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# TO THE POINT

## HAS SPRING SPRUNG?

Well based on the normal weather we typically have for this time of year I think we are all waiting for some good weather to get some spring work done. I want you to be aware of some good resources to look for information when you need it most. It seems like I always need the answer yesterday.

The first one is the link to the NEW Integrated CropNews. Here you can find more information on crop happenings in Iowa with the click of a mouse. Use this newsletter when you are looking for specific information and need to print an article for yourself or someone else.

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews>

The next web site you may want to comment on is something new for me like most of you. That would be a blog, not sure, what a blog is however, this is a good chance to interact with people around the state and specialists on campus in an informal way. The Iowa Farmer Today sponsors this. I will be writing articles for this column from time to time. I would encourage looking at the blog on occasion. With higher input prices and rapid change, information is critical to help you make the best decisions possible for your operation and business. Use this site when you just want to check up on the latest news around the state.

<http://www.iowafarmertoday.com/blog/>

## Pasture or Corn?

Well, this is a hard topic to tackle. With commodity prices at record levels, we all need to once again sharpen the pencil and make the decisions we can sleep on. There is no silver bullet here. Now is the time if we are keeping our pastures to change our style and make our pastures work harder for our livestock and us. As we make changes to our pastures look up the following two publications:

PM 1008 Steps to Establish and Maintain Legume-Grass Pastures

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1008.pdf>

AG 0096 Estimated Costs of Pasture and Hay Production

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/AG96.pdf>