



CHARLIE BAIER, Iowa State University Howard County Extension Education Director

FOR THE WEEK OF April 18, 2005

Soil Management Conference

The soil management and land valuation conference will be May 18, 2005 at Scheman Continuing Education Building, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa. This conference is designed for anyone who has an interest in agriculture land, land management, and land valuation. Please pre-register by May 4. The Iowa Real Estate Commission has approved this conference for 6 hours of continuing education requirements for renewal of real estate and broker's license. This conference has also been approved for 6 hours of continuing education for Iowa Appraisal License renewal. For more information you can contact Mike Duffy at 515-294-6160 or stop by the Howard Co. Extension Office in Cresco.

Farmer Market Training

The vendor certification training for 2005 Iowa Farmer's Market Nutrition Program has been scheduled. All growers seeking certification in FMNP must attend a two-hour training session. The program in our area will be on April 28 6:30 pm at North Iowa Area Community College Mason City. To register for this program or find other locations please call 515-281-5993 or e-mail, ryan.proudfit@idals.state.ia.us.

High Dairy Cows: March's summary of Howard County DHIA records.

Here are the top five cows for fat-corrected milk as reported by the Howard County DHIA.

Herd Owner	Barnname	Milk	Fat	Protein	Fat Corrected Milk
Burnikel, Darin Sonya	0Taylor H	33762	2336		35944
KDS Dairy Farm	000w125 H	34101	2350		35506
Burnikel, Darin Sonya	Melanie H	33674	2059		33098
Burnikel, Darin Sonya	Eugenia H	25908	2081		31886
Burnikel, Darin Sonya	Con-115 H	28358	2033		31045

Centipedes and Millipedes

Millipedes and most centipedes prefer to live outdoors in damp habitats.

But sometimes they get into your house and no one likes to see them run across the floor.

Management of centipedes and millipedes needs to focus on reducing the number entering the home by sealing cracks in foundations and around doors. Also, reducing centipede and millipede habitat around the foundation will help. They prefer moisture, so you can reduce suitable habitat by raking back mulch from the foundation, keeping plantings trimmed to allow sunlight to dry the soil, and letting soil dry between watering. Perimeter spraying of insecticides are of limited benefit in controlling centipedes and millipedes because the products do not always reach their protected habitats.

When centipedes and millipedes get indoors it is best to remove them with a vacuum or broom. Sticky traps can be placed against walls near entryways in areas where they are commonly observed. Reducing moisture and removing hiding places (old newspapers, boxes, etc) will also help in managing these occasional invaders. Indoor use of insecticides is not recommended for controlling millipedes because they usually die in a short time because of the dryness. Controlling house centipedes is best accomplished by reducing the number of insects they are using for food.