

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## University Extension

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**ANR NEWS**

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*This electronic newsletter from Extension to Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR) is sent monthly to ANR faculty, field specialists, program staff, and all CEEDs. It is intended to provide current information regarding ANR administration and programs. Please let us know of topics you would like addressed.*

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### **BEGINNER BEEKEEPING COURSES SCHEDULED FOR 2009**

The Iowa Honey Producers Association (IHPA) will conduct beekeeping courses in several locations across the state to help those interested in beekeeping get started. For 2009, course locations and details are listed as follows:

**Winterset Library** – Classes run from Jan. 26 through March 5 with no class on Feb. 26. Instructor: Pat Randol. Contact Pat at 515-210-7445.

**Ankeny, DMACC Campus** – Classes start on Jan. 29 and will meet for six weeks. Instructor: John Johnson. Contact Lois Kiester, DMACC, at 515-964-6685.

**Marshalltown** -- Classes begin on Feb. 5 and will meet for six weeks. Instructors: Phil Ebert and Margaret Hala. Contact Jean Brownlie, Iowa Valley Continuing Education, at 800-284-4823.

**Washington, Kirkwood Center** -- Classes are expected to begin in mid to late Feb. for four weeks. Instructor: Ron Wehr. Contact Ron at 319-698-7542.

**Spencer** – Classes begin in March. Contact Larry or Marlene Boernsen at 712-735-4205.

**Cedar Rapids, Indian Creek Nature Center** -- Classes start on Jan. 22 with eight total sessions. Contact the Center at 319-362-0664.

**Knoxville Library** -- Classes run from Jan. 6 through March 3. Instructor: Craig Greene. Contact Craig at 641-842-2112.

**Indianola Library** -- Classes run from Jan 6 through March 3. Instructor: Mike Wyatt. Contact Mike at 515-961-0357.

To enroll, interested individuals are asked to call the contact for the course in their area. Early enrollment is important so courses can meet minimum enrollment numbers. Fees will vary by location and are expected to range from \$30 to \$60.

For more information, please refer to the IHPA website and online monthly newsletter at [www.abuzzaboutbees.com](http://www.abuzzaboutbees.com) or contact Andrew Joseph, State Apiarist, Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship at (515) 725-1481 or [andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:andrew.joseph@iowaagriculture.gov).

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## **AGRICULTURE AND FOOD RESEARCH INITIATIVE (AFRI) FUNDING PORTFOLIO AUTHORIZED**

USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) recently announced the addition of the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) to its funding portfolio as authorized under the 2008 Farm Bill. The Request for Applications is expected to be released early in 2009 on the CSREES and Grants.gov Web sites. In FY 2009, CSREES anticipates that \$190 million will be available for AFRI. However, the enactment of the FY 2009 Appropriations Act may impact the overall level of funding for the AFRI program.

AFRI replaces the former National Research Initiative and the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems programs and addresses six priority areas: 1) plant health and production and plant products; 2) animal health and production and animal products; 3) food safety, nutrition and health; 4) renewable energy, natural resources and environment; 5) agriculture systems and technology; and 6) agriculture economics and rural communities.

AFRI will support grants to address key problems of national, regional and multi-state importance in sustaining all components of agriculture. The flexibility in programming provided by the 2008 Farm Bill allows for support of a variety of project types, all of which will be reflected in the 2009 AFRI request for applications. These include single-function as well as integrated, multi-functional research, education and extension projects.

Applicants and other parties interested in the AFRI funding opportunity are encouraged to contact CSREES at (202) 401-5022 or [AFRI@csrees.usda.gov](mailto:AFRI@csrees.usda.gov). The complete public announcement can be viewed online at [www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/afri/pdfs/program\\_announcement.pdf](http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/afri/pdfs/program_announcement.pdf). Please note the table of contents starts on page 8.

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