

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## University Extension



### Ida County Extension

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*Get inside Extension and discover how we support healthy people, healthy environments, and healthy economies. Read about some of the ways ISU Extension meets local needs, improves quality of life, and helps make Ida County a better place to live. You'll be amazed at what we do.*

### Ida County Extension Staff

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### Specialists Serving Ida County

Bob Coacher	Business & Industry
Beth Doran	Feedlot/Beef
Carol Ehlers	Youth
Eldon Everhart	Horticulture
Abbie Gaffey	Communities
Julie Hlas	External Relations
Eugenia Hanlon	Family Life
Kris Kohl	Ag Engineering
Mark Licht	Crops
Chris Mondak	Dairy
Tom Olsen	Farm Management
Merle Pochop	Business & Industry
Dave Stender	Swine
Renee Sweers	Health/Nutrition
Kristina Williams	Family Resource Mgmt.

... and justice for all

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
University Extension

Rodney Jensen  
Extension Council Chair

Kathy S. Schmidt  
County Extension Education Director

### Healthy People

#### Service Professionals Obtain Food Safety Certification



Area foodservice and restaurant managers participated in an intensive eight hour food safety training program at the Ida County Extension Office in April. ServSafe, a food safety certification program from the National Restaurant Association, was implemented by ISU Health/Nutrition Field Specialist Renee Sweers to prepare nine foodservice professionals to handle food safely to protect their customers.

Participants learned about microbial contamination, proper heating and cooling of foods, safety in purchasing and storage, and much more. Iowa State University Extension in Ida County and Ida County Public Health Department partnered to offer this ServSafe certification program.

### Healthy Environments

#### Pasture Walk Addresses Cow-Calf Issues

A pasture walk addressing “highly volatile” issues for cow-calf producers was held on June 25 at the Ted and Bob Paulsrud Farms near Danbury. Topics included: economical ways to improve pasture fertility, the emergency release of CRP for haying and grazing, pasture condition scoring, supplementing with co-product feeds, the 2008 Farm Bill, and beef quality assurance.



ISU Extension was one of eight sponsoring organizations to provide the program for 39 people from 11 counties. Fourteen producers received certification or re-certification in beef quality assurance. (Continues on page 2)



## Ida County Extension Council

Every Iowa county has an elected Extension Council that guides local educational programming by partnering with staff. From needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes, the council represents the issues and people of the county.

Members of the Ida County Extension Council include: Kelli Boyle, Clint Conover, Klint Cork, Lisa Cronin, Dale Friedrichsen, Rodney Jensen, Tammy Neubauer, Kyle Rohlk, and Todd Vohs.

We have identified these local issues as priority topics for current and future programming:

- Families
- Communities
- Business and Industry
- 4-H Youth Development
- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Continuing Ed. & Communication



**We connect you to Iowa State University.**

We are your local link to make connections for campus enrollment, continuing education, campus visits, campus exhibits, conferences, camps, and sporting events.

## Pasture Walk continued...

One producer commented, "The pasture walk was really good and helped me learn about Iowa pastures." Jerry Sindt, Woodbury County NRCS Soil Conservationist wrote, "...The information was good...The presentation on by-products was very good..."

There was also an indirect impact. Wayne Brincks, Agricultural Representative for Congressman Steve King, used follow-up information about CRP forage in a congressional call discussing the need for an earlier release of CRP for flood assistance. This early release was granted to 97 counties for haying at a 25% payment reduction.

## Healthy Economies

### CIRAS assists GOMACO with Quality System Certification

GOMACO Industries of Ida Grove is a leader in the concrete paving and slip forming industry with equipment in use in every major country and every continent. In order to maintain this leadership position, the company decided that now was the time to incorporate ISO 9001, an internationally recognized quality system, in order to better manage the company's quality improvement initiatives.

GOMACO General Manager Dan Soellner contacted Extension CIRAS Engineer Merle Pochop for assistance in providing the educational training needed to create and effectively use the documents and record systems required.

GOMACO was ISO 9001 certified 4 months ahead of schedule due to the continued support of management and excellent cooperation at all levels.



According to Dan Soellner, cost savings in several different areas have been recognized since the ISO implementation. "We continue to improve our Quality System and adapt the system to our methods of operations. Several areas were identified during the process of having shortcomings while going through the implementation stage. Along with Merle's help our QA team, Internal Auditors and GOMACO employees did a fabulous job in helping achieve the ISO certification in an aggressive time frame."

## Youth / Adult Partnerships

### 4-H'ers Support ISU Research with Crop Scouting Professionals

4-H'ers from Ida and surrounding counties formed a multi-county crop scouting team. The Monsanto Field Research plot in Storm Lake hosted trainings co-led by their Technology Development Managers and ISU Agronomists. Participants observed affects of a cold, wet spring season and the impact on planting, crop growth and pests. Area banks, agribusinesses and volunteers provided more than \$3,000 to support this program.

