THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

Congratulations

NEWS

- Pigs in yurts
- PQAPlus Advisor certification session set for Aug. 11

PRODUCTION TIP

- Good management is key for successful weaning

IT'S A DATE

- PQAPlus® and TQA® producer certification sessions
- Common Swine Industry Audit training sessions
- PQAPlus Advisor Certification session
- Iowa State Fair

DID YOU KNOW?

- UK funds big-ticket research on antibiotic resistance

FOR THE RECORD

- More pigs, fewer farrowings

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE

Congratulations

During the annual joint meeting of the American Society of Animal Science and the American Dairy Science Association earlier this month, ISU animal science professor John Patience received the New Frontiers in Animal Nutrition award. The award includes a requirement that a nominee must have made an outstanding and innovation contribution to nutrition research concerning animals that benefits mankind and/or the nutritional value of food from animals. This page on the FASS website has past winners and links to more information about the award http://www.fass.org/awards.asp

Also, professor Max Rothschild was named the winner of this year’s Morrison Award, given to an individual who stimulates research excellence of direct importance to livestock production. See more info on the award http://takingstock.asas.org/?p=16699

Our congratulations on these well-deserved honors and recognition!

NEWS

Pigs in yurts

A report on a recently completed research project funded by the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at ISU looking at the use of yurts as a farrowing facility concludes that while it’s possible, it’s likely cost-prohibitive for most producers. Lead researcher Jay Harmon (currently IPIC interim director) worked with Pete Lammers to modify a commercially available 24-ft. diameter insulated yurt kit for use as a farrowing
facility on the ISU Allee Demonstration Farm at Newell. Four groups of four bred sows were bought and farrowed seasonally from Aug. 15, 2012 to Feb. 28, 2014. Energy use, labor costs and pig performance were measured and recorded throughout the project. Although the initial costs for a commercially available kit and necessary adaptations are likely cost-prohibitive for wide scale use, it is possible that the use of recycled and other locally available materials could lower that cost. Want to know more? Check out the grant page on the Leopold Center website http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/grants/"xp2012-04" Wondering what a yurt is? It’s a large round current-day tent, with origins going back thousands of years as a portable dwelling used by nomadic people of central Asia. See the Wikipedia entry https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yurt

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PQAPPlus Advisor certification session set for Aug. 11
Veterinarians and others in Iowa’s pork industry have the opportunity to become Pork Quality Assurance Plus® 2.0 Advisors at a session offered by IPIC on Tuesday, Aug. 11. This initial certification process requires attendance at a daylong training session and passing an exam at the conclusion of that session. The two-page application must be completed in its entirety and submitted no later than Aug. 3. To be eligible to submit an application people must meet the following qualifications and include the information on the application form: 1. Be a veterinarian, extension specialist or ag educator (defined for this program as a person who spends full time in adult education or at least half time in production training); AND 2. Have a D.V.M. or B.S. in animal science (or equivalent); AND 3. Have two years of recent documentable swine production experience. Download the application form from the IPIC website at http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/events/PQAP2app081115.docx

PRODUCTION TIP
Good management is key for successful weaning
Weaning time is a potentially stressful event for both the sow and the piglets. Tips for managing the weaned pig include assisting and teaching good feeding behavior. By 36 hours after placement in the nursery, most pigs will have found water and started to exhibit feeding behavior. This is a critical time to identify pigs that lack such behavior or are becoming dehydrated, so maintain appropriate levels of management and supervision of pigs. For those piglets having difficulty, this may involve hand feeding pellets or using a gruel until the desired actions are evident and part of daily activity.

IT’S A DATE
Continuing, PQA Plus® and TQA® producer certification sessions. See the IPIC website at http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPPlus.html for dates, locations and contact information.

Aug. 11. PQAPlus Advisor Certification session. Hansen Ag Student Learning Center, Ames. Completed two-page applications are due Aug. 3.


DID YOU KNOW?
UK funds big-ticket research on antibiotic resistance
This research has two primary projects, funded at a total of nearly 5 million pounds. Researchers could find answers to more than just "how does resistance develop", according to one lead researcher. Mark Homes of University of Cambridge says his work using pigs is important to human health and the entire farming industry. In the other project, scientists will investigate how antibiotics interfere with the bacterial cell wall, and want to use that knowledge to develop new antibiotics. All agree that resistance is a long-term problem that needs adequate time, specialized expertise, and adequate funding, thus the excitement of this funding and the opportunity to share the work and results worldwide. Pig Progress website article is here http://www.pigprogress.net/Health-Diseases/Research/2015/7/Evolution-of-antibiotic-resistance-in-pigs-researched-2657378W/ More information on the five-year Antimicrobial Resistance Strategy here http://www.bbsrc.ac.uk/funding/priorities/combatting-antimicrobial-resistance/

FOR THE RECORD
More pigs, fewer farrowings
In the latest “Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook” from USDA issued July 16, the estimated impacts of disease and weather on total livestock inventory are described. The most recent USDA Hogs & Pigs report, released June 26, shows more total inventory compared to a year ago and higher productivity. Even so, producers say they will farrow fewer sows over the next two quarters. With the larger pig crop earlier this year, more pork production may temper prices somewhat for the rest of 2015. Read all of the 21-page July 16 report (pdf) on the ERS portion of the USDA website here http://www.ers.usda.gov/media/1871909/ldpm253.pdf

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