

## **CROP NOTES for February 6, 2009**

### **Iowa State University Extension Information for Northeast Iowa**

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## **RULES & REGULATIONS**

### **New Iowa Bee Rule**

As of January 22, 2009, the old Iowa Bee Rule was replaced with a new rule designed to give better protection to Iowa's honey bees. In short it prohibits commercial applicators from applying pesticides toxic to bees on blooming crops within one mile of beehives during the day when bees are most active. It also requires beekeepers to register their hive locations at the

IDALS web registry:

[http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/Horticulture\\_and\\_FarmersMarkets/sensitiveCropDirectory.asp](http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/Horticulture_and_FarmersMarkets/sensitiveCropDirectory.asp)

The exact wording of the rule is:

Chapter 21-45.31(206) Application of pesticides toxic to bees.

45.31(1) Owners of apiaries, in order to protect their bees from pesticide applications, shall register the location of their apiaries with the state apiarist. Registration shall be on forms provided by the department. The registration expires December 31 each year and may be renewed the following year.

45.31(2) Between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m., a commercial applicator shall not apply to blooming crops pesticides labeled as toxic to bees when the commercial applicator is located within one mile of a registered apiary. A commercial applicator shall be responsible for maintaining the one-mile distance from apiaries that are registered and listed on the sensitive crop registry on the first day of each month.

And, under 45.26 Record-keeping. Adopt the following new paragraph 45.26(3): Record the time pesticide application begins and ends.

### **Public Invited to Comment on Proposed Rules Restricting Winter Manure Application**

New proposed rules would restrict surface application of manure on frozen or snow-covered ground. If manure can be incorporated or injected any time of year, these rules would not apply.

The proposed rules would mainly affect animal producers who are required to have a manure or nutrient management plan and producers who cause water quality violations. More information on these rules can be found at: <http://www.iowadnr.gov/afo/newrules.html>

People are encouraged to make oral comments or submit comments in writing at the following public hearings:

9:00 am, March 16: Wallace State Office Building Auditorium, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines

6:00 pm, March 16: Washington County Conservation Education Center, Marr Park, 2943 Highway 92, Ainsworth

6:00 pm, March 18: Dedham American Legion, 302 Main St., Dedham

1:00 pm, March 20: Room 115, Dairy Foundation's Dairy Center, 1527 Highway 150 South, Calmar

6:00 pm, March 23: City Hall, 125 Central Ave. S.E., Orange City

6:00 pm, March 24: Lime Creek Nature Center, 3501 Lime Creek Road, Mason City

People may also send written comments directly to Claire Hruby, Iowa DNR, 502 E. Ninth St., Des Moines, IA 50319, or by email to [Claire.hruby@dnr.iowa.gov](mailto:Claire.hruby@dnr.iowa.gov). All comments must be submitted by 5 p.m. on March 27

### **ARRESTED EAR DEVELOPMENT REVISITED**

#### **Discussions on Possible Causes Including Plant Ethylene Levels**

For background on this issue we have Dr. Nielson, Purdue University discuss various aspects of this problem.

<http://www.agry.purdue.edu/ext/corn/news/articles.07/ArrestedEars-0904.html>

The next article provides speculation on how this might be related to ethylene production in the plant. See the “Ethylene and Strobilurins” article.

<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/sangamonmenard/cropupdate/index.html>

And, finally here is a Technical Journal Article on this same subject. If the article does not automatically come up, you may have to click on either “Begin manual download” or on the right side of the screen click on “Full Text (HTML)”

<http://agron.scijournals.org/cgi/reprint/101/1/237>

## EVENTS

### **Jan. 20-Feb. 12, Dairy Days, Various Location in NE Iowa.**

Program: 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. Agenda: 1) Using Genomics-What will change in building your Genetic Base. Genomics will be part of the Jan. Sire Summaries. How will that affect your sire selection. 2) Positioning your feeding program when feed prices or milk prices are volatile. 3) Shrink, the hidden feed cost. Where are we losing feed, how much do we lose and what is it costing the dairy. 4) Your labor management force-best management practices. How to get more from your labor team. 5) Health issues in today’s dairy herds, producer panel (only Calmar location). Optimum milk, low SCC and profits all in one package.

Jan. 20, Legion Hall, Ryan.

Jan. 21, Dubuque County Fairgrounds, Dubuque.

Feb. 10, KC Hall, Elma.

Feb. 11, NE Iowa Dairy Foundation, Calmar.

Feb. 12, Civic Center, Waverly.

Dairy Days speakers include: Lee Kilmer, ISU Extension State Dairy Specialist; Dale Thoreson & Larry Tranel, ISU Extension Dairy Field Specialists; Robert Tigner, ISU Extension Farm Management Specialist; and local veterinarians. Cost is \$10 per person. Vouchers are available from some local vets or agribusiness. For more information call: Dale Thoreson at 319-267-2707.

### **Feb. 16, Strategies to Manage Feed & Market Price Risk, Webcast at home or County Extension office.**

7:00-9:00 pm viewed as a Webcast on your home computer or attend the program at a participating County Extension Office. Speakers will focus on feed costs risk, covering strategies for managing feed costs and the role of alternative feedstuffs. They will also discuss outlook for feed and livestock, and strategies for managing price risk using futures, options and insurance products. Presenters include: Chad Hart, grain economist; John Patience, swine nutritionist; Dan Loy, beef nutritionist; John Lawrence, livestock economist. Individuals can view the program at a participating County Extension office (visit [www.iowabeefcenter.org](http://www.iowabeefcenter.org) for participating sites). There is no charge for attending the meeting but attendees need to preregister by February 13. Extension office host sites will have further discussion and activities during the webcast. Attendees can also choose to tune into the webcast from their own homes by going to <http://connect.extension.iastate.edu/outlook>. The webcast archive will also be made available shortly after the event on both the Iowa Beef Center Web site [www.iowabeefcenter.org](http://www.iowabeefcenter.org) and the Iowa Pork Industry Center Web site [www.ipic.iastate.edu/](http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/). For more information on the

upcoming webcast, you can contact your county extension office or Iowa Beef Center Director John Lawrence at 515-294-6290 or [jdlaw@iastate.edu](mailto:jdlaw@iastate.edu).

**Feb. 17-18, ISU Extension Soil Fertility Short Course, Ames**

A two-day short course focusing on principles of soils, soil fertility and nutrient management to help crop production professionals make better decisions. Register by Feb. 11. Programs details are available at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0127pringnitz1.htm>

**Feb. 18, 2009 Crop Margins & the Farm Bill, Waukon**

Noon to 2:00 pm at the Allamakee County Farm Bureau office in Waukon. Designed to provide farmers, landowners and agribusiness leaders with an overview of current cost of production estimates, expected crop price trends and decision tools to help manage the risk of higher input prices and lower profit margins. Plus an update on the 2008 Farm Bill and the possible impacts it may have on farm operations. Presented by Robert Tigner, Extension Farm Management Field Specialist. For more information Allamakee County Extension at 568-6345 or Robert Tigner at 641-394-2174 or email to [rtigner@iastate.edu](mailto:rtigner@iastate.edu)

**Feb. 23, Pork Regional Conference, Oelwein.**

10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Oelwein Community Plaza. The fee for those pre-registered at least 2 business days in advance is \$20 per person, which includes the noon meal and materials. Walk-in registration is \$30 per person. All fees are payable at the door. Information is available on the IPIC Web site at [www.ipic.iastate.edu/events.html](http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/events.html) . People can preregister by calling IPIC at (800) 808-7675 or (515) 294-4103. The program brochure is at: <http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/information/2009RegConf.pdf>

**Feb. 23, North Iowa Strip Till Expo, NIACC, Mason City**

Open at 9:00 am to view exhibits, with the program starting at 10:00 am at the Muse-Norris Conference Center, NIACC, Mason City. Program information is posted at: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/cerrogordo/news/Strip+Till+Expo.htm>

**Feb. 26, Dairy Steer Meeting, Oelwein**

10:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Two Brothers Restaurant, Oelwein. Pre-registration deadline is February 20, 2009. The registration fee is \$20. Topics presented by Dale Thoreson and Robert Tigner, ISUE Field Specialists will include: Nutrition and Management of Dairy Steers; Cost of Production and Risk Management Strategies for Holstein Steers & Feeder Cattle; Carcass Characteristics and Packer Expectations. For more information contact Robert Tigner at the Chickasaw County Extension office, 641-394-2174. For the brochure/registration form for this program see the attached pdf file.

**Feb. 26-28, Upper Midwest Organic Farming Conference, LaCrosse, WI.**

Go to: [www.mosesorganic.org](http://www.mosesorganic.org) for information on the over 60 workshops and other activities. On-line registration ends Feb. 18.

**Feb. 28, Northeast Iowa Horticulture Chautauqua VI, West Union**

9:00 am to 3:15 pm at the North Fayette High School, West Union. Multiple speakers and break-out sessions on many horticulture subjects. For a copy of the brochure with details on the event, go to: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/chickasaw/news/chautauqua.htm>

**Feb. 28, The 38th Annual Cornbelt Cow-Calf Conference, Ottumwa**

9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Bridge View Center in Ottumwa. The one-day event typically draws more than 500 people and costs just \$10 to enter. No preregistration is required and all participants receive a copy of materials presented at the conference. The conference includes more than a dozen presentations in general and breakout sessions, as well as more than 70 exhibits. For more information go to: [www.iowabeefcenter.org](http://www.iowabeefcenter.org)

**Mar. 3-5, Hawkeye Farm Show, Cedar Falls**

Farm Show website is: <http://www.farmshowsusa.com/Mains/HMain.htm>

ISU Extension seminars given twice daily. For the seminar schedule, go to:

<http://www.farmshowsusa.com/GSI/2009ISUSched.htm>

Tuesday, March 3, 2009

11:00 am, Brian Lang - "Optimizing Your Crop's NPK Fertilizer Program"

1:00 pm, Craig Chase - "Managing Higher Input Costs in Crop Production"

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

11:00 am, Chad Hart - "Grain Marketing Outlook and Management Considerations"

1:00 pm, George Cummins - "Corn and Soybean Production Management Issues for 2009"

Thursday, March 5, 2009

11:00 am, Chad Hart - "Grain Marketing Outlook and Management Considerations"

1:00 pm, Craig Chase - "2008 Farm Bill Considerations"

**Mar. 7, ISU Extension Crop Scout School**

Designed for farmers and agribusiness staff new to crop scouting. Limited class size. Register by March 4. Program details are available at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2009/0127pringnitz.htm>

**Mar. 9-10, 2009 Iowa Water Conference, Ames**

Information on the program, exhibits, registration, CCA credits, etc. is available at:

<http://www.aep.iastate.edu/water/>

**Mar. 19, Northeast ISU Research Farm Annual Meeting, Nashua**

Registration opens at 9:00 with a morning educational program that will include: "Key Issues in Ag Law and Policy: How do they affect you and I?" by Roger McEowen; "The BioEconomy: Opportunities and Challenges" by Jill Euken; and "NE Research Farm Update" by Ken Pecinovsky. A dutch treat lunch over the noon hour and an afternoon Board of Directors meeting will follow. Pre-registration is not required. Contact Fred Hall, NEIAEA Secretary, for additional information ([hallfred@iastate.edu](mailto:hallfred@iastate.edu)) or 641-394-2174. Directions: Exit Hwy 218 at the 220 exit at Nashua, turn west on B-60 (280th St., also Lexington Ave.) go 1.1 miles to Windfall Ave., then south 1 mile to 290th St., then east to the research farm.

**Mar. 21, Blazing a New Trail Part 4, Cresco**

9:00 am to 3:00 pm at the NICC Cresco Center. This is the fourth year for this organic conference featuring growing organic fruits, the organic market, climatology, locally grown greenhouse fruits and vegetables, contracts rights and wrongs, funding sources and soil quality topics. For more information about the program, brochure, etc., go to:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/howard/news/organicconf.htm>

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