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TO THE POINT

Corn Reference Materials

With much anticipation for the 2008 planting season, some areas of the state are under way for the year. By the time this reaches most of you, our hope is that you will have had the chance to do some fieldwork, including planting. This is not the case in some areas of southern Iowa where Mother Nature has not given us a chance to do anything but sit in the shed waiting for time in the field. When a season like 2008 comes along, we all need information at our fingertips on a moment's notice. One such publication, Corn Planting Guide, found at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1885.pdf>, can be useful for you to have in your truck or downloaded to your laptop.

New Soybean Guide Available

This guide is a useful tool that comes in a waterproof, pocket-sized version making it easy to carry. For copies of this handy pocket guide, contact your local county extension office. If you wish to obtain multiple copies, you can order on-line at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/store>, go to crops, then crops-soybean, and look for CSI 0010 - Soybean Disease & Pest Management Field Guide.

Hey! Hay

Where is all the hay going? I think we all know the answer to that question. The old saying "the more something changes the more it stays the same." This sure fits hay production. I have seen a few drills out this spring, so it is encouraging to see some new seeding taking place. We have many different philosophies when it comes to hay production. Each management style varies based on individual operations. One thing we need to be aware as margins shrink for livestock producers is to maximize the forage acres we do have available. This may be a time to consider pasture renovation.

