

## **CROP NOTES for April 3, 2009**

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

*By Brian Lang, ISU Extension Agronomist*  
911 S. Mill Street, Decorah, IA 52101  
563-382-2949

**Here are a couple of timely items that came across my desk to send immediately.**

#### **DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILY FARMS**

You may be eligible for up to \$5,000 through the Small Business Disaster Recovery Grant program administered by Iowa Workforce Development (IWD). The grants are for small family farms, non-profit organizations or small businesses affected by the floods and tornadoes of 2008. To be eligible, your business, non-profit agency or farm must have existed prior to the disaster; have 25 or fewer employees; be located in a county that was declared eligible for Public Assistance by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA); and experienced a dislocation of workers as a result of the disaster. The grant can be used to reimburse or pay for the cost of repairing or replacing property and items damaged by the flood. The grant can also be used for disaster-related insurance co-payments and deductibles as long as the costs are associated with the business and not the individual. The grant cannot be used for costs that can be covered by other sources including, but not limited to, FEMA, Small Business Administration (SBA), JumpStart funds and insurance claims. Also, salary payments and capital improvements expenses are not eligible. About \$1.7 million is available for the program statewide on a first-come, first-serve basis. We encourage you to apply as soon as possible because there are a limited amount of grants available at this time. For more information and application details, contact Cheryl Busby or Teresa Burke at the Iowa Workforce Development office in Des Moines. Their phone number is 515-245-7800. The Rebuild Iowa Website is: [www.rio.iowa.gov](http://www.rio.iowa.gov)

#### **STATE OF IOWA RULES FOR ON-FARM FERTILIZER STORAGE**

Farmers thinking about direct purchase and storage of fertilizer on their farms need to be aware of the State rules and regulations regarding buying, selling and storing fertilizer. The following news release from the Secretary of Agriculture covers some of these issues:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/blackhawk/news/fertilizer.htm> For additional questions on this, please contact the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Feed and Fertilizer Bureau. Terry Jensen is the Feed and Fertilizer Bureau Chief, 515-281-8599, [terry.jensen@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:terry.jensen@iowaagriculture.gov). Kevin Klommmhaus is the Fertilizer Program Administrator, 515-242-6338, [kevin.klommhaus@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:kevin.klommhaus@iowaagriculture.gov)

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.