

Soup Luncheon
January 2, 2011
 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
 FFA Center
 Adair County Fairgrounds
 Admission. Proceeds go
 toward local food
 bank for homeless shelters.

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ON - ADAIR COUNTY
 ST STREET, SUITE B
 IA 50849

Crop Programs Slated for Adair County

Energy Efficient Grain Dryer Workshop

Are you thinking about updating your grain drying system or maybe you are starting from scratch? Get valuable tips to help you select an efficient system that is right for your operation and learn about grants and low-interest loans that can help you finance it.

A free grain dryer program will be held on Tuesday, January 18 and run from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at the 4-H and FFA Center at the Adair County Fairgrounds. Shawn Shouse, ISU Ag Engineer, will explain considerations helpful to producers who dry grain or who are considering drying grain. Representatives from the USDA will be present to share information about a special loan and grant program, the Rural Energy for America Program that assists producers in modernizing or setting up energy efficient, on-farm grain drying facilities.

Vendors will be available to visit with producers from 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. when the program begins.

shop are required by Thursday, January 13.

A complimentary lunch will be served immediately following the program. If you need your private pesticide continuing education credit, make a day of it, and stay for PPAT training from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the same location.

Crop Fair Plus Private Pesticide

The Iowa Corn Growers Association and the Adair County Corn and Soybean Association will be hosting a special Crop Fair on Wednesday, February 16th at Orient Methodist Church. The program will start with a complimentary lunch at 11:30 a.m. and runs to 2:30 p.m.. Featured speakers will include: Elwynn Taylor, ISU Climatologist, Darrell Busby, Tri-County Steer Futurity, and Tim Eggers, ISU Extension Field Agricultural Economist.

Reservations are required by Monday, February 14.

A private pesticide applicator continuing education session will be offered in the morning from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at the

Two for One Deals The Efficient Grain Dryer workshop and Crop Fair are both free and open to all interested parties. Our goal is to provide information and top notch speakers in conjunction with private applicator trainings to our producers.

Final PPAT Class

A final PPAT class is scheduled for **Friday, March 7th from 6:00 p.m.** at the Adair County Extension Centre in Adair.

Reminder for All PPAT

Arrive at least 30 minutes before the PPAT sessions to complete registration. State law forbids admitting latecomers.

Cost for the training is \$10. Checks should be made payable to Adair County Extension. Cost to renew your pesticide applicator license is \$15. Checks should be made payable to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

For more information contact your local Extension agent.

choice to meet nutritional needs of beef cows when fed free choice. This summer's continual rains on over-mature or otherwise damaged forage resulting in decreased feed value.

One-half of the forage submitted to date through our ongoing project are marginal in energy. Nearly 20% are marginal in meeting protein needs of a mature beef cow ration," according to Dan Loy, Extension Specialist.

A cow feeding workshop will be held on **Friday, January 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.** at the Adair County Extension meeting room. Topics include: recent forage testing in our county, evaluating feed inventory, sample rationing for a beef cow, and tools

to have a chance to work through various ration examples using results from the forage test project and the Beef Ration and Nutrient Decision Software (BRANDS).

Special support for the workshop is provided by the Adair County Cattlemen. There is a \$5.00 registration fee to help cover a portion of the lunch costs, payable at the door. Registration is requested by Tuesday, December 28th.

ISU Beef Specialist, Joe Sellers, will also be available after 1:30 p.m. to work with producers individually on rations. To set up an appointment, for more information or to register contact the Adair County Extension office at 641-743-8412 or email powella@iastate.edu.

Speak Out For Agriculture XVII Donations Needed

Known as Speak Out For Agriculture is in its sixteenth year of offering seventh through twelfth grade student opportunities to learn about career options in agriculture. The SOFA unique is that it is a program designed for teens.

There were three SOFA events: a trip to Iowa State University's Vet Med College, skill building workshops and an ag career trip to the farm. In the workshops students learned more

about the actual value of the corn in various products. In Omaha, students toured the Henry Doorly Zoo Vet Clinic, Midwest Laboratories, Farm Credit Services of America and Canoyer's Garden Center.

SOFA alumni have chosen agricultural careers, many right here in Adair county. Please consider supporting this worthwhile program that continues to build life-long advocates for agriculture. Tax-deductible donations may be

made to attend the 27th annual 4-H Extension Conference on Tuesday, January 11 beginning at 4:30 p.m. at the ISU Armstrong Research Center in Lewis.

Speakers and their topics for the 2011 conference are as follows: Dr. David Patterson, State Extension Specialist, University of Missouri – *"Show-Me-Select Multi-year Selection Index"*; Dr. Dale Blasi, State Beef Extension Specialist, Kansas State University – *"Benefiting from Forage on Pasture."*; Daren Williams, Executive Director of Communications, National Cattlemen's Beef Association – *"Understanding and Managing Threats to the Industry."*; Dr. Rick Foltz, Reproductive Physiology Specialist, University of Nebraska – *"Low Input Heifer Development"*.

The registration fee is \$25.00 per person. Reservations are requested by Friday, January 11, 2011. The fee includes a beef meal and access to the conference proceedings. For more information or to register for the conference, contact Dr. McDonald ISU Extension Beef Specialist at 641-355-1034. If you wish to register online, please use the PayPal go to our website at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/feci/4s>

Adair County Cattlemen Banquet

Saturday January 29
6:00 p.m.

The value of an acre of farmland in Iowa rose 15.9 percent in 2010, according to an survey conducted by Iowa State University. Mike Duffy, ISU Extension economist, said the statewide average land value as of Nov. 1 this year was \$10,000 per acre, up \$693 per acre from 2009. Farmland values increased 18.1 percent in 2010, up \$602 from 2009.

The survey shows a substantial increase in land values following a drop in 2009. "We need to be cautious and values and be prudent, but I don't want to be overly pessimistic that there will be a crash in values anytime soon," said

Duffy. "The rate of increase in 2010 appears high, but it is half the yearly increases in 1973, 1974 and 1975."

Duffy said it is important to remember the time span when evaluating survey results. "This has been especially true the past few years when corn and soybean prices have varied considerably. Monthly prices for corn averaged 37 percent higher July to November this year compared to average monthly prices from January through June. Soybean prices are 21 percent higher over the same time span," Duffy said. Duffy said land values should remain strong at least for the next several months. Beyond that,

there is a fair degree of uncertainty of whether land values can maintain their current level. Volatility in corn and soybean prices and production costs lead to tremendous uncertainty in the land market, as historically reflected in the Iowa State survey. Land values rose 22 percent in 2007, down 2.2 percent in 2008 and up 15.9 percent in 2010. Since 2004, land values are up 93 percent.

Additional information on the 2010 survey is available in an archived version of Duffy's news conference. The news conference announcing the results are available online at www.extension.iastate.edu/landvalue/

Commercial & Confinement Manure Applicator Training Dates Set

Dates have been set for commercial and confinement site manure applicators. Commercial and confinement site manure applicators should plan to attend the **Commercial Manure Applicator Training** on **Wednesday, January 5, 2011** from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Adair County Extension office in Adair.

For those manure applicators wishing to attend, those wanting to certify for the first time should attend. The workshop will provide the three hours of annual training and will cover applicator rules, manure application on snow and frozen ground, liability issues, and impacts on tile drainage. In addition, video from the 2009 Manure Expo will feature personal

Confinement site manure applicators and anyone interested in learning about applying manure should plan to attend the 2010 two-hour workshop being offered **Tuesday, January 25 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. at City Hall in Adair**. There is no fee to attend the workshops, but certified applicators will need to pay certification fees to complete certification requirements.

Iowa law requires confinement site manure applicators to attend two hours of continuing education each year of their three-year certification period, or take and pass an exam once every three years. Workshop participants will learn about land application rules, separation distances for land application of manure, newly proposed rules

A dry manure applicator certification workshop is scheduled for **Thursday, February 10, 2011 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Green Chamber of Commerce meeting room**. This session meets the training requirements for Commercial Applicator certification, but is specifically designed for applicators handling poultry litter.

If you have questions about any of the training, contact the Adair County Extension office at 641-743-8412 or go to <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immac.html>.

Advantage Series meeting will make profitable decisions for the upcoming season. The Cass County Community Center in Atlantic is the site of the **Thursday, January 18** program. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and the program runs from 9:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. The keynote speaker, Allison Robertson, will be discussing the latest research on understanding sudden death syndrome in soybeans, a widespread problem in 2010. ISU Extension crop plant specialists will be discussing the latest research on soybean pests at each meeting.

Topics to be covered are: Crop response to drought; Management of anhydrous ammonia; Corn and soybean pests that feed on corn; 2010 filed crop inventory; Where did the yield go? 2010; Herbicides; New products for specific problems; and Pesticide applicator training.

Registration (January 20) is \$35 and includes workshop materials, lunch and refreshments. An additional fee is charged for CCA credit for pesticide applicator recertification, which is less than one week prior to the start of the workshop. The total cost at the door is \$45. Registration materials are available at www.cropadvantage.org or at your local ISU Extension office.

Meet Our New Staff

Each of us joined the Extension Staff as a new staff member in October. She typically works on Tuesday and Thursday. Marilyn joined the Extension staff this month as a participant in the Experience Works

Should houseplants be fertilized in winter? Fertilization is generally not necessary during the winter months because most houseplants are growing very little or resting. Indoor gardeners should fertilize their houseplants on a regular basis in spring and summer when the plants are actively growing.

What are some good gift ideas for gardeners?

Garden calendars are excellent gifts for gardeners. The 2011 garden calendar from Iowa State University Extension contains attractive photographs and timely garden tips in a 9x12-inch format. The garden calendar, [Gardening is GOOD for You - 2001 Garden Calendar](#), is available at the Extension office for \$6.00.

I am thinking about getting involved in a commercial horticulture venture?

Are you thinking about producing large quantities for vegetables to supplement your income? Maybe you are thinking about raising and selling bedding plants? If you are exploring a commercial horticulture venture or already involved in one, you can get help from our new Commercial Extension Horticulturist, Joe Hannan. You can contact him at 515-971-9503 or jmhannon@iastate.edu

Soup Lunch January 2



Join Adair County 4-H Youth Council for lunch on Sunday, January 2 from 11:30 to 1:00. They will be serving soup, relishes, breadsticks, pie and bars. The lunch will be held at the Adair County 4-H and FFA Center at the fairgrounds in Greenfield. The group will be accepting free will donations for the lunch with all the proceeds going towards purchasing beef gift certificates and pork products for food pantries in Greenfield, Stu-

If you have young children in your home (5 and under), sign up for this great program, "Loving Your Family, Feeding their Future." The 3-session series will let you enjoy the time you help prepare with other parents. You will receive nutritional information, and learn simple ideas to get your child moving. No matter what their age.

There will be lunch-hour and evening sessions, with the first one starting Tuesday, January 18, at the United Methodist Church in Greenfield. The lunch hour session will run from 11:30-1:00 and the evening session from 5:30-7:00. There is no charge to attend, but advance registration is required to ensure sufficient supplies and child care is available.

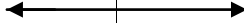

Family Learning Time

Families with infants and toddlers (under 3) can take advantage of a great program being offered at the Stuart Public Library starting January 27th. *Family Learning Time* is a 6-part literacy/reading series helped by parents or caregivers learn different ways to develop their children's language skills. This program will prepare them for a good start in school. A parent or caregiver (i.e. grandparent) must bring the child to each session with them. At the end of each session, the family will go home from each session with their own copy of the featured book.

To register for either of these programs, contact Adair County Extension at 641-251-3400.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 cheon 00 pm il 1:30	3 Adair County Extension Council meeting 6:00 pm EO*	4 Cow Nutrition Meeting 10:00 - 1:30 EO**	5 Commercial Manure Applicator Training 9-12 EO*	6	7 Reservations due 4 State Beef Con- ference, Lewis	8
9	10	11 4-State Beef Conference, Lewis, 4:30 p.m. Book Club 6-7 pm EO*	12	13 Reservations due Grain Dry workshop	14	15
16	17	18 Grain Dryer Workshop 9-12:30 PPAT 1:30-3:30 pm FG** Loving Your Family details p. 4	19	20	21	22
/30	24 /31	25 Confinement Site Manure Appli- cation 1:30-3:30	26	27 Crop Advantage -Atlantic	28	29

December 2010

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Extension Office Closed 	24	25 
26	27 Beef Weigh-in	28 Uncommon Student 9-10 am EO*	29 Culinary Arts for 7th -9th Graders 11:00 am - 2:00 pm	30	31 New Year's Eve Party, 1st-5th graders 12:30 am	