

FARM AND YARD

ISU Extension Bremer County

720 7th Ave SW
Tripoli, IA 50676
Phone: (319) 882-4275
Fax: (319) 882-4292
www.extension.iastate.edu/bremer

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2017 Crop Advantage Series Coming to Area

Extension specialists bring latest research, crop production information

ARTICLE | FRI, 12/09/2016 - 10:14 |
BY BRENT PRINGNITZ

The 2017 Crop Advantage Series offers a unique opportunity for farmers and crop advisers to hear current research and crop production information from Iowa State University in their own back yard.

Topics on the agenda this year include managing economic challenges, nitrogen dynamics with rye cover crop, new and emerging corn diseases to look for in 2017, pest resistance management plan for soybean aphid, and drainage design for profits and water quality. Other topics will include a crop market outlook and preventing Palmer amaranth from moving onto a farm. For locations, times, program content and host information, visit www.cropadvantage.org. The entire document can be read at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/article/2017-crop-advantage-series-coming-14-iowa-locations>



FOR RURAL AND URBAN FAMILIES

Properly Pruning Trees During Winter Months

Article reprinted with permission from:
Richard Jauron
Program Specialist, Horticulture
Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

February through March is generally regarded as the best time to prune most deciduous trees. The absence of foliage at this time of year gives the individual a clear view of the tree and allows the selection and removal of appropriate branches. Also, the walling-off or compartmentalization of wounds occurs most rapidly just prior to the onset of growth in spring. Oaks are an exception. The winter months – December, January and February – are the best time to prune oak trees.



Deciduous trees can be pruned at other times of the year with little or no negative consequences. However, if possible, avoid pruning deciduous trees in spring when trees are leafing out and in fall when trees are dropping their leaves. The entire document can be read at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/smallfarms/properly-pruning-trees-during-winter-months>

Remember Who Owns the Corn Stalks in Iowa

Kristine Tidgren

Staff Attorney, Center for Agriculture Law and Taxation, Iowa State University

(Article reprinted with permission from the Center for Agriculture Law and Taxation, April 2015)

The Iowa Court of Appeals had the opportunity to interpret Iowa Code §562.5A, which, in the absence of a writing to the contrary, grants tenants the right to harvest corn stalks until the lease terminates. Little has been written about this law, which was enacted in 2010 in response to the growing value of corn stalks. Agricultural attorneys must be aware of this law and its impact on their clients. The recent case provides a good overview of its significant implications and sets forth key parameters for its application. It should be noted that this was a cash rent lease. It is unclear how the case would be decided under a crop share lease. <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/smallfarms/remember-who-owns-corn-stalks-iowa>



NRCS Can Help You Manage Your Iowa Acreage

Laura Crowell, State Public Affairs Officer, Natural Resources Conservation Service

For the past 80 years, NRCS conservation professionals have worked with private landowners to protect their land from erosion, improve water quality and promote wildlife habitat. Born during the Dust Bowl crisis, NRCS has grown to be the largest federal agency providing free, voluntary technical assistance at the local level. Our primary customers are farmers and ranchers, but our technical help is available to all private landowners.



While we help farmers with larger scale conservation issues and livestock management concerns, many of the same natural resource principles can be applied at the acreage level. Some of these items include helping design low-cost lawn maintenance plans that save water and improve habitat; protecting streambanks from erosion and reducing flooding risks; and reducing nutrient runoff to ponds and improving pond maintenance. The first step to getting free help from NRCS is visiting or calling one of our local offices, located in every county. <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/smallfarms/nrcs-can-help-you-manage-your-iowa-acreage>

www.extension.iastate.edu/bremer

Bremer County Extension Staff

[Bill Arndorfer](#)

Regional Director

[Ron Lenth](#)

County Education Program Coordinator

[Katie Diemer](#)

County Youth Coordinator

[Tammy Curley](#)

Office Manager/Bookkeeper

[Jeannette Mukayisire](#)

Family Finance Specialist

Area ISU Extension

Ag Engineering

[Kapil Arora](#), pbtiqer@iastate.edu

515-382-6551

Agromomy

[Terry Bosol](#), tbasol@iastate.edu

641-435-4864

Farm Management

[Melissa O'Rourke](#), morourke@iastate.edu

563-382-2949

Dairy Specialist

[Jen Bentley](#), jbentley@iastate.edu

563-382-2949

Calendar of Events



- Dec 23, 26 & Jan 2 – Extension Office closed
- Dec 27 - 4-H Vet Science Workshop, 6 pm, Ave of the Saints Small Animal Hospital, Waverly
- Dec 28 - 4-H Cookie/Cake Decorating, 6:30 pm, Extension Office, Tripoli
- Dec 29 - 4-H Welding Workshop, 6:30 pm, John Evens, Fairbank
- Jan 4 - Iowa State Dairy Assn. meeting, 10 am-3 pm, Hilton Garden Inn, Cedar Falls
- Jan 5 - Commercial Manure Certification, 9 am, Extension Office, Tripoli
- Jan 10 - Private Pesticide Training, 9:30 am Waverly Civic Center, Waverly
- Jan 10 - Bees and Honey Production Group, 7:00pm, Extension Office, Tripoli
- Jan 11 - Bremer Extension Council, 7:00pm, Extension Office, Tripoli
- Jan 12 - Iowa Holstein meeting, 11:30 am, Pizza Ranch, Waverly
- Jan 14 - Winter Bird Feeding and Outdoor Fun, Denver Library
- Jan 17 - Waverly Dairy Days, 9:30 am-3pm, Waverly Civic Center
- Jan 19 - Crop Advantage Workshop, 9 am, Hawkeye Community College, Waterloo
- Jan 19 - Winter Bird Feeding and Outdoor Fun, 6:30-7:30pm, Waverly Library
- Jan 26 - Private Pesticide Trainings, 1:30 pm and 7 pm, Extension Office Tripoli