



**CHARLIE BAIER, Iowa State University Howard County Extension Education Director**

**FOR THE WEEK OF August 15, 2005**

### **Invited to Complete Survey**

All Iowans are encouraged to participate in a statewide needs assessment for Iowa State University Extension. Because of the complexity and scope of issues facing Iowans, we need everyone's help to identify needs in the state. A Web-based survey designed to obtain input from a broad base of Iowans is one part of the needs identification process and is now available at the Howard County Extension Web site at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/Howard](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Howard). Everyone is encouraged to participate in the survey, including youth age 12 and older. Results from the survey will be used by local county ISU Extension councils throughout the state to confirm needs, set priorities and identify regional issues. This information will be the basis for ISU Extensions new plan of work for the years 2007 through 2011. Information provided by survey takers will benefit all Iowans as it will be used over the next five years to provide ISU Extension programs and services that help Iowa residents and their communities to become their best.

### **LAND LEASE MEETING FOR WOMEN**

This is a joint program offered by FSA, NRCS, and ISU Extension on land lease for the women of the area. If you rent your land out, do you question if you are acting in the best interest of yourself, the renter, wildlife, and conservation? If you rent land, do you wonder what is most important to the landlord? The meeting will be held on August 18, 2005 at Prairies Edge Nature Center. The scheduled time is from 6:30 to 8:30 PM. Robert Tigner, Iowa State University Farm Management Field Specialist, will be featured at the meeting regarding land leases and various items of concern regarding renting or leasing land. Any woman landowner, operator or involved in agri-business is invited to attend. Reservations are requested but not required. If you wish to make a reservation, please contact the Howard County NRCS Office at 563-547-3040.

### **NE Iowa Home Dweller and Builder Conference & Trade Show**

A conference is being held in Cedar Falls at the Holiday Inn on October 13 to help home owners deal with the rising fuel costs and concerns about air quality. Dan Meyer, an Iowa State University Extension ag engineer field specialist is coordinating the Home Dweller and Builder Conference and Trade Show. It will involve an afternoon and evening program with a buffet dinner and trade show in the middle. Topics to be discussed include: preventing mold problems and alleviating existing ones, how mold can affect your health, handling radon concerns, lowering heating bills through tightening up homes, improving winter air quality with fan and heat exchanger units, using geothermal units to reduce year-around electrical and heating bills, minimizing Asian beetle and Ladybug populations, preventing wet basements, how much insulation does a house need and air quality health standards for homes. The conference will have an afternoon session, which runs from 2:00 to 5:00, and an evening session, which runs from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The trade show exhibitors will parallel the topics of the conference. A registration fee will be charged to help cover speaker costs and the printing of conference talks. Registrations are being handled by Fayette County Extension. For more information contact Dan Meyer, ISU Ag Engineer field specialist, P.O. Box 700, Fayette, IA 52142, Phone: 563/425-3331 or e-mail a message to him at [djmeyer@iastate.edu](mailto:djmeyer@iastate.edu).