

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>

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

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Attend the Crop Advantage Series in January! The Crop Advantage conferences to be held around Iowa in January offer a great opportunity to learn about a wide range of agronomy topics. I encourage you to attend! NW Iowa locations are Sheldon on January 5; Spirit Lake on January 14, Cherokee on January 20, and Carroll on January 27. Two morning keynote presenters are featured – ISU Entomologist Marlin Rice on “Return of the Soybean Aphid: Preparing for the Threat in 2009,” and John Sawyer or Antonio Mallarino, ISU Soil Fertility Specialists, covering “Fertilizer Decisions in Uncertain Times.” You can choose 3 of 9 afternoon workshops at each site – choose those of most interest to you!

Starting time is 10 am at all of the sites, except for Carroll – they start at 9. Afternoon workshops will conclude around 4 pm. Private Pesticide Applicator continuing education is available as an add-on to the day if you choose. Up to 5 CCA credits are available, too. **Registration costs are \$35 if registered 7 or more days before the conference** – then the base fee increases to \$45. If you want CCA credits, an additional \$25 will be needed. Just like with all pesticide applicator continuing education meetings, an additional \$20 is charged for these credits.

Register on-line at the Crop Advantage web page:

www.cropadvantage.org, or go to this page to see the details of all the afternoon workshops available at each site.

Confinement Site Manure Applicator Training scheduled for 2009:

A confinement site manure applicator is “a person, other than a commercial manure service or a commercial manure service representative who applies manure on land if the manure originates from a manure storage structure. Confinement site applicators applying manure from a small animal feeding operation (SAFO) are exempt from being certified. Confinement site applicators applying manure from an open feedlot are exempt from being certified. Confinement site applicators must attend 2 hours of annual training each year of their 3 year license or take and pass an exam once every 3 years.” Confinement site applicator certification session locations for January and February of 2009 are listed here: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/09confdates.html>. See the IMMAG website for more details of manure certification requirements: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>.

Commercial Manure Applicator Training January 7 – This course is for commercial manure service managers and commercial manure service representatives who apply manure for a fee. This course will qualify

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as initial certification and as recertification for commercial manure service representatives. Confinement site applicators may also attend, but will be required to attend all three hours of the program versus the required two hours in the confinement site program. All commercial licenses expire on March 1, annually. Please register for this program to ensure adequate space and materials are available for all attendees. See the brochure for this program here: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/SP278CommApplCert2008.pdf>. Contact information for sites is listed on the back of this brochure.

Pesticide Licensing for 2008-09: For those who need to take the pesticide tests this winter, either private or commercial, testing dates and sites are listed on the IDALS Pesticide Bureau web page, or here: <http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/pesticides.asp>. They will be offering tests in each NW Iowa county once this winter, and in Primghar and Sioux City once per month for the remainder of the year. To see the dates for Private Pesticide Continuing Education programs for NW Iowa, use the ISU Extension Calendar: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/calendar/>. You can find other ISU Extension events here, too. Search by county, include counties surrounding yours, by subject area, and more.

Have a Merry Christmas! Find time for family and friends.

"Thanks for Subscribing!"