

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>

Nov. 20, 2008

Volume 11, Issue #20



Prepared by

Joel DeJong,

Extension Field Agronomist

Plymouth County Extension

24 1st St. NW

LeMars, IA 51031

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

jldejong@iastate.edu

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

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ISU Yield Trial Results Now Available – Almost all of the Iowa Crop Performance Testing reports are now on the web page. Results by site are placed on the web in an excel spreadsheet format quite soon after harvest is completed. NW Iowa corn is done, but they are not complete yet in some other parts of Iowa. You can see each individual site, or the summary of multiple sites in each district. To see the reports for corn, soybeans, alfalfa or small grains from this year, start at the Iowa Crop Performance testing web page found here: <http://www.croptesting.iastate.edu/>.

Registration is Open for Ag Chem Dealer Updates and the ISU ICM Conference. The **Ag Chemical Dealer Updates** deliver the latest crop production recommendations, news and information directly from Iowa State University Extension. Each location features updates on weed, insect, crop disease and soil nutrient management brought to you by ISU experts. Meetings will review the positives and negatives of the past growing season and prepare seed, chemical, and fertilizer dealers, crop consultants, farm managers and agronomists for the challenges of the upcoming crop production year. CCA credits and 2008 Commercial Pesticide Continuing Education are available at these meetings. The closest location is Storm Lake on Dec. 16. For details and registration, go here:

<http://www.aep.iastate.edu/acu/homepage.html>.

The **Integrated Crop Management Conference** is set for Dec. 10 & 11 in Ames. Choose from over 40 workshops, and see the trade show at the Agribusiness Expo. Up to 13 CCA credits are available, and Commercial Pesticide Certification is available for categories 1A,B,C and 10. Get more details and register at this web site:

<http://www.aep.iastate.edu/icm/homepage.html>.

Hold These Dates for the 2009 Crop Advantage Series in NW Iowa! The annual Crop Advantage Series dates are set for January, 2009. Monday, January 5, will be the date for the Sheldon Crop Advantage Conference at NCC. The Spirit Lake date is January 14, and Cherokee will be hosting this conference on January 20, at the Community College building. Morning general sessions will feature aphid research and management, along with managing soil nutrients in uncertain times. There will be three individual afternoon sessions, with three different choices during each session. For details of every location, and to register, the web page is now available for all the Iowa sessions here: <http://www.aep.iastate.edu/cas/homepage.html>. For Certified Crop Advisors, up to 5 CCA credits are available. Private Pesticide Applicators can attend an additional workshop at the end of the day to

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complete that continuing education requirement for the winter, too. There is an additional charge for these extra certifications, however.

Take a look, and attend if you think it might benefit your operation!

Websites Useful for Farm Business Planning – ISU Extension has several sites that I use all the time for answering your questions. The first is called the “**Ag Decision Maker**.” This reference has survey data on land values, custom rates, farmland leases, and worksheets on crop production costs, and a vast array of farm management topics. Find it here, and then bookmark it: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/>. Check it monthly – they have newsletters and monthly updates listed on this main page.

Iowa State University has also developed a “**Center for Ag Law and Taxation**.” Another great reference you might want to bookmark for your use is their web page: <http://www.calt.iastate.edu/>. Roger McEowen, Professor of Agricultural Law at ISU, leads this center, assisted by staff attorney Erin Herbold, and Tiffany Kaiser, program administrator. They print ag law updates on their main page frequently (recent articles include the VeraSun bankruptcy issue) and other current topics. Additional links are present on this page for a whole host of ag law and taxation topics. At least take a look – it might become a useful reference for you!

Have a Happy Thanksgiving! It has been a bountiful harvest for much of NW Iowa. Take time next week to be thankful for it!

"Thanks for Subscribing!"