

Snouts & Tails

Volume 10 No. 5

Nov. 21, 2008

Contents:

- 1 – 2008 Sow Bridge – distance learning opportunity
 - 2 – ISU Extension Publication – Farm Financial Management
 - 3 – PQA Plus ... upcoming sessions
 - 4 – 2008 a Challenging Corn Drying Season – article
 - 5 – MCOOL information available
 - 6 – Manure Issues
 - 7 – PQA Plus™ Advisor Training Program, Dec. 9, Ames, \$75
 - 8 – Swine Calendar
 - 9 – Resources
-

1. 2008 Sow Bridge – distance learning opportunity

SowBridge is a distance learning program designed for owners, employees, technicians, managers, and technical service providers who manage or care for boars, sows, and/or their litters. The monthly SowBridge programs are approximately 45 minutes in length and the educational programs are developed and presented by leading U.S. swine extension educators and researchers.

“The SowBridge program provides valuable information on the daily care and management of the sow herd, from breeding through lactation, as well as piglet care” said Mark Whitney, University of Minnesota Swine Extension Specialist. “We have brought together national industry experts to discuss options for key issues affecting this segment of the pork industry.”

Participants receive the monthly presentations by mail on a CD one week prior to the program. On the day of the program, participants follow along by computer while listening to the presenter via a toll-free telephone line. “Many breeding and gestation units have utilized the program to have employees view and listen over their noon break, utilizing a speaker telephone.” Whitney said.

Program Topic and Speakers	
Nov. 5, 2008	Composting Mortalities Dr. Bob Thaler, South Dakota State University

Dec. 3, 2008	Proper Euthanasia of Sows and Piglets Dr. John Deen, University of Minnesota
Jan. 7, 2009	Breeding Management in Pens and Stalls Bob Ivey, Maxwell Foods
Feb. 4, 2009	Cross-fostering and Bump Weaning Dr. Barb Straw, Michigan State University
March 4, 2009	Optimizing Sow Performance with Rescue Decks Jon Hoek, Belstra Milling Co., Inc
April 1, 2009	Creep Feeding Dr. Joel DeRouchey, Kansas State University
May 6, 2009	Reproductive Manipulation using PG600 Dr. Rob Knox, University of Illinois
June 10, 2009	Reproductive Manipulation using Matrix Dr. Ron Bates, Michigan State University
July 1, 2009	On-Farm Semen Evaluation Dr. Wayne Singleton, Purdue University
Aug. 5, 2009	Induction of Farrowing Dr. Tim Safranski, University of Missouri
Sept. 2, 2009	Sow Watch and Piglet Care the First 24 Hours Matt Davis, Hord Livestock
Oct. 7, 2009	Effective Pest and Rodent Control Dr. Ralph Williams, Purdue University
Register online at www.extension.umn.edu/swine or by telephone at (515) 294-4496.	

Storlie view: The new season of the **SowBridge Breeding Herd Education Series** has already held the first session, but 11 excellent programs remain.

Register by calling (515) 294-4496.

2. ISU Extension Publication – Farm Financial Management

Contact: William Edwards, Economics, (515) 294-6161, wedwards@iastate.edu

Recent updates of six publications from Iowa State University Extension are designed to give farmers current information on a variety of topics related to farm financial management.

William Edwards, professor of economics and ISU Extension farm management specialist, oversees the publications in Extension's farm management series. Revisions released during September include publications on farm income and net worth statements, farm financial

statements, cash flow budgeting, farm lease agreements and the annual farm building rental rate survey report.

Edwards said farm operators can use these publications to help with organizing financial records and to provide good information on the business conditions that affect their operations. All of the publications are available at ISU Extension county offices and can be ordered online or downloaded at the ISU Extension Store, www.extension.iastate.edu/store

Your Farm Income Statement, FM 1816, is an eight-page publication that discusses farm profit and loss information. Cash income and expenses and adjustments, net income and capital gains are explained. The publication includes examples of a Net Farm Income Statement, a Cash Flow Statement, and an Owner Equity Statement.

Your Net Worth Statement, FM 1791, is an eight-page publication that explains how to analyze the property you own and the debts that you owe and the relationship between the two. How to value assets and how to list liabilities are illustrated with specific examples, and the financial ratios between assets and liabilities are discussed. The publication includes an example of a Net Worth Statement.

Farm Financial Statements, FM 1824, is an eight-page publication that discusses the importance of farm financial statements in the operation of a farm business. Information from these statements is used to make important financing and investment decisions, to substantiate credit applications, to derive performance measures for analyzing the farm business, and to develop budgets for planning purposes. It includes blank worksheets for completing a Net Income Statement, a Net Worth Statement, a Statement of Cash Flows, and a Statement of Owner Equity. An electronic spreadsheet containing forms for all the statements is available on the Ag Decision Maker web site at www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/ under the Whole Farm, Financial section.

Twelve Steps to Cash Flow Budgeting, FM 1792, is an eight-page publication that provides a step-by-step guide to developing a cash flow budget, analyzing the budget and planning for major investments. It includes planning examples and a sample Cash Flow Budget.

Two additional publications that have been revised recently focus on specific aspects of farm operations. *Flexible Farm Lease Arrangements*, FM 1724, is a four-page publication that provides information needed to develop flexible farm lease agreements, where the actual rent is not determined until after the crop is harvested. Included is a flexible lease agreement worksheet and multiple examples.

Iowa Farm Building Rental Rate Survey, FM 1838, is one of several farm management publications from ISU Extension that reports on-the-farm costs as recorded in a survey of farm operators, landowners, lenders, real estate brokers and professional farm managers. This one-page survey reports on prevailing rental rates for a variety of farm structures, including those used for livestock production, grain and forage storage and machinery storage.

The farm financial publications are part of a collection of more than 125 ISU Extension publications available on farm management topics. A list is available online at www.extension.iastate.edu/store/ListItems.aspx?CategoryID=37

“I’m a great believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it.”
- Thomas Jefferson (1743 – 1826)

3. **PQA Plus**

When does your PQA certification expire? If it expires in the next few months, I encourage you to plan ahead and attend an upcoming certification session. To obtain your PQA Plus certification you will first need to locate a PQA Plus Advisor. Your PQA Plus Advisor may not be the same person that you used for PQA because Advisors needed to meet specific requirements and attend training. While I and other ISU Extension Swine Specialists are PQA Plus Advisors, you can call the Pork Checkoff Service Center at (800) 456-PORK(7675) to find out who is available in your area.

I will provide PQA Plus Certification primarily by educational meetings. Attend one meeting to become certified and the certification is good for 3 years. A typical meeting will be approximately 2 hours long and cover the 10 good production practices. PQA Plus education meetings will have a \$25 per person registration fee and sponsor-based education meetings will have a \$250 per meeting fee (regardless of group size). A fee of up to \$75/hour will be charged for one-on-one PQA Plus certification to encourage individuals to plan ahead.

Upcoming PQA Plus Certification meetings:

Thursday, December 11, Fayette County Extension Office, Fayette, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., \$25
Pre-registration is required. While walk-ins are welcome, commitments are needed to justify the meeting.

Upon request for an evening meeting (yes - 2 meetings the same day)

Thursday, December 11, Fayette County Extension Office, Fayette, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., \$25
Pre-registration is required. While walk-ins are welcome, commitments are needed to justify the meeting.

Thursday, February 12, Fayette County Extension Office, Fayette, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., \$25
Pre-registration is required. While walk-ins are welcome, commitments are needed to justify the meeting.

You can download and read the new PQA Plus™ manual on the NPB Web site <http://www.pork.org/Producers/PQA/PQAPlusEdBook.pdf>

“A torn jacket is soon mended; but hard words bruise the heart of a child.”

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807 - 1882)

4. **Challenging Corn Drying Season in 2008**

Article by Greg Brenneman, ISU Extension Ag Engineering Field Specialist

Later planting and a cool summer have combined to make for a late maturing corn crop this fall. Much of Iowa's crop is just now maturing in early October. While in-field drying will occur in October, the best drying conditions are usually in late September.

In 2008, it is anticipated that much of Iowa's corn crop will be harvested in the low to mid 20% moisture range as opposed to the mid to upper teens of the past couple of years. A good look at expected dry down conditions is covered in a Minnesota website at:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/cropenews/2008/08MNCN26.html>

It takes 15-20 Growing Degree Days (GGD) to drop corn about one percentage point of moisture. With normal weather conditions, we can expect early October corn dry down of 0.5 to 0.75% per day and decreasing to less than 0.33% per day by late October. By November, little additional in-field drying can be expected. Based on these drying rates, corn maturing to black layer on October 1 can still be expected to be in the low 20% moisture range by late October.

One way to cut drying costs and increase the capacity of a high temperature dryer is to cool the corn after taking it out of the dryer. Cooling the corn after the dryer can remove an additional 1-2 percentage points of moisture. You can take this a step further with dryeration. Corn is unloaded hot from the dryer and held hot or "tempered" for 4 to 12 hours without aeration in a holding bin. It is then cooled and moved to storage. About 2 to 3 points of moisture will be removed during the delayed cooling. Dryeration boosts dryer capacity, improves corn quality, and reduces energy use. It is important to move the corn to another bin after cooling with dryeration because of condensation that will occur in the cooling bin.

With the rapidly increasing propane prices over the last several years, natural air drying has become more cost competitive. Under average weather and drying conditions, electricity costing \$0.10 per kWhr for using only fans for drying compares to about \$1.75 per gallon LP prices with average high temperature dryers. To make natural air drying work, adequate fan sizes are needed and corn should be 22% or less in moisture content. Fan capacity should be greater than 1 cfm/bushel which roughly equates to about 1 horsepower per 1000 bushels. Drying depths should be limited to about 16 ft.

Another way to greatly increase the capacity of high temperature dryer and save on drying costs is to use combination drying. This is using the high temp dryer to dry corn to under 20% moisture and then finish drying in a natural air bin. This combination drying can more than

double the capacity of the high temperature dryer and save 10 to 20% on drying costs based on current LP and electricity prices.

Producers are encouraged to seek ways to reduce corn drying costs, but they should avoid the temptation to under-dry corn. Corn that is too wet will spoil when warm weather arrives in spring. Also, do not cut corners when operating aeration systems. Even if corn is adequately dried, it can spoil in storage if the grain is not adequately cooled. Corn should be aerated to cool it below 40F for winter storage.

You can get more information about grain drying, handling, aeration and storage from several publications available through your County Extension Office or MidWest Plan Service at www.mwpsdq.org or by calling 800-562-3618. They are:

Dry Grain Aeration Systems Design Handbook, MWPS 29
Grain Drying, Handling and Storage Handbook, MWPS-13.
Low Temperature and Solar Grain Drying Handbook, MWPS-22
Managing Dry Grain in Storage – 2nd Ed, AED-20

“To acquire knowledge, one must study; but to acquire wisdom, one must observe.”
- Marilyn vos Savant

5. MCOOL information available

If you were unable to attend the August 25th MCOOL webinar, the presentations and materials are available online: http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/content/COOL_webcast.html

The program was sponsored by the Iowa Beef Center and Iowa Pork Industry Centers.

Storlie view: Communication! For swine producers, MCOOL will primarily impact operations which source Canadian feeder pigs. Packers will be key in how they position procurement of non-US origin swine to meet the MCOOL rules. If you have Canadian born pigs, talk with your packer buyer. Having a clear understanding of the rules may be helpful: 1) awareness to compare packers and 2) pros/cons of market opportunities with non-US origin pigs. As the buyer of the pigs and marketer of the pork, the packer, will have the “final word” and shape the market.

6. Manure Issues

**** DNR: Watch amounts if applying manure products on land that will be planted to soybeans**

Posted Nov. 6, 2008

There is a limit on liquid manure or open lot effluent that can be land applied to fields that will be planted to soybeans next spring.

The limit is 100 pounds of nitrogen, or N, per acre and it applies to liquid manure or runoff containing manure from both open feedlots and animal confinements. The restriction applies only to liquid manure. If no liquid manure is applied, then commercial fertilizer application would not be limited.

“If they are using manure, producers who plan on planting soybeans next year should not apply more than 100 pounds of N, including manure and commercial fertilizer,” said Gene Tinker, the DNR animal feeding operations coordinator.

Tinker added that there has been some confusion about this new rule. “The limit applies only to fields where soybeans are planned as the next crop,” he said. “It does not apply to land where soybeans have just been harvested and corn is planned for next spring.”

The limit went into effect in May 2008. Producers also should follow long-standing rules for land application. Generally, those include applying manure at agronomic rates and observing separation distances from environmentally sensitive areas. Those required to have a manure or nutrient management plan must follow it. And, commercial and confinement site manure applicators must be certified.

More information on manure application is available at www.iowadnr.gov/afo/landapp.html.

**** Confinement Site Manure Applicator Certification for 2008**

DNR reports there are still approximately 230 confinement site manure applicators who need to attend 2 hours of training yet this year to avoid taking the remedial exam to be eligible to recertify in 2009. For more information please see:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2008/nov/160701.htm>.

Please contact your [County Extension Office](#) to schedule time to meet the required annual training or contact your local [DNR Field Office](#) to schedule time to take the certification exam. If you need to determine your current certification status, contact DNR at 515-281-5918. Please ask for the Licensing Bureau and state you are a manure applicator.

Additional information, including 2009 training workshops, dates and locations can be found at: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>.

**** DNR proposed rule for manure application on snow-covered and frozen ground**

Over the course of the past few weeks, the DNR has been circulating drafts of their proposed rules addressing manure application on snow-covered and frozen ground. After considering comments from stakeholders, a draft was submitted as an Information Item for the December EPC meeting. A copy of the Agenda Brief and a copy of the draft rules can be found linked at: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/hottopics/snowfrozen.html>.

Changes and additions to the existing rules are highlighted in the draft. The public is welcome to make comments regarding these draft rules at the December 9th EPC meeting. Comments may also be sent to Claire Hruby, Geologist, IDNR - Wallace Building, 502 E. 9th St., Des Moines, IA 50319; ph: 515-242-6848 or claire.hruby@dnr.iowa.gov. If the draft rule is accepted by the commission, it will be presented as a Notice of Intended Action at the January EPC meeting, when dates for regional public comment sessions will be announced. IMMAG web site and S&T will include any information about public comments sessions or how to submit comments in future.

**** Factsheet on *Selling and Buying Manure in Iowa* is available**

The latest Iowa Manure Manager Series fact sheet, *Selling and Buying Manure in Iowa*, has been finalized and posted to the web at: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/pubs/imms/vol10.pdf>.

Resource for information on manure, manure plans, etc.:

- IMMAG Web site at <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>
 - DNR Web site at <http://www.iowadnr.com/afo/appcert.html>
-

7. PQA Plus™ Advisor Training Program, Dec. 9, Ames, \$75

Veterinarians and others in Iowa's pork industry have the opportunity to become Pork Quality Assurance Plus™ Advisors under the National Pork Board's PQA Plus™ program. The certification process requires attendance at a daylong training session and passing an exam at the conclusion of that session. A training program is being offered by the Iowa Pork Industry Center (IPIC) at Iowa State University (ISU).

James McKean, associate director of IPIC and ISU Extension swine veterinarian, is coordinating the training to be held Dec. 9 at the ISU Memorial Union in Ames.

To be eligible to submit an application, people must meet the following qualifications:

1. Be a veterinarian, Extension specialist or ag educator (defined for this program as a person who spends full time in adult education or at least half time in production training) AND
2. Have a D.V.M. or B.S. in animal science (or equivalent) AND
3. Have two years of recent documentable swine production experience.

A two-page application form must be submitted and approved before attending the course by December 1.

To register or request additional information please contact Jane Runneals at IPIC at (515) 294-4103.

8a. **Swine CALENDAR**

Dec. 9. PQA Plus Advisor Training, ISU, Ames, \$75

This program is directed at veterinarians, educators and industry professionals so they can provide PQA Plus certification education and conduct PQA Plus Site Status assessments. More info: contact Iowa Pork Industry Center, mstorlie@iastate.edu or phone 800-808-7675

Dec. 11. PQA Plus Certification meeting, Fayette County Extension Office, Fayette, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., \$25

Pre-registration is required. While walk-ins are welcome, commitments are needed to justify the meeting.

For more information: contact Mark Storlie, mstorlie@iastate.edu or phone 563-425-3331

Dec. 11. PQA Plus Certification meeting, Fayette County Extension Office, Fayette, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., \$25

Pre-registration is required. While walk-ins are welcome, commitments are needed to justify the meeting.

For more information: contact Mark Storlie, mstorlie@iastate.edu or phone 563-425-3331

Dec. 19. Pork Niche Market Working Group - meeting, IPPA offices, Clive, 10am to 2pm

Dec. 19. IPIC Advisory Board, ISU Kildee Hall, Ames

Current board member: <http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/about.html>

Jan. 20. PQA Plus Certification meeting, Jones County Extension Office, Anamosa, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., \$25

Pre-registration is required. While walk-ins are welcome, commitments are needed to justify the meeting.

More info: contact Larry McMullen, lkcmcmull@iastate.edu or phone 319-462-2791

Jan. 28-29. Iowa Pork Congress, Hy-Vee Hall, Des Moines, Iowa

More info: <http://www.iowaporkcongress.org/>

Feb. 12. PQA Plus Certification meeting, Fayette County Extension Office, Fayette, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m., \$25

Pre-registration is required. While walk-ins are welcome, commitments are needed to justify the meeting.

For more information: contact Mark Storlie, mstorlie@iastate.edu or phone 563-425-3331

8b. Other Ag CALENDAR

Nov. 24, 8th Annual Iowa Organic Conference, Scheman Building, ISU, Ames, \$105/125

For more information, www.uca.iastate.edu/mnet/organic08/home.html

This year's Iowa Organic Conference highlights: Transitioning to Organic Farming, Organic Vegetable Production, Marketing Organic Products, and Making the Farm Bill Work for You.

Dec. 1-18, Ag Chemical Dealer Updates, Various Locations

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 help prepare seed, chemical, and fertilizer dealers, crop consultants, farm managers and agronomists for the challenges of the upcoming crop production year. CCA credits available. Each meeting includes continuing instructional credits for Commercial Pesticide Applicator recertification in categories 1A (weeds), 1B (insects), 1C (diseases), and 10 (research and demonstration) for 2008. Dates and Locations are:

Dec 1 - Iowa City

Dec 2 - Calmar & Waterloo

Dec 3 - Mason City

Dec 15 - Lewis

Dec 16 - Storm Lake

Dec 17 - Ames

Dec 18 - Osceola

Registration and additional information will be made available in about 3 weeks at:

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

Dec. 3-4. Iowa Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting and trade show, Polk County Convention Complex, Des Moines. IPIC and IPPA will share a display.

Dec. 9-10, Integrated Crop Management Conference, Ames

The ICM Conference has something to offer everyone involved in crop production and protection in Iowa and the surrounding states. Choose from over 40 different workshops featuring the latest crop production information from experts from around the Midwest. Over 75 exhibitors representing all aspects of crop production and protection. Receive commercial pesticide applicator recertification credits in categories 1A, 1B, 1C (weed, insect, disease), 4 (seed treatment) and 10 (research and demonstration.). Receive up to 13 CCA credits.

Attendees can choose from as many as 6 topics each hour. This format allows you to customize your conference experience to meet your interests and CCA credit needs. Registration and additional information will be available in about 3 weeks at:

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

Dec. 18, Chickasaw County Crop Clinic, New Hampton

9a. Resources – IPPA

The IPPA has materials on the following topics. They are very helpful and to the point (8 to 12 page 8.25”x5.5” pamphlets). Request materials by calling IPPA 800-372-7675 or e-mail Tyler Bettin, Producer Education, tbettin@iowapork.org

1. Recommended checklist – suggestions for non-permitted sites, 8 page, \$0
2. Facility Leasing Checklist, 12 page, \$0
3. Legal Requirements for Marketing Pork Products... adding value to live hogs, 8 pages, \$0

9b. Resources – ISU

* **Ag Decision Maker** – Web site: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/>

* **PIG** – Web site: <http://isu.porkgateway.org/>

* **Mortality Composting** – Web site: <http://www.abe.iastate.edu/pigsgone/>

* **Midwest Planning Service** – Web site: www.mwpsdq.org

* Considering a Swine Niche Market? A previous IPIC & ISU Extension program may provide some background, provide awareness and raise important questions. Select “Comparing Swine Niche Marketing Opportunities” from the marketing topics posted on the IPIC web site:

<http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/topics.html#marketing>

The “Comparison Chart” asked 40 questions to nine organizations: Niman Ranch Pork Company, Organic Valley Pork, Truline Premium Pork, Five Star Premium Pork and 100% Berkshire Pork.

* TEAMPork or Swine Field Specialist are available for evaluation of production system and cost control measures. Time may be scheduled with me (no cost) or scheduled with TEAMPork to provide detailed analysis for \$250 payable at time of application.

* RURAL CONCERN HOTLINE: 800-447-1985. Confidential, 24 hour, free resource to access range of expertise to aid people make quality of life decisions.

9c. Resources – State of Iowa

* Iowa Attorney General, Environmental and Ag Law Division,

<http://www.state.ia.us/government/ag/farm.htm>

- information on production contracts and commodity production contract lien

Iowa State University Extension – Builds partnerships and provides research-based learning opportunities to improve quality of life in Iowa.

We believe inQuality, Access, Diversity, Accountability
We are dedicated to ... Engagement, Entrepreneurship, Local Presence

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.

Mark Storlie
ISU Swine Field Specialist
201 E Clark, Suite 101 PO Box 700
Fayette, Iowa 52142

Phone 563-425-3331
Fax: 563-425-3339

Enjoy Pork !