

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Extension and Outreach

Agriculture and Natural Resources

ANR NEWS

September 2020

Jay's Comments

It's hard to believe its September! The last month has been a blur, especially after the Derecho. I've been amazed at the amount of programming you have all done in response to the storm, plus the programming on drought, leasing, etc. that continued as well. Extension truly rises to the task in a crisis. The speed that some things got delivered in a quality fashion is testimony to your dedication to lowans. Due to the virtual nature, I've even been able to "be there" for some of it. Thank you!

One of my favorite activities of the year has always been ANR Spring Professional Development. It's not the topics, though we work hard to make the topics relevant to what you tell us you need. It's the people. I've always felt like ANR has a family feel to it, where we reunite and catch up. (We can argue later on who gets the title of eccentric uncle or cat lady cousin.) What binds us together is our common goal, to impact lowans. This year our spring meeting had to be rescheduled to fall. We're now planning to go virtual, paring down and focusing the sessions on October 5-6. We will also recognize ANR Award winners at a separate time as well. It won't be the same, but I'm hoping we can be together once again in the spring. I'm an optimist, though I can be pretty pragmatic.

As a final word, one thing I worry about is the stress level carried by us all. There have been many stressors during 2020. We're all wound a little tight,

maybe a little grumpy and craving normal. I urge you to look out for each other. We do mental health training for our clients, but we are not immune. Many of you have been working long hours because your clients need you. Please take time to be good to yourself as well. Take time off when you can. Rest, eat well and hug your loved ones. YOU are important to us all! Thank you for all you are doing to make ANR impactful!

ANR Update

Area-wide Meetings: Six virtual [area-wide meetings](#) that will be held September 15, 16, 21, 25, 28, and 30. The focus of these meetings is planning the role of ISU Extension and Outreach in helping Iowa recover from the pandemic, recession, drought, and derecho. 2020 is an unusual year, so business as usual is not going to cut it. The [COVID-19 Recovery Task Force](#) has identified six initiatives where Iowans have a need and we have expertise to help:

- Reviving the Iowa economy, including the farm economy
- Supporting Iowans in improving financial security
- Engaging Iowans in improving food supply, safety, and access
- Expanding educational opportunities for youth
- Engaging Iowans in addressing mental health
- Supporting efforts to increase access to quality child care

Together we will discuss the initiatives. Then participants will move into Zoom breakout rooms to work through a program planning exercise. I strongly encourage you to participate. You will better understand the challenges facing our state and how you can help. It is part of the process by which we can tell stakeholders how ISU Extension and Outreach helped Iowa through multiple challenges in 2020. In addition, our response will help define how Iowa recovers and what Iowans tell their legislators five years from now about our

role. Please attend your appropriate area meeting. Tune into the 2nd Monday for more information: <https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/isueo/>



ANR in the air!

Meaghan Anderson, Extension Field Agronomist, was asked to help IDALS host Secretary of Ag Sonny Perdue on September 3rd. Included in the delegation was Senator Joni Ernst, Governor Kim Reynolds and IDALS Secretary Mike Naig. The USDA disaster declaration was signed at the field day. She represented us all well!

Mark Your Calendar for ANR Professional Development: ANR PD is rescheduled for October 5th and 6th. Mark your calendar for October 5th from 2:30 – 4 pm and October 6th from 8:15 -10 am. The program is being finalized now. I will send out an announcement with the link when it is available.

New Extension Publications: The following publications were added or updated in the ISU Extension Store during August:

- FM 1728 - [Iowa Farmland Rental Rates, 1994-2020](#) by Ann Johanns
- WL 0016 – [Iowa's Forest Birds](#) by Adam Janke
- BRANDS 100 - [Standard Cow & Heifer Edition](#) from the Iowa Beef Center
- BRANDS 200 - [Breeding Bull Module](#) from the Iowa Beef Center
- BRANDS 300 - [Standard Feedyard Edition](#) from the Iowa Beef Center
- BRANDS 400 - [Standard Edition](#) from the Iowa Beef Center
- BRANDS 600 - [Stocker Module](#) from the Iowa Beef Center
- EASTERN CORNBET BRANDS [100](#), [300](#), [400](#) from the Iowa Beef Center
- KANSAS BRANDS [100](#), [400](#) from the Iowa Beef Center

August Staff Spotlight: [Richard Jauron](#)

Personnel Changes/Updates

Departure:

- Mark Edelman, Economics, Retired 8/31

Professional Development from ISUEO

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/professionaldevelopment/>

[Mental Health First Aid Workshops](#), Sept 10, 24, Oct 1,15, Nov 5,19 and Dec 10.

[New Staff Orientation](#), September 17.

ANR Spring Fall Professional Development: October 5-6

Working Together!
