



FARM AND HOME NEWS



CHARLIE BAIER, Iowa State University Howard County Extension Education Director

FOR THE WEEK OF February 21, 2005

Organic Farmer Forum March 10 at 7 PM.

Howard County Extension will hold this meeting at the extension office at 132 First Avenue West in Cresco. The meetings are open to anyone currently farming organically or thinking about changing over to organic farming. There is no cost, no agenda, just a free flow of information between people who want to learn and share information with each other. The meeting starts at 7 PM and ends when people are ready to go home around 9 or 9:30. Charlie Baier, Howard County Extension Director share information from ISU and take questions from the group back to the university. We will bring answers to those questions back to the next session. If you would like to join us for the next meeting please just call me at the Extension office at 563-547-3001.

Guest at this meeting will be Lori Harris, NRCS District Conservationist to update us on CSP and Brian Lang, ISU Extension Field Specialist to update us on soybean rust.

Last Pesticide Training

The final private pesticide training in Howard County will be on Wednesday March 9, 2005 at The Mint in Protivin. The training is for farmers that purchase and apply restricted use pesticides. Participants can attend the two-hour training that starts at 9:30 AM

NORTH CENTRAL IOWA BEEF CONFERENCE FEBRUARY 28

Iowa State University Extension is pleased to announce that the North Central Iowa Beef Conference, has been rescheduled for Monday, February 28, from 8:30 am-4:00 pm. The event will be at the Franklin County Convention Center on Highway 3 and will include a program for producers and a variety of commercial exhibits. A highlight of the conference includes a presentation by Dr. Larry Corah, Vice President of Certified Angus Beef of Wooster, Ohio. Corah joined Certified Angus Beef (CAB) in 1998 and was responsible for creating a new supply development program to ensure product supply for the largest branded beef program in the United States. Currently, he oversees packing and the production division of the program. In addition to Corah, the conference features other notable speakers, including Dr. John Lawrence, Dr. Dan Morriscal, Dr. Daryl Strohbehn, and Bryon Leu of Iowa State University, and Brian Peterson of USDA-NRCS. Topics slated for the days agenda include pasture management, developing a successful heifer development program, new tools for sire selection, and A Producers Systems Approach to Beef Production, a presentation given by Jeff Ryan, a beef producer from Cresco. The conference begins at 8:30 a.m. and concludes at 4:00 p.m. A registration fee of \$5.00 at the door includes lunch, a copy of conference proceedings, and access to approximately 25 commercial exhibits. For more information, call Russ Euken at (641)923-2856 or e-mail reuken@iastate.edu, Dale Thoreson at (319)267-2707 or e-mail dthores@iastate.edu.