



## Ag News Information & Resources

November 2023

### 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/psep/>

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

### Pro Ag Outlook Series To Offer Insight for 2024

**Contact:** Ann Johanns, Dept. of Economics, 515-337-2766, [aholste@iastate.edu](mailto:aholste@iastate.edu)

**Ag Decision Maker ProAg Outlook and Management Webinar Series**

Effective agribusiness strategy: An overview  
Roots and returns: Iowa farmland values and ownership dynamics  
Interaction of USDA programs and carbon payments  
Livestock outlook and profit potential for beef, pork and other Iowa industries  
Crop markets for 2024 and beyond

Daily program begins at 12:00 PM and concludes at 1:00 PM (central time).  
\$20 Registration includes 5 live webinars and access to program recordings.  
Each program will be available for on-demand viewing the following day.  
Register today! <https://www.aep.iastate.edu/proag>

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

Farmers and the ag industry will get an in-depth look into 2024 during this year's Pro Ag Outlook and Management Webinar Series (<https://www.aep.iastate.edu/proag/>), November 13-17.

Five webinars will be offered, designed to provide participants with a concise evaluation of

current market conditions, expected trends in crop and livestock income potential, and management implications.

All webinars will run from noon to 1 p.m. Central time, with a live question and answer session following each presentation.

"We are looking forward to the lineup of experts on our webinar series this year," said Ann Johanns, program specialist with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. "Each speaker brings a unique topic and perspective to the program. Bobby Martens starts our series off focusing specifically on Iowa agribusinesses and issues impacting them going into 2024, and our newest faculty member, Rabail Chandio, will share a detailed analysis of who owns Iowa farmland – and how the state's ownership structure impacts many facets of this industry."

In addition to Martens and Chandio, presentations will include "The interaction of USDA programs and carbon payment," by Alejandro Plastina, extension economist; "Livestock Outlook and profit potential for beef, pork and other Iowa industries," by Lee Schulz, extension livestock economist; and "Crop markets for 2024 and beyond," by Chad Hart, extension economist and crop markets specialist.

"This is a great opportunity for agribusiness professionals and producers alike to hear research on issues impacting their businesses across the state in a convenient and timely method," continued Johanns.

Programs will be available for on-demand viewing the day following the live broadcast. Registration is \$20 and includes access to the five live programs (<https://www.aep.iastate.edu/proag/#register>) and archived recordings. Viewing of live and recorded programs is through a web browser. No additional software downloads are needed.

## November Commercial Pesticide Training Information

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

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

#### Ornamental and Turf Pest Control (3O, 3T, 3OT)

November 9, 9 am

#### Commercial Ag Weed, Insect & Plant Disease Pest Control (1A, 1B, 1C)

November 15, 9 am

#### Pest Control Operators (7A, 7B, 7D-new, 8)

December 6, 9 am

Programs will be held at the Fayette County Extension Office in Fayette. For more information or to register for a training contact the Extension Office at 563-425-3331.

## Winter Feeding Workshops Planned for Cattle Feeders

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



The dry growing conditions of 2022 and 2023 have led to supply and quality issues of hay and other forages in some areas of the state. Cattlemen may be faced with a short supply of hay, corn silage with the potential for nitrates, and poor pastures that resulted in stored hay being fed most of the summer. Unfortunately, tight hay supplies will likely lead to higher prices later in the winter feeding period, according to Iowa State University extension beef specialist Denise Schwab.

A workshop on Winter Feeding Basics for Your Cow Herd will be held **November 20, beginning 6:30 pm, at Turner Hall in Postville and November 29, beginning at 6:30 pm, at NERF Borlaug Center, Nashua.** At each location, beef specialists will discuss the current hay situation, the impacts of the dry conditions on forage quality, potential toxicity concerns, and balancing cow rations in late gestation and early lactation.

Please preregister for the Postville site by calling the Fayette County Extension Office at 563-425-3331 and the Nashua site by calling 641-231-1711.

## Women in Ag Leadership Conference November 29-30

**Contact:** Madeline Schultz, Women in Ag Program Manager, 515-294-0588, [schultz@iastate.edu](mailto:schultz@iastate.edu)

The seventh annual Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Women in Ag Leadership Conference is Nov. 29-30 at the Gateway Hotel and Conference Center in Ames. The conference takes place Nov. 29 from 1-8 p.m. and Nov. 30, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The conference theme, "Cultivating Confidence, Harvesting Happiness," reflects the dedication of women to the agricultural industry. The advisory committee designed a powerful program to arm women in agribusiness, farm women, students and others with tools to help them be successful leaders in their agricultural careers, communities, farms and families. Through tours, workshops, panel discussions and more, this year's event fosters inspiration, mentorship and new skill sets.

Featured speakers include author and professional mediator Kiley Fleming, corporate recruiter Laura Bloome, farmer and experienced cattle and grain marketer Lynn Martz, and other passionate professionals.

Early bird registration is available through Nov. 10 and saves attendees \$20. Regular registration is \$140 for adults and \$80 for students. Single-day registration is also available. Register online at [www.regcytes.extension.iastate.edu/womeninag](http://www.regcytes.extension.iastate.edu/womeninag). Scholarships may be requested. Farm Credit Services of America is a major sponsor.

## Integrated Crop Management Conference To Be Held in Altoona

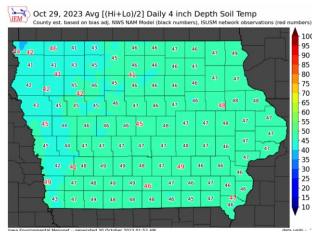
**Contact:** Erin Hodgson, Professor and Extension Entomologist, 515-294-2847, [ewh@iastate.edu](mailto:ewh@iastate.edu)

The [Integrated Crop Management Conference](http://www.aep.iastate.edu/icm/) is set for Dec. 4-5 in a new location: the Meadows Events Center at Prairie Meadows in Altoona. The conference provides crop production professionals new information, research updates and the tools to prepare for 2024. This year's conference features 35 workshops to choose from.

"The ICM Conference has always been a great opportunity for farmers, industry, ag retailers, agronomists and educators to network with each other and interact with their university specialists," said Erin Hodgson, professor and extension entomologist with ISU Extension and Outreach. "We are excited to offer a great program full of new information to prepare for 2024, including a strong slate of invited speakers." For more information and to register go to <https://www.aep.iastate.edu/icm/>

## Soil Temperatures: Are We There Yet?

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



Researchers recommend that soil temperatures at the 4-inch depth are 50° F and cooling before applying fall anhydrous ammonia or manure with a high ammonium nitrogen (N) content, such as with liquid swine manure. Looking at the current 4-inch soil temperatures across the state, we did drop below that 50° F mark this weekend.

However, the weather forecast is calling for warmer temperatures this upcoming weekend, which may result in soil temperatures warming back up into the low to mid-50s again before dropping below 50° F again. You can monitor the 3-day history average soil temperatures in every Iowa county and forecasted 4-inch soil temperature on the ISU Environmental

Mesonet website (<https://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/agclimate/soilt.php>)

Historically, the soil temperatures at the 4-inch depth cool below 50° F in the northern third of the state the first week of November. For central and southern Iowa, soil temperatures cool below 50° F during the second week and third weeks of November, respectively.

### Additional Resources:

Fall Nitrogen Applications and Soil Temperature (<https://go.iastate.edu/GDWIV3>)

Fall Anhydrous Applications: Do's and Don'ts (<https://go.iastate.edu/XQJ2DJ>)

Delay Manure Applications if you Want to Cut Your Nitrogen Bill (<https://go.iastate.edu/6OWKK>)

## Post-Harvest Resources: Soil Sampling and Fall Fertilizer

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

As fields get harvested, attention will start to turn to other fall field activities, like soil sampling and fall fertilizer applications. Be sure to check out these resources below:

### Soil Sampling Resources:

- ⇒ Newly updated P and K Guidelines (<https://go.iastate.edu/CZJ71R>)
- ⇒ Download the updated publication PM1688 "A General Guide for Crop Nutrient and Limestone Recommendations in Iowa" (<https://go.iastate.edu/HFF413>)
- ⇒ How do the dry/drought conditions impact soil test results? Read more in this ICM News Article "Beware of dry conditions when soil sampling and interpreting test results". (<https://go.iastate.edu/UHGIYA>)
- ⇒ Some good general reminders on soil sampling (even if you hire your sampling done), can be found in this ICM Blog "A Recipe for Success with Soil Sampling this Fall". (<https://go.iastate.edu/DKT0DY>)

### Fall Fertilizer Resources:

- ⇒ Anhydrous ammonia application in dry soils (<https://go.iastate.edu/9BBGTF>)
- ⇒ Fall fertilizer nitrogen application (<https://go.iastate.edu/GYXRYN>)
- ⇒ Play it safe with anhydrous ammonia (<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/4989>)
- ⇒ VIDEO: Tips for applying fertilizer with a spinner spreader (<https://go.iastate.edu/PAIYDX>)

## New Beef x Dairy Resource Available on Iowa Beef Center Website

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

A new resource for producers feeding on dairy crossbreds is now available thanks to a grant from the Iowa Beef Industry Council. Funded through the Iowa State Beef Checkoff, this research grant awarded to a team at Iowa Beef Center focused on a three-part project that includes the creation of a web resource library on current beef x dairy information. The web resource library is part of the IBC website (<https://iowabeefcenter.org/dairybeef.html>) and the Iowa State University Dairy Team website. (<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/dairyteam/>)

"Most existing resources focus strictly on feeding the straight dairy calf, and mostly straightbred Holsteins," said project leader and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach beef specialist Denise Schwab. "This resource list is specific to the beef on dairy crossbred, and includes everything from simple fact sheets to major research results from all across the country."



## Planning for the End-of-Life Costs and Expenses

**Contact:** Kitt Tovar Jensen, Beginning Farmer Center Coordinator, 515-294-5608, [kwtovar@iasta](mailto:kwtovar@iasta)

A common misconception in farm estate and succession planning is that an estate plan is only used after an individual passes away. In fact, a comprehensive estate plan should also provide for possible long-term care needs, dictate health care directives, and designate a trusted individual to oversee desired funeral arrangements. Determining these arrangements in advance can lessen the burden on loved ones after death. Additionally, proper estate planning can help farm families manage other potential costs such as inheritance taxes or estate taxes.

An inheritance tax is a tax on an individual bequest to a beneficiary. Currently, six states impose an inheritance tax. Generally, state laws exempt the deceased's spouse as well as lineal descendants or ascendants from paying an inheritance tax. Iowa is phasing out its inheritance tax which will end on January 1, 2025. There is no federal inheritance tax.

The federal estate tax, on the other hand, is a tax imposed on the value of an estate that exceeds the Unified Estate and Gift Tax Credit. Under

the current federal tax system, the value of assets gifted during life is combined with the value of a taxable estate at death to determine the amount, if any, of gift and estate taxes due. In 2023, the basic exclusion is \$12.92 million per person (\$25.84 million per married couples). Because of this historically high exclusion, very few farm estates (approximately .16%) are subject to gift and estate taxes<sup>1/</sup>.

Example: A single individual dies in 2023 with a taxable estate of \$13.92 million. The estate would only owe taxes on \$1 million (\$13.92 million – \$12.92 million).

In 2026, the Unified Gift and Estate Tax Credit will revert to \$5 million, adjusted for inflation. Because Congress may choose to increase or decrease the exemption beforehand, farmers must stay informed and work closely with their tax advisor and lawyer.

Chapters seven and eight of the Estate and Succession Planning for the Farm workbook (<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/4319>) have additional information on end-of-life costs and expenses.

The replay of our recent Women Managing Farmland webinar

provides further insight on End-of-Life Taxes and Expenses, or view the entire Women Managing Farmland series (<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/meetings.html>)

This bi-monthly webinar series is part of a multi-year project led by the extension farm management team's women in ag program to better understand and meet the educational needs of women farmland owners. The series is offered through collaborations with Iowa State's Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation, Water Quality Initiative, and the Department of Economics. The project is bringing comprehensive land management information to audiences of women farmland owners.

<sup>1/</sup> Tia McDonald and Ron Durst, Less Than 1 Percent of Farm Estates Owed Federal Estate Taxes in 2020. (<https://go.iastate.edu/W0HKGU>)

## Upcoming Events

**Nov 6** — Planning Ahead, 10 am Oelwein Public Library & 1 pm Fayette Public Library

**Nov 9** — Ornamental & Turf CIC, 9 am, Extension Office

**Nov 13** — Forest, Aquatic & Right of Way CIC, 9 am, Extension Office

**Nov 14** — Master Gardeners, 1 pm, Extension Office

**Nov 15** — Commercial Ag CIC, 9 am, Extension Office

**Nov 16** — Planning Ahead, 11 am, West Union Public Library

**Nov 21** — Extension Council, 7:30 pm, Extension Office

**Nov 22-24** — Holiday, Extension Office closed

**Nov 29** — IDALS Pesticide Testing, 9 am-3 pm, Extension Office

**Nov 30** — Master Gardner Porch Pot Workshop, 6 pm, West Union

## 2024 Garden Calendar



The 2024 garden calendar from Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, "Tree Care," is now available for gardeners and outdoors people alike.

Trees bring many benefits to home landscapes: lowering energy bills by providing shade or blocking winter winds, offering fruit for people and wildlife, and demonstrating beauty with attractive bark, seasonal flowers, or foliage throughout the seasons. With careful maintenance trees can be enjoyed for many years.

Start your holiday shopping early! Pick up an extra copy as these make great gifts! Garden calendars are available for a cost of \$8 from the Extension Store (<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/4127>)