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TRAINING FOR COMMERCIAL PESTICIDE APPLICATORS

Three training sessions for commercial pesticide applicators will be offered in SE Iowa. The training is designed to help prepare individuals for the commercial pesticide applicator examinations. Therefore the training is designed for new commercial pesticide applicators that need to become initially certified and for commercial pesticide applicators who choose to re-certify by taking the exam.

The first training session will be offered in Burlington in the Des Moines County Extension Office at 900 Osborn Street on Wednesday, January 12. A second session will be offered in Iowa City in Montgomery

Hall on the Johnson County Fairgrounds on Wednesday, January 26. A third training session will be offered on Monday, March 21 in Bettendorf in the Scott County Extension Office at 875 Tanglefoot Lane. Training will begin at 9:00 a.m. at all 3 locations.

Training will be offered on the core manual and categories 1A (Ag Weed), 1B (Ag Insect), 1C (Ag Disease), 4 (Seed Treatment), 3O,T, & G (Ornamental, Turf, & Greenhouse) & 6 (Right-of-Way) at all sessions. Training on the core manual will be offered from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Training on the individual categories will begin at ap-

proximately 10:45 a.m. and conclude by about 1:00 pm. There is a \$20 fee per person at each training session. These training sessions do NOT qualify as continuing instructional courses.

Testing opportunities in January, February & March in eastern Iowa include:
Jan. 19 Ainsworth MARR Park Conservation Center
Feb. 1 Marengo Zentmire Hall, Fairgrounds
Feb. 7 Iowa City Montgomery Hall, Fairground

*(All testing runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. EXCEPT Johnson County, which will be 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

CERTIFIED CROP ADVISORS TEST PREPARATION COURSE

Jim Fawcett, Crop Specialist, Iowa State University Extension, will be offering a Certified Crop Advisor test preparation course for persons interested in taking the CCA exam. The course will review information that may be present on

the Certified Crop Advisor Exams in the areas of Nutrient Management, Soil & Water Management, Integrated Pest Management, and Crop Management. The class (8 hours of instruction) will be offered February 2 from 1:00 PM -

5:00 PM and will continue on February 3, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. The class will be offered at the Johnson County Extension Office located at 4265 Oak Crest Hill Road, SE, Iowa City. The registration fee is \$90 per person.

CONFINEMENT SITE MANURE APPLICATOR WORKSHOPS

Iowa State University Extension is sponsoring statewide workshops for confinement site manure applicator programs. State law requires confinement site manure applicators to be certified to handle, haul, transport or apply liquid or dry manure from a confinement facility with more than 500 animal units. Initial certification can be completed by attending one of the 2 hour workshops,

watch the 2 hour video at an Extension Office or by taking and passing the exam at your regional DNR field office. Applicators must attend 2 hours of training each year of their 3-year certification or take an exam every 3 years. Fees include \$100 for new and renewing applicators plus an annual \$25 education fee. The workshop in Johnson County will be held January 19, starting

at 1:30 p.m. at Stutsman, Inc., in Hills, Iowa. In Washington County, the program will be February 23, starting at 7:00 p.m. at the Super 8 in Washington, Iowa. Please bring a copy of your license to the program.

“Washington County Fair Swine Committee is pleased to announce a production barrow division for the 2005 Washington County Fair”
Fair

PRODUCTION BARROW DIVISION – NEW FOR 2005 WASHINGTON COUNTY FAIR

The Washington County Fair Swine Committee is pleased to announce a production barrow division for the 2005 Washington County Fair. Participation in the production barrow division is optional for all exhibitors.

Production Barrow Division Guidelines for 2005 Washington County Fair:

Exhibitors may nominate a **maximum of 6 barrows** at the production weigh-in on April 16, 2005, at the Washington County Fairgrounds from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Pigs entered in the production division must be weighed/tagged by committee during the Saturday weigh-in. The Iowa State Fair nomination

process still requires entry through their weigh-in process which is separate from the county weigh-in. No barrows over 60 pounds at weigh-in will be accepted. Pigs must be ear-notched and castrated prior to weigh-in (no exceptions).

JOHNSON COUNTY DERBY SWINE WEIGH-IN MARCH 19

The Johnson County Swine Committee has scheduled the 2005 Derby Swine weigh-in for March 19, 2005, from 10 a.m. to Noon. Member may exhibit a **derby barrow pair, derby gilt pair** and a **regular market pair** (but they must be different pigs). Member may enroll not more than 12 pigs at the March 19th weigh-in (6 bar-

rows/6 gilts maximum). If four or more derby barrow or derby gilt pigs are enrolled, member **MUST** exhibit a **derby barrow or derby gilt pair** to be eligible to exhibit a **derby barrow or derby gilt** individual. Derby pigs must be weighed/tagged by committee Saturday, March 19. Entries must be castrated and ear-notched before

then. No pig over 35 lb. will be accepted. **All derby entries** will be placed into classes according to the March weigh-in weight. Swine entries must be farrowed on or after February 1, 2005.

MANAGING CROP RISKS

We're pleased to invite you to attend "Managing Crop Risks", an educational workshop designed to help you assess and take advantage of various marketing, financial and crop insurance tools that can maximize income and reduce risk. This is a free, interactive workshop sponsored by Farm Credit Services and Iowa State University Extension. Steven D. Johnson, Farm & Ag Business Management Specialist, Iowa State University Extension,

will explore seasonal crop trends, crop marketing, price outlook and farm program issues. Elwynn Taylor, Climatologist, Iowa State University Extension, will offer a video presentation on managing weather risks and the 2005 crop outlook. In Cedar Rapids, the program will be offered at Hawkeye Downs, Farm Youth Center from Noon to 2:30 p.m. Call (800) 593-0151 to pre-register. The program will also be offered in Mt.

Pleasant at the Faith Christian Outreach Center beginning at 9:00 a.m. Call (800) 235-1728. Meals will be included with all locations.

"The planning of successful estrus synchronization in a beef herd can be an overwhelming task," says Gene Mohling

WASHINGTON COUNTY EXTENSION TO HOST BEEF ESTRUS SYNCHRONIZATION WEBCAST

Washington County Extension invites beef producers to a statewide webcast spotlighting estrus synchronization on Thursday, January 27, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The two-hour session will feature Dr. Cliff Lamb, associate professor of reproductive physiology and beef cattle management at the University of Minnesota. Lamb is a leading expert on estrus synchronization, and will be joined by Dr. Daryl Strohbehn, professor of animal science at Iowa State University (ISU), to engage producers in several topics, including fixed-timed artificial insemination, methods of estrus control, a breeding female

evaluation for synchronization systems, and a hands-on demonstration of the Iowa Beef Center's new "Estrus Synchronization Planner" software.

"The planning of successful estrus synchronization in a beef herd can be an overwhelming task," says Gene Mohling, Johnson/Washington County Extension Education Director. "We are pleased to offer this program so that beef producers can not only learn about the latest techniques and research, but also have the unique opportunity to hear from experts about their experiences."

Registration at the door is \$15.00. The webcast will be viewed at the Washington County Extension Office, 209 S. Marion Avenue. Sponsors of the webcast include the Iowa Beef Center at ISU and Pfizer Animal Health. Interested participants can contact Gene Mohling at 319/653-4811 or by email at mohling@iastate.edu. For more information and a list of additional locations, visit the calendar page at www.iowabeefcenter.org.

PRIVATE PESTICIDE TRAINING DATES

Washington & Johnson County Extension will be offering 6 opportunities in for private pesticide applicators to obtain continuing instructional credit. The dates and times are as follows:

Monday, February 7, 1:30-4:00 p.m., Stutsman Inc., Hills, IA

Monday, February 7, 7:00-9:30 p.m., Stutsman, Inc., Hills, IA

Monday, March 7, 1:30-4:00 p.m., Super 8 Motel, Washington IA

Monday, March 7, 7:00-9:30 p.m., Super 8 Motel, Washington, IA

A licensed private pesticide applicator may attend a class offered in any county. The cost for attending the class will be \$15 per person. Pre-registration to attend a class is not required.

**IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
University Extension

Helping Iowans become their best.

**Johnson/Washington
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Other News

INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

Iowa State University Extension is pleased to provide producers and agribusiness professionals with the "Integrated Crop Management Newsletter". This valuable resource can be found on-line at <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm/>. If you would like to receive the newsletter directly, please complete the enclosed order form and send it to the Extension Distribution Center along with the subscription fee.

OVERALL Conference For Today's Rural Women

The conference will be held January 21-22, 2005, Collins Plaza Hotel, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Agriculture is different from any other time in history. You are invited to spend time to benefit yourself, your family, your farm and your community. Keynote speaker is Michele Payn-Knoper on "Championing Agriculture". To register call 800/262-0015 or on-line www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/overallwomen/home.html

FORAGE/BEDDING PRICES

Recent auctions in east central and southeast Iowa have resulted in the following forage/bedding prices being paid: **Keosauqua, Sat 11:30A**
Alfalfa : SmSq \$2.00-2.75/bale,
Grass & Mixed Legume/Gr: SmSq \$1.50-2.00/bale, Straw: SmSq \$1.50-1.75/bale
Kalona (SE IA) 1st Thurs, Year-round 11:30AM (& 3rd Thurs Oct-winter)
Alfalfa :SmSq \$3.00/bale (\$90/T Sept), LgSq \$80/T, Grass & Mixed Legume/Gr: SmSq \$1.75-2.25/bale; LgRd \$25-28/bale, Straw: (SmSq \$2.00/bale Sept)