

For what it's worth...

After the winter we've had it hard to believe spring is just around the corner and with a couple days above 45°F last week it seems as though field conditions may improve. Snow cover has nearly been eliminated paving the way for soil temperature to increase and the topsoil to dry up a bit.

Speaking of soil temperature, I'd like to point out a nice feature I've put in the right sidebar: **Webpage's to View**. In this area I'm including Webpage's that may be of interest. Some you may have heard of others may be new to you. This week, I have included a good site for current 4-inch soil temperature, pasture management and the newly released ICM News.

Spring Pasture Management

Early spring is the time to think green. Not just because St. Patrick's day is upon us but because pastures are starting to green up and some are thinking about seeding oats and alfalfa. Here are a few things to look for and/or think about:

- Winter annuals: the grasses are not the only thing showing green. Get on these winter annuals early when you have less chance to control more than just the weed.
- Fertility: when was the pasture last fertilized? Are legumes part of the pasture or is commercial fertilizer (even at today's pricing) still the route?
- Stand evaluation: How did it over winter? Or from memory did you have what you wanted last year. Spring is the time of year to interseed pastures for greatest success.

Integrated Crop Management News (ICM News)

The Integrated Crop Management News is now available at www.extension.iastate.edu/cropnews. It offers research-based crop production information and provides greater access to the Iowa State University Extension resources for Iowa farmers and their advisors.

Features of the site include:

- Weekly or daily e-mail notification of new articles
- Quick access to crop production sites at Iowa State University
- Easy-to-print single articles and weekly compilations

Rapid response when a crisis occurs

We encourage you to bookmark this and sign up for daily or weekly e-mail notification of updates at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/Subscribe.htm>

Dates to Remember:

Mar 18, 2008	Private Pesticide Applicator Training, FC Community Room, Farnhamville, IA
Mar 19, 2008	RUSLE2 and P-Index Workshop, Carroll Co. Extension, Carroll, IA
Mar 25, 2008	Private Pesticide Applicator Training, Clover Hall, Jefferson, IA

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Serving: Calhoun,
Carroll, Crawford,
Greene, Ida,
Monona and
Sac counties.

Webpage's to View:

[Iowa 4-Inch Soil Temperatures By County](#)

[ISUE Pasture and Forage Publications](#)

[ICM News](#)

[Corn Nitrogen Rate Calculator](#)

[Soybean Disease & Pest Management Field Guide](#)

[Farmland Values Increase](#)

[2008 Iowa Farm Custom Rate Survey](#)

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