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- Pork month story ideas from IPIC

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- ISU College of Ag and Life Sciences enrollment is up

FOR THE RECORD
- Fall 2007 Pork Checkoff Report now online

THOUGHTS FROM 109 KILDEE
Pork month story ideas from IPIC
Since 2004, we’ve sent out an annual compilation of Pork Month story ideas to members of the media, ISU Extension staff and others who’ve indicated an interest in receiving information from IPIC. In addition, we post the list on our news and releases page. Here’s the URL for the latest list http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/information/IPIC.Pork.Month.07.pdf It takes a cooperative effort to pull together such a listing, and the content and topics naturally vary by year. From software to insurance programs, from market outlook to distance educational programming, this year’s list features eight possible topics. Each entry has a brief description and contact information for a specific person, and the first page of the list supplies news and news release URLs for agriculture and pork-related Web sites based at ISU. We know that writers, reporters and editors use these lists because they tell us. For those who read the list for short bits of information, we hope the individual paragraphs help them understand the many ISU folks people who are associated with IPIC and help us in our continued efforts to provide Iowa producers with accurate and timely information to aid in making their operations more efficient and profitable. This goes for our NEWS NOW readers, as well. If you see an item of interest in this year’s story list and want to know more, contact the specialist named at the end of the paragraph. If you have other questions, please reply to this message. Thanks for being a subscriber to NEWS NOW.

NEWS
Oklahoma legislators discuss changes to swine farm setback distances
In an interim study session last week, some Oklahoma legislators talked with experts from pork and environmental fields about easing setback distances for swine farms from water sources. Lawmakers there are interested in possibly changing those distances to make them consistent with other livestock operations. Current law requires three miles between swine feeding operations and various water sources, including designated scenic river, national park or public drinking water well. Similar requirements are not mandated for cattle or poultry feeding operations, according to an article on the Enid (OK) News Web site. However, the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality director, Steve Thompson, says he doesn’t support reducing the distances. You can read the article here http://snipr.com/1rw0l

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Newsham acquires Monsanto Genetics
A news release late last month made it official: Newsham Genetics will acquire Monsanto Choice Genetics. Although terms were not officially announced, the agreement does establish a three-year research alliance between the two companies. Newsham Genetics co-CEO Brent Mitchell said the acquisition creates a strong North American presence in the industry. You can read more in the release on the Newsham Web site here [http://snipr.com/1rvzt](http://snipr.com/1rvzt)

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**National conference on reducing air emissions set for Iowa**
Planning is now under way for a May 2008 conference, "Mitigating air Emissions from Animal Feeding Operations," to be held in Des Moines. The conference planning committee is comprised of five ISU faculty and staff members from ISU's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and ISU Extension. This conference is intended to provide practical information related to mitigation of air emissions to technical service providers, extension personnel, industry consultants, and facility owners and operators. The committee is assisted by a steering committee with representatives from state producer groups, state government and the National Pork Board, among others. Invited national and international experts will present information in these topical areas: U.S. agriculture air emissions regulations, U.S. mitigation state of science, and European agriculture air emissions regulation and mitigation systems review. You can learn more about the conference at that Web site [http://www.abe.iastate.edu/wastemgmt/mitigation](http://www.abe.iastate.edu/wastemgmt/mitigation)

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**IT'S A DATE**


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Oct. 14-20. Homecoming Week at Iowa State. See all the details here [http://snipr.com/1r64s](http://snipr.com/1r64s)

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Oct. 25. PQA Plus™ Advisor training session. This is full with a waiting list. Here's the link to the registration form for the next IPIC-scheduled session on Dec. 13 [http://snipr.com/1r68w](http://snipr.com/1r68w)

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**DID YOU KNOW?**

ISU College of Ag and Life Sciences enrollment is up
According to figures released in September on ISU fall enrollment, undergraduate numbers in the College of Ag and Life Science are up 158 over 2006, and graduate numbers are up 31 since last year. The animal science department itself grew by 83 to 742. We know that the number of high school students in Iowa is decreasing. So, why the rise in agriculture numbers in animal science? A good job outlook could be a major reason. A job placement rate of 98 percent for Animal and Dairy Science graduates over the past five years is definitely helping create enthusiasm for potential students of this department.

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**FOR THE RECORD**

Fall 2007 Pork Checkoff Report now online
The latest Pork Checkoff Report, provided by National Pork Board, is now online. One of the articles in the 40-page issue describes findings from the recent Pork Checkoff performance study, “An Economic Analysis of the Effectiveness of the Pork Checkoff Program” that was conducted by economists at RTI International of Research Triangle, N.C., and North Carolina State University. The Checkoff study is required every five years by USDA as part of its oversight of the NPB and Pork Checkoff programs. The study report concluded that the Pork Checkoff has “a significant positive effect on the demand for hogs and pork.” Other topics in this edition include an introduction to new NPB president Lynn Harrison, profiles of National Football League players who were reared on family pork farms, and pork barbeque
information and recipes. You can read the entire issue (it’s a pdf document) at this URL
http://snipr.com/1rw16

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