



FARM AND HOME NEWS



CHARLIE BAIER, Iowa State University Howard County Extension Education Director

FOR THE WEEK OF June 20, 2005

NORTHEAST RESEARCH FARM FIELD DAY TO BE HELD JUNE 30TH

Thursday June 30th, the annual spring field day at the Iowa State University Northeast Research Center near Nashua will feature a morning program and a distinctly different afternoon program.

The morning program from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM will highlight the Iowa Learning Farms Project coordinated by Dr Mahdi Al-Kaisi, ISU Extension Soil Management Specialist. This project demonstrates the economic and environmental differences of various farming systems. The project includes research plots at the research farm and on-farm trials with cooperators across Iowa. The tour begins at the research farm at 9:30 AM. Participants will be bused to the Rick Juchems Farm on Hwy C13 SW of Nashua. The on-farm discussion will include cooperators comments; advantages and disadvantages of various farming systems; equipment considerations; an overview of the Conservation Security Program; and an update on the Cedar River TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load)/ Water Quality proposals. The Riverton Lucky Clovers 4-H Club will serve a dutch- treat meal from 11:30 AM till 1:30 PM at the Headquarters Building at the Research Farm.

The afternoon program will be conducted from 1:30 4:30PM and feature topics related to improving productivity, profitability and the environment. Specific presentations will include:

- a. Weed Management Strategies Bob Hartzler, ISU Extension Weed Specialist
- b. Spray Equipment Selection and Adjustment for Optimum Fungicide Application Mark Hanna, ISU Extension Ag Engineer
- c. Phosphorous Management and the P Index Antonio Mallarino, ISU Extension Soil Fertility Specialist
- d. Update on Soybean Diseases (including Soybean Rust) Greg Tylka, ISU Extension Nematologist

The field day is free and open to the public. Pre-registration is not required. CCA credits will be available for both the morning and afternoon programs at a nominal fee. The Northeast Research Farm is located on 290th Street 1-mile south and 1 1/2 miles west of Nashua. From the southeast turn west off Hwy 218 on 300th street (just north of the Cedar View Orchard and the Pearl Rock Cemetery), turn right (north) on Wren Avenue to 290th St and then left (west) to the research farm. From Hwy B60 turn south on Windfall Avenue 1 mile to 290th St. Turn east (left) to the Research Farm. Additional information on the field day is available from George Cummins, ISU Extension Crops Specialist - 641/228-1453 or Howard County Extension Office 563-547-3001.

June 23, 2005 Weed Science Field Day

The 2005 Weed Science Field Day is at the Curtiss Farm on South State Street in Ames. The self-guided field day will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. and introductory comments at 9 a.m. Healthy snacks, coffee, and other beverages will be available. The field day will allow the attendees to review herbicide demonstrations, specialty crop herbicide tolerance trials, no-tillage weed management systems, and herbicide application timing studies. While the Weed Science Field Day has traditionally been directed more for representatives of the ag-chemical industry, it is open to anyone who has an interest in new weed management practices. There is a \$20 registration fee, which covers refreshments and a field book. For further information, contact Mike Owen at 515-294-5936 or e-mail at mdowen@iastate.edu.

Tree Walk

On July 11th at 7 PM Bob Hauer, Northeast Iowa Consumer Horticulture Assistant will lead the walk and talk about choosing the right tree for the site, proper planting techniques, pruning young trees and common insect & disease problems. A tree is an investment that needs to be managed. Find out how to care for your trees so they are an asset, not a liability. There will be a fee of \$3 per person. You can sign up for this program by calling the Howard Co. Extension office at 563-547-3001.

Sun Safety

Protect your family from the sun this summer and help save a life. One out of five people will develop skin cancer in their lifetime. The more sunburns early in life, the greater your risk of skin cancer. One severe, blistering sunburn before age 18 doubles your risk. People with light skin and a family history of skin cancer are at higher risk. So protect your family with proper clothing when outdoors especially between the hours of 10 AM and 4 PM. For those parts of the body that are not covered you should use a sunscreen.