THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
- Director interviews complete

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- DNR Hotline Number has changed
- JBS continues acquisitions

PRODUCTION TIP
- Health and disease management

IT’S A DATE
- PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions
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DID YOU KNOW?
- ISU looks for preproposals for tracking water quality progress

FOR THE RECORD
- Multiple states file lawsuits against WOTUS

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Director interviews complete
Interviews by two internal (ISU) candidates for the IPIC director position have wrapped up. With final feedback forms due this week, we look for an announcement about this opening in the near future. After John Mabry stepped back from the director portion of his faculty position in 2012, IPIC has been well served by interim directors Butch Baker 2012-2014, and Jay Harmon 2014-2015. Jay and animal science associate professor Jason Ross completed the interview process last week, and both would bring a positive outlook and strong work ethic to the job.

NEWS
DNR Hotline Number has changed
The Iowa Department of Natural Resources has changed its 24/7 Environmental Emergency phone number and you need to add (or change) your records to reflect that. Spills can happen any time, so having the correct number -- in your emergency action plan, on-site records and your cell phone -- can help ease worry and stress during any of those unwanted events. The new number is 515-725-8694 and should be used to report manure, fertilizer or chemical spills, as well as fish kills and other environmental emergencies. Remember that manure and chemical spills must be reported within six hours of the onset or discovery of the spill. If you’re not sure who should use this emergency number, check the IDNR website’s Environmental Reporting Hotline Guide on the website here.
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JBS continues acquisitions
Last week JBS USA Pork announced that it had entered into an agreement with Cargill to purchase that company’s U.S.-based pork business. The $1.45 billion deal is subject to regulatory review and approval before being finalized. In Iowa, this move affects the Ottumwa Cargill meat processing plant and a feed mill in Hedrick. This JBS release has more info http://jbssa.com/about/news/2015/07-01/ This agreement follows closely on the heels of a proposed acquisition by JBS of the Brazilian poultry company Moy Park for about $1.5 billion. You can read more about this in a release on the Watt Agnet website here http://www.wattagnet.com/PT/JBS_offers_to_buy_Moy_Park_for_$1_5_billion/

PRODUCTION TIP
Health and disease management
It’s been quite apparent over the past few years that both new and reemerging diseases can have devastating impacts on the health and wellbeing of a herd. Diseases also create stresses on labor and an operation’s bottom line. Take time to ensure you have the most current biosecurity, vaccination and treatment programs available, by maintaining a routine and regular working relationship with your veterinarian. And be sure you have the staff, labor, technology, commitment and capital to withstand the impacts of disease.

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.


July 7. Understanding Veterinary Feed Directive Rules (for producers and feed distributors) Webinar. 1 to 3 p.m. Central Time. Sponsored by U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Feedstuffs, Elanco Animal Health and the American Feed Industry Association. Free, but registration is required. The program will be recorded and archived for later viewing. See more, including a link to register here
DID YOU KNOW?
ISU looks for preproposals for tracking water quality progress
Funding for research proposals for a partnership to improve the ability to track progress of water quality is now available through Iowa State University, following legislative approval and subsequent signing into law by Governor Branstad. Preproposals are being accepted, with a deadline of July 15, for a total of up to $250,000 per year. These preproposals will focus on demonstrated expertise and capability for data collection and verification of agricultural practices at the field level, according to a news release by ISU's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. See the release for more information, including full proposal invitations and decision timelines

FOR THE RECORD
Multiple lawsuits against WOTUS
At least 27 U.S. states and several agriculture and related industry organizations have filed suits against the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers over the recently released rule known as “Waters of the United States” or “WOTUS.” The lawsuits say the federal agencies have overstepped their true authority through WOTUS, including violating the Clean Water Act, among others. See these links to recent articles on the Pork Network and National Hog Farmer websites and stay tuned:
July 2 http://nationalhogfarmer.com/environment/groups-file-lawsuit-vacate-wotus-rule
July 6 http://nationalhogfarmer.com/environment/wotus-lawsuits-filed

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