



FARM AND HOME NEWS



CHARLIE BAIER, Iowa State University Howard County Extension Education Director

FOR THE WEEK OF April 25, 2005

4-H Outdoor Club

Howard County Extension is in the process of starting a new 4-H club that will focus on outdoor exploration, shooting sport, and fun. To join or learn more about this new club, parents and youth grades 4-12 are invited to an organizational meeting April 30 at 2 PM at Prairie's Edge Nature Center. Club leaders are Steve and Stephanie Kuhn and Ron and Julie Langreck. 4-H club members will learn about fishing and go fishing at the end of the meeting.

Workshops For Non-Profit Organizations

Two workshops for nonprofit organizations will be offered on Wednesday, April 27 from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, at the Hotel Winneshiek in Decorah. The first workshop, "Volunteer Recruitment, Development and Retention," will examine techniques to effectively recruit, and match volunteers to an agency's needs. It will also help non-profits celebrate volunteer accomplishments, share recognition ideas and retention systems for a successful volunteer program. The second workshop, "Marketing Nonprofit Organizations" will help non-profits explore effective ideas for marketing their organization and their program. Participants will discuss best ways to spend their marketing dollars, develop a marketing plan for their agency, and learn the basics of engaging their entire agency in marketing. These workshops are part of a Nonprofit Management Series presented by Iowa State University Extension and the Decorah Area Chamber of Commerce. The workshops are designed to bring comprehensive educational programs for the nonprofit sector in Northeast Iowa. To register for the workshops or for more information, contact the Decorah Area Chamber of Commerce office at 563-382-3990 or the ISU Extension Winneshiek County office at 563-382-2949.

When Weeds Emerge

Weed emergence is somewhat predictable. Their time of emergence can vary from year to year, but a rough idea of time of emergence and order of emergence can be approximated. Weed scientists use degree days (base 48) to approximate initial weed emergence. Its far from perfect because it doesn't account for differences in soil type, soil moisture, crop residue, tillage, etc.

Of course, the duration of weed emergence also adds to the problem of management. Some weeds, such as woolly cupgrass, emerge over a short period (2 to 3 weeks), while others, like waterhemp, emerge over 3 to 5 months. The DD accumulation would start after tillage, or in the case of no-till from January 1, but starting back at zero accumulated DD with a killing frost.

To help in determining when to scout and what weeds to scout for, along with the implementation of control tactics, weed scientists developed a publication to provide some direction related to the order, timing, and duration of weed emergence. This information is from Brian Lang, ISU Field Specialist. It is available at:

www.ipm.uiuc.edu/weeds/WeedEmergePoster.pdf