



## Ag News Information & Resources

March 2024

### Fayette County ISU Extension & Outreach

218 South Main Street  
Fayette, IA 52142  
Phone: (563) 425-3331  
Fax: (563) 425-3339  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/fayette/>

### Extension Links

Ag Decision Maker  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/>

Beef Center  
<http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/>

Dairy Team  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/dairyteam/>

ISU Nutrient Reduction Strategies  
<http://www.nutrientstrategy.iastate.edu/>

Iowa State Research Farms  
<http://farms.ag.iastate.edu/farms>

Iowa Water Quality Initiative  
<http://www.cleanwateriowa.org/>

Manure Management  
<http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/mmag/>

Pesticide Management  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pepm/>

Pork Center  
<http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/>

### NE Research and Demonstration Farm Annual Meeting

**Contact:** Josh Michel, Extension Agronomist, 563-581-7828, [jjmichel@iastate.edu](mailto:jjmichel@iastate.edu)

**Topics include short stature corn, trial results and nitrogen management**



The annual meeting of the Northeast Iowa Agricultural Experimental Association will be held March 13 at Iowa State University's Northeast Research and Demonstration Farm (<https://go.iastate.edu/8RTSVN>), near Nashua.

David Miller, consulting chief economist for Decision Innovation Solutions, Mark Licht, associate professor in agronomy and cropping systems specialist with ISU Extension and Outreach, and Michael Castellano, Iowa State professor and lead, Iowa Nitrogen Initiative, will speak at the farm's Borlaug Learning Center.

The program starts at 9:30 a.m. with the board meeting. A free lunch will be provided, sponsored by Becks Hybrids. Following the day's final presentation, the NEIAEA board of directors will meet. The day's sessions qualify for four free CCA credits (3 CM, 1 NM).

The meeting is free and open to the public. The program will be held at the Borlaug Learning Center on the Northeast Research and Demonstration Farm.

**Directions:** From Nashua at the junction of Highway 218 (Exit 220) and County Road B60, go west on B60 1.1 miles to Windfall Ave., then south 1 mile to 290th St., then east 0.2 miles to the farm.

### Resources of Interest

The following is a list of resources you may find helpful.

**The Handy Bt Trait Table** has been updated for 2024 and is available for download at [this link](https://www.texasinsects.org/bt-corn-trait-table.html) (<https://www.texasinsects.org/bt-corn-trait-table.html>). In addition to the Bt Trait Table for field corn and sweet corn, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension has several other helpful resources on that webpage.

### 2024 Herbicide Guide: Iowa Corn and Soybean Production (WC 94) —

The 2024 WC94 provides useful information for the selection of herbicides to be used for weed management in soybeans, corn and pasture grown in Iowa. Herbicide injury symptoms that may occur on crops are described as well as timely discussions about evolved herbicide resistance in Iowa, issues with invasive weeds and the potential for herbicide carryover.

<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/12150>

## Commercial and Private Pesticide Training Courses

**Contact:** Josh Michel, Extension Agronomist, 319-523-2371, [jjmichel@iastate.edu](mailto:jjmichel@iastate.edu)

### In-Person Commercial Pesticide Applicator Continuing Instruction Courses:

Certified Handlers, Category H

**March 20**, 9 am, Fayette County Extension Office, Fayette

Ornamental and Turfgrass Applicators, Categories 3O, 3T, and 3OT

**March 28**, 9 am, Fayette County Extension Office, Fayette—**NOTE: DATE CHANGE**

### In-Person Private Pesticide Applicator Continuing Instruction Courses:

**Last Chance — April 11 — 9:30 am, Fayette County Extension Office (Blue Ray video)**

Call the Fayette County Extension Office at 563-425-3331 to register for both commercial and private trainings.

### Live-streamed Private Pesticide Applicator Continuing Instruction Courses:

**March 12, 1 pm** - <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/16912>

**April 2, 6 pm** - <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/16916>

Please click on one of the above links to register. Note: registration closes at 9 am the day prior to each program. Live-stream training is \$35. Contact PSEP at 515-294-1122 with any questions.

## ARC-CO/PLC Decisions — March 15 Deadline

**Contact:** Alejandro Plastina, Extension Economist, 515-294-6160, [plastina@iastate.edu](mailto:plastina@iastate.edu) or Kelvin Leibold, Extension Farm Management Specialist, 641-648-4850, [kreibold@iastate.edu](mailto:kreibold@iastate.edu)

The decision tool for the ARC-CO and PLC payment estimators have been updated and are available at (<https://go.iastate.edu/BAZGNO>). You can download the decision tool and input your own information in order to make a better-informed decision by the March 15, 2024 deadline. March 15 is also the deadline for crop insurance elections/changes. If you have questions or need assistance with your decision, please reach out to the contact information above.

## Small Farm and Beginning Farmer Webinars Offer Guidance and Insight

**Contact:** Christa Hartsook, Value Added Ag & Small Farm Program, 515-294-4430, [hartc@iastate.edu](mailto:hartc@iastate.edu)

Are you ready to cultivate your dreams and turn that small plot of land into a thriving and sustainable farm? Join Iowa State University Extension and Outreach for the Small Farm & Beginning Farmer series, designed exclusively for beginning farmers and small acreage owners. All webinars start at 6 pm and are offered through Zoom.

### Dates and topics:

- March 7: Small-Scale Poultry Management
- April 11: Manure Management for Small Farms
- May 9: Sheep and Goat Management: Starting Your Flock
- June 13: Maximizing Pasture Potential: Multispecies Grazing Strategies
- Aug. 29: Sheep and Goat Breeding Management: Maximizing Your Flock's Potential
- Sept. 12: Working with an Ag Lender
- Oct. 10: Private Well Stewardship for Well Owners
- Nov. 14: Small Orchard Management
- Dec. 12: Getting Started in Commercial Vegetable Production



Registration is open to all and is free. Participants can register for each session at <https://go.iastate.edu/FH5MHR>.

## 1-29 Moo University Dairy Beef Short Course

**Contact:** Denise Schwab, Extension Beef Specialist, 319-472-4739, [dschwab@iastate.edu](mailto:dschwab@iastate.edu)



The 2024 1-29 Moo University Dairy Beef Short Course is scheduled for Thursday, March 21 as part of the finale for the Central Plains Dairy Expo. It will be held in the auditorium of the Denny Sanford PREMIER Center in Sioux Falls. The focus of this year's program is economics, marketing opportunities and genetics.

To register, visit <https://go.iastate.edu/24DBSC> or mail the registration fee with your contact information and any dietary restrictions to Fred Hall at 400 Central Ave., NW, Suite 700, Orange City, IA 51041. Preregistration deadline is March 8.

## Farmers Market Nutrition Program Vendor Training

**Contact:** Fayette County Extension, 563-425-3331, [xfayette@iastate.edu](mailto:xfayette@iastate.edu)



In cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach—Fayette County will be hosting a Farmers Market Nutrition Program webinar training for new and returning farmers market vendors. Three training options are available: March 14, April 11, and May 30 from 9-11 am. This viewing option is provided as a service to individuals without access to a computer or limited internet service.

Please contact the ISU Extension and Outreach—Fayette County Office at 563.425.3331 to pre-register.

## Farmers and Other Small Entities May Need to File Beneficial Ownership Reports

**Contact:** Kristine A. Tidgren, Center for Law & Taxation, 515-294-6365, [ktidgren@iastate.edu](mailto:ktidgren@iastate.edu)



Farmers who operate as a corporation or an LLC or a limited partnership will need to pay close attention to a law passed at the beginning of 2021 implementing new reporting requirements in 2024.

The Corporate Transparency Act, created to curb illicit financial transactions and money laundering, requires most registered companies to complete "**Beneficial Ownership Information Reports**" (<https://go.iastate.edu/YURKMC>) in 2024. Congress tasked the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), a bureau of the U.S. Treasury, to establish and maintain a national registry of beneficial owners.

A recent article on the Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation at Iowa State [helps explain the new law and what farmers are required to do](https://go.iastate.edu/E2RH4E) (<https://go.iastate.edu/E2RH4E>). We understand the frustration some farmers might feel about having to file another form, but it is a federal requirement. Our goal is to help people understand the things they must do, and this is one of those. The law was decided by Congress, and now that it is in effect, we want to educate Iowans so they so they can comply.

## Considered These Factors When Writing a Pasture Lease

**Contact:** Charles Brown, Farm Management Specialist, 641-673-5841, [crbrown@iastate.edu](mailto:crbrown@iastate.edu)

In Iowa, the same law that pertains to cropland leases also applies to pasture leases. However, unlike crop leases that typically run from March 1 to the last day of February the following year, pasture leases may be written for a shorter period of time.

Charles Brown, a farm management specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, said this process still requires that all leases be terminated by serving a written termination notice at the end of the lease, or the tenant will have the lease for the following year under the same terms as the old lease.

"The termination notice must be a separate document and cannot be part of the lease agreement," he said. "Also, verbal termination is not recognized in Iowa." Brown reminds farmers that it's always best to have a written lease as this can eliminate arguments later and improve landlord/tenant communications.

Determining a fair lease amount for a pasture lease can be accomplished in several ways. Although the most popular lease is still a dollar amount per acre, other lease arrangements are possible.

Some other examples are based on a percentage (2-3%) of the fair market value of the farmland, an amount based on a per-head per-day, rental rate based on carrying capacity per AMU, and rental rate based on rate of gain. These and more are explained further in the Decision Tool C2-23, on the [Ag Decision Maker website](https://go.iastate.edu/OCBONX) (<https://go.iastate.edu/OCBONX>).

Each May, ISU Extension and Outreach publishes the results of an annual survey on cash rental rates (publication C2-10) with the pasture rental rates listed by crop reporting district. [Read more about the 2023 survey](https://go.iastate.edu/CHVZAF) (<https://go.iastate.edu/CHVZAF>). Other rental arrangements can be found on the [Ag Decision Maker website](https://go.iastate.edu/OCBONX), the [Iowa Beef Center](https://go.iastate.edu/OCBONX) website and Purdue University's [Center for Commercial Agriculture](https://go.iastate.edu/OCBONX)

## Weed Resistance

**Contact:** Josh Michel, Extension Agronomist, 563-581-7828, [jjmichel@iastate.edu](mailto:jjmichel@iastate.edu)



Last September Iowa State University Extension and Outreach shared an article on the discovery of two likely [dicamba-resistant waterhemp populations in Iowa](https://go.iastate.edu/IR6PUP) (<https://go.iastate.edu/IR6PUP>). Unfortunately, now we are sharing the discovery of [suspected 2,4-D resistant waterhemp found in Iowa](https://go.iastate.edu/NIDGJO) (<https://go.iastate.edu/NIDGJO>). All of this is very troubling and is a very good reminder that herbicide stewardship is important to maintaining the effectiveness of herbicides. And

yes, we even have waterhemp populations that showed a 4% survival rate to glufosinate. Please read the articles provided in the links and take time to evaluate your herbicide choices and practices. It is highly likely you need to modify your choices and practices to reduce the chance of developing resistance on your farm. [2024 Herbicide Guide: Iowa Corn and Soybean Production](https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/12150) (<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/12150>)

## Woodland Owners Can Improve Their Planning with New Assessment Tools

**Contacts:** Billy Beck, Extension Forestry, 515-294-8837, [wjbeck@iastate.edu](mailto:wjbeck@iastate.edu)

Woodland owners who want to know the value of their forest or how their forest can be improved oftentimes just need to know where to begin.

That's the goal behind two new forest resources from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

"Planning for Wooded Acreages and Woodlands" (<https://go.iastate.edu/MMOYCV>) is a resource-filled article available on the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Natural Resource Stewardship website, and the "Woodland Assessment Worksheet" (<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/16934>) is a three-page publication available on the Extension Store.

Both resources help woodland owners with the first steps of forest assessment, including taking an inventory of the types of trees and other plants on the property, growth stages, goals for future use, and mapping of property lines and special features.

"The 'Planning for Wooded Acreages and Woodlands' web resource provides a breakdown of the planning process, while the 'Woodland Assessment Worksheet' identifies opportunities, threats and vulnerabilities within woodlands –

information critical to effective planning," said Billy Beck, extension forestry specialist at Iowa State.

The web article walks woodland owners through goals and objectives, special features of the woodlands, management plans, aesthetics and wildlife, and alternative forest products.

The assessment tool uses photographic depictions of different conditions and species commonly found in Iowa's woodlands and asks the forest owner to record whether each item is rare, present or abundant.

Both publications encourage woodland owners to form a close relationship with a professional forester. The woodland assessment worksheet can help guide conversations with professional foresters, according to Beck, so that realistic goals can be set.

"These resources are intended to assist stewards in the goal-setting and planning processes, and set them up to have effective initial conversations with forestry professionals," said Beck. "Forest stewardship can take many routes on an individual property, and your goals will determine which route you take."

In addition to pictures and a checklist, the worksheet also provides a basic set of forest management definitions, covering terms like understory, midstory and overstory, woodland stewardship plans and more.

The following are some tips and suggestions shared in both publications:

- Identify the property boundaries and clearly mark them with posts, fencing, natural barriers such as bluffs, rivers and streams.
- Identify accesses and easements. Identify the trees (<https://go.iastate.edu/01S15U>) and other plant species that exist in the woodlot by completing a resource inventory. Look for [invasive plants](#) such as [multiflora rose](#), [buckthorn](#), [honeysuckle](#) and [garlic mustard](#).
- Look at the land characteristics and features and think about how they may influence the usability of the site.
- Evaluate riparian (streamside) areas (<https://go.iastate.edu/1BZK9D>) as well as factors that may impact water quality (e.g., gully erosion).
- Look at the historical and current land uses.

## Upcoming Events

**Mar 10** — 4-H Omelet Brunch fundraiser, 9 am—1 pm, Fairgrounds

**Mar 12** — Master Gardeners, 1 pm, Extension Office

**Mar 14** — FMNP Training, 9-11 am, Extension Office

**Mar 18** — VITA Tax Preparation, Extension Office

**Mar 19** — Extension Council Meeting, 7:30 pm, Extension Office

**Mar 20** — Certified Handlers CIC, 9 am, Extension Office

**Mar 27** — IDALS Testing, 9 am—3 pm (pre-register through IDALS)

**Mar 28** — Ornamental & Turfgrass CIC, 9 am, Extension Office

## Join the Iowa Mapping Network for 2024

**Contact:** Ashley Dean, ANR Specialist, 515-447-3766, [adean@iastate.edu](mailto:adean@iastate.edu) or Erin Hodgson, Professor, 515-294-2847, [ewh@iastate.edu](mailto:ewh@iastate.edu)



Volunteers are needed! Past cooperators have helped us with our goal by establishing a trap location and reporting captures. In 2024, we can provide traps for 50 locations to help us with black cutworm (BCW) trapping. Having traps around the state helps us refine pest movement and scouting/treatment windows.

Cooperator responsibilities include: 1) assembling the trap according to instructions, 2) properly identifying moths caught – a guide to identifying black cutworm will be included, 3) checking traps as much as possible, and 4) Reporting moth captures. Moth trapping lasts for 2 months (approx. April 1 to June 1). For more information go to <https://go.iastate.edu/3KZHIW> or email [bugtraps@iastate.edu](mailto:bugtraps@iastate.edu) if you have any questions.