys. It says the additional data would improve understanding about how antimicrobials are sold or distributed for use in these species, and help the FDA further target its efforts to ensure judicious use of medically important antimicrobials. Read more in this update on the FDA website [http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/NewsEvents/CVMUpdates/ucm446803.htm](http://www.fda.gov/AnimalVeterinary/NewsEvents/CVMUpdates/ucm446803.htm)

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**FOR THE RECORD**

Hot dog hotline ready to help

Just in time for baseball season, Ball Park has launched its Finest Franks Hotline to assist with consumer questions on grilling — especially hot dogs. Call 1-844-4FRANKS, text to 57872 or tweet @BallParkBrand for access to the company’s grilling experts and more than 60 years of expertise. You also can check out the website at [http://www.ballparkbrand.com](http://www.ballparkbrand.com) Let none of your hot dog questions go unanswered!

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

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