

Extension Crop Update

This newsletter, and previous issues from recent years, can be found on-line at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/plymouth/info/cropupdate.htm>

February 15, 2011

Volume 14, Issue #2



Prepared by

Joel DeJong,

Extension Field Agronomist

Plymouth County Extension

251 12th St SE

LeMars, IA 51031

Phone: (712) 546-7835 e-mail:

jldejong@iastate.edu

*Serving Cherokee,
Harrison, Ida, Lyon,
Monona, O'Brien,
Osceola, Plymouth,
Sioux and Woodbury
Counties in NW and
WC Iowa.*

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

Soil Fertility – Understand the Basics Workshop! On March 1, John Sawyer and I are again offering a workshop at the convention center in LeMars to discuss several soil fertility issues. We will start at 9:30 a.m., and complete the workshop at 3:00 pm. Lunch and materials are included with the registration. We will look closely at the basics of P and K in crop production, and then turn to N management. Reviewing soil lime needs will follow, and as we near the end of the day we will spend a little time on micronutrient responses in Iowa. We do some soil fertility and fertilizer calculation problem examples, and encourage you to bring a soil test or two with you – we plan to review that during the day, also.

The cost per person is \$75, and preregistration is needed. We have 20 on the registered list at this time, so if you want to participate let me know SOON! We are limiting this to a maximum of 40 people for this workshop in order to encourage more audience participation. Find a brochure for this event [here](#).

NW Iowa Research Farm Annual Meeting and Program,

2/22/11 - The annual meeting and educational program of the Northwest Iowa Research Farm will be February 22, 2011. The **educational meeting** will be held at the Northwest Iowa Research Farm, which is located one mile south and one quarter mile east of Calumet, Iowa on county road B62, beginning at 1:30 pm and concluding at 3:30 pm. Speakers include Roger Elmore, ISU Extension Corn Specialist, presenting “300 Bushel Corn Management,” including research based management practices that are necessary for high yielding corn production; and ISU Extension Ag Engineer Mark Hanna discussing “Residue Management for Crop Production,” including strip tillage operations, planter modifications and planting time adjustments that can help assure that reduced tillage systems be successful. This meeting is free and open to the public.

The annual meeting is for research farm board members and persons interested in the operation of the research farm. The annual meeting will be held at Donna’s Café at Calumet. The board meeting will begin at 9:30am. The annual meeting will conclude at 12:00pm.

Western Iowa Research Farm Ag Day set for February 25 -

Western Iowa crop research issues and stopping the yield stealers are topics for the annual Western Iowa Research Farm Ag Day to be held the morning of February 25. The program will start at 10:30 a.m. on the farm 3 ½ miles east of Castana on Monona County Road E34, and will highlight cooperative on-farm research both currently underway and planned for the future. ISU Extension Agronomist Joel DeJong will chronicle ongoing on-farm research

Extension Crop Update, continued

trials in NW and west central Iowa. Stith Wiggs from the ISU Plant Pathology Department will share techniques for finding and managing crop nematode problems. Farm Superintendent Wayne Roush will summarize the year at the farm. There is no charge to attend, and lunch will be provided.

Additionally, a confinement site manure applicator certification workshop will begin at 1:30 p.m. following lunch for anyone who needs certification. Also, the 62nd annual meeting of the Western Iowa Experimental Farm Association board will be held from 9:30 a.m. till the start of the Ag Day; the public is also welcome to attend.

NW Iowa No-till Conference March 18 – The LeMars Convention Center will be the host site for this year's NW Iowa No-Till Conference on Friday, March 18. Tom Oswald, a strip-tiller from Cleghorn who was the kick-off speaker at this year's National No-till Conference, will lead off the day at 10 am. A panel of 5 new no-tillers will be next, followed by a free lunch sponsored by Iowa Learning Farms. After lunch an experienced no-till farmer panel will share their challenges and hints for success, followed by a presentation on "N Management in No-till" by me. We'll conclude the day by 2:30. To see a flier of this event, click [here](#).

If you are attending, please e-mail me or call the Plymouth County Extension office to reserve a noon meal. If you don't register, you might not get that free meal!

Pesticide and Manure Training/Testing Dates for Winter: Haven't attended manure certification or pesticide training yet? [Check here](#) for NW Iowa private pesticide training sites in NW Iowa for this year. Need to take the test? Here is the list where IDALS will be offering [Pesticide Applicator testing](#). Confinement Site Manure Applicator live training sessions are held each winter in January and February. Find the list of all Iowa sites [here](#).

2011 Farm Succession Workshop Offered: Does your family need to start the conversation about business transition through the generations? Is it time to start setting goals and putting transition plans on paper? Start the process at a 1½-day [ISU Extension Business & Farm Succession Workshop](#). There is still one session left for this winter in NW Iowa:

- March 2-3 in Sheldon – Northwest Iowa Community College

Wednesday March 2—1 to 8pm; Thursday March 3—1 to 5pm

COST: \$150 for first four family members, \$25 for each additional person.

"Thanks for Subscribing!"