



## FARM AND HOME NEWS



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

**FOR THE WEEK OF September 5, 2005**

### **Fall Broadleaf Weed Control**

In preparation for winter, perennial weeds translocate carbohydrates (foods) down to their roots in the fall. Broadleaf herbicides applied from mid-September to early November also will be translocated to the weed's roots, resulting in excellent control. Broadleaf herbicides can be applied as liquids or granules. Before applying any pesticide, carefully read and follow label directions. An attractive, healthy lawn next year begins with proper care this fall.

### **Sunflowers**

When the heads droop and the petals fade, tie a large paper bag around the heads to catch any falling seeds and prevent the birds from eating them. By late September, the heads should be ready to cut from the plants. Leave about six inches of stem attached to serve as a handle. The seeds are easy to remove by picking them out or brushing them with your hands. Sunflower seeds can be saved and used as birdseed in winter feeders to attract beautiful cardinals.

### **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.