



## FIELD&FEEDLOT a monthly agriculture publication for Northwest Iowa

### March 2023

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#### Online References

##### Ag Decision Maker

[www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/)

##### Iowa Beef Center

[www.iowabeefcenter.org](http://www.iowabeefcenter.org)

##### Manure Management Action Group

[www.agronext.iastate.edu](http://www.agronext.iastate.edu)

##### Iowa Pork Industry Center

[www.ipic.iastate.edu/](http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/)

##### ISU Extension Dairy Team

[www.extension.iastate.edu/dairyteam](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/dairyteam)

##### Locate a County Office

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

#### Numbers to Know

AnswerLine 800-262-3804

Beginning Farmer Center 877-BFC-1999

Iowa 2-1-1 211

Iowa Concern 800-447-1985

Iowa Healthy Families 800-369-2229

Teen Line 800-443-8336

### Important Changes Coming for Beef Producers

*Beth Ellen Doran, Beef Specialist*

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#### OTC drugs

Beginning June 11, drugs containing medically important antibiotics (those used in human medicine) will no longer be available for purchase over the counter without a prescription from a licensed veterinarian who has a valid veterinary-client patient relationship (VCPR) with the producer. The product labels will contain the prescription (Rx) statement, "Caution: Federal law restricts this drug to use by or on the order of a licensed veterinarian." Some products affected by this Rx label change include: oxytetracyclines, penicillins, sulfa-based antibiotics, tylosin, and cephalosporins. These drugs may be purchased from the veterinarian, from a retailer that fills prescriptions with a veterinarian, or from a distributor that has received the veterinary prescription. Begin establishing the VCPR with your veterinarian, determining what prescriptions are needed, and identifying where the drug will be purchased.

#### Re-Implanting Within a Production Phase

All steroid implants used in beef cattle production are considered drugs and come under the jurisdiction of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Although implants are considered safe, potential changes in how they are used will occur in June 2023. Implants that are not expressly labeled for reimplantation cannot be placed in cattle more than once per production phase. FDA has defined three production phases – 1) suckling beef calf, 2) growing beef steers/heifers on pasture, and 3) growing beef steers/heifers in confinement fed for slaughter. If the animal moves from one production phase to another, it may be given another implant if it is labeled appropriate to that production phase. For example, one implant in the calf phase, one implant in the growing phase, and one implant in the growing beef in confinement fed for slaughter phase. Bottomline – check with the implant manufacturer and read the label to see if the implant can be reimplanted within a specific production phase.

#### Interstate Shipment of Cattle and Bison

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is proposing to amend the animal disease regulations. The proposal requires ear tags be both visually and electronically readable in order to be recognized for use as official ear tags for interstate movement of cattle and bison covered under the regulations. APHIS also proposes to clarify certain record retention and record access requirements and to revise some requirements pertaining to slaughter cattle. For slaughter cattle, the animals must stay within the intended terminal slaughter channels but may be moved to an additional slaughter plant or approved feedlot with appropriate documentation and identification. The purpose of the proposed amendments is to enhance the ability of veterinarians and livestock producers to quickly respond to disease outbreaks and to minimize the delay in re-establishing foreign and domestic market access following the animal disease event. The proposed rule can be viewed at <https://bit.ly/3ZLKqey> and public comments are accepted through March 20, 2023.

## Crop Producers Need to Act on Farm Bill Decisions by March 15

### Resources Available to Help Producers Make the Best Choices for their Farm

*Ann Johanns, Department of Economics*  
515-337-2766 or aholste@iastate.edu

*Alejandro Plastina, Extension Economist/Assistant Professor in Economics*  
515-294-6160 or plastina@iastate.edu

Crop producers must make some important and timely decisions if they want to participate in the Farm Bill programs for 2023. The deadline to make an election and enroll is March 15, according to Ann Johanns, education extension specialist and manager of the Ag Decision Maker (<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/>) with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach.

For program year 2023, producers have three options: Agriculture Risk Coverage-County (ARC-CO), Price Loss Coverage (PLC) or Agriculture Risk Coverage-Individual Coverage (ARC-IC). Even if producers have enrolled in the past and want to keep the same program, they still need to enroll this year, by March 15. Enrollment is an annual decision.

“To be eligible for payment, producers must complete the enrollment contract for each of their farms,” said Johanns. “Every situation is unique, so we need to make the best decisions for individual farm operations and take the opportunity to make changes if necessary.”

For this month’s Ag Decision Maker, Johanns created two YouTube videos that explain the options and what producers need to consider in making the best option for their farm.

In the first video, Kevin McClure, chief agriculture program specialist with the United States Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency, explains the programs and enrollment process.

In the second video, Alejandro Plastina, associate professor in economics and extension economist at Iowa State, discusses the tools producers can use to determine which program is best for their own situation. The tools include payment estimators for each program, and historical payment data by Iowa county.

The videos can be accessed at <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/farmbill.html>.

“We are updating these tools as new price projections and yield data are made available,” said Johanns. “We know that every situation is unique and there are going to be folks out there making this decision for the first time. Updated tools are available, along with archived materials covering the programs more in-depth. Our farm management specialists (<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/ag/farm-management>) are also available for those one-on-one conversations before producers commit to a program.”



## I-29 Moo University Dairy Beef Short Course Scheduled for March 28

*Fred Hall, Dairy Specialist*  
712-737-4230 or fredhall@iastate.edu

The I-29 Moo University Dairy Beef Short Course is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, as part of the pre-educational events for the Central Plains Dairy Expo. It will be held in the Denny Sanford Premier Center, Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in rooms 8, 9 and 10, and will include a variety of Extension speakers from across the country. The Short Course begins at 9 a.m. and will conclude at 3 p.m. Registration is \$40 for adults and \$20 for students and includes lunch. To register, visit <https://go.iastate.edu/OFSVS8>.

The [I-29 Moo University Collaboration](http://i-29moou.com/) (<http://i-29moou.com/>), a multi-state learning community, aims to connect Extension dairy specialists and dairy producers from across the Midwest by sharing research, information, and management practices through a variety of workshops, webinars, monthly e-newsletters and on-farm tours.

## I-29 Moo University Dairy Beef Short Course, *continued*

Animal health and feedlot health has always been an important aspect of raising dairy and beef cattle, and I think we have a nice mix of speakers this year focusing on the issue. Our panel on roughage concentration this year will really be able to get into the weeds on roughage, which is huge for dairy genetics and being able to concentrate high energy feeds and maintain scratch factor.

### Agenda:

- 9-9:30 a.m. – Registration
- 9:30-10:15 a.m. – **National attitudes by dairy producers about crossbreeding beef on dairy**; Tara Felix, Penn State University.
- 10:15-11 a.m. – **Carcasses and cattle biotypes**; Dale Woerner, Texas Tech University.
- 11-11:45 a.m. – **Implant strategies for dairy sourced cattle**; Alfredo DiCostanzo, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- 12:30-1:15 p.m. – **Perspectives and experiences on feeding dairy and dairy cross cattle**; Jeremy Schefers, Milk Specialties.
- 1:15-1:30 p.m. – **Liver abscess summary**; Nathan Pyatt, Elanco.
- 1:30-3 p.m. – **Panel discussion; roughage concentration for finishing diets**; Jeremy Schefers, Nathan Pyatt and Sheri Bierman, Cattle Nutrition Services.



Registration is requested by March 21 and limited to 130 attendees on a first come, first served basis. Register online at <https://go.iastate.edu/OFSVS8> or by mailing the registration fee to Fred Hall at 400 Central Ave., NW, Suite 700, Orange City, IA 51041.

Questions? Contact Fred Hall at [fredhall@iastate.edu](mailto:fredhall@iastate.edu) or 712-737-4230. Attendees planning on attending the Central Plains Dairy Expo are also encouraged to register ahead of time at <https://www.centralplainsdairy.com/registration/>.

## Helpful Agronomy Resources for Farms and Agribusinesses

*Gentry Sorenson, Field Agronomist*  
641-430-6715 or [gentrys@iastate.edu](mailto:gentrys@iastate.edu)

As spring nears, I wanted to share with readers sites that may be helpful to your operation. These resources can be helpful with questions on plant diseases, insects, weeds, or weather updates.

- For questions on plant diseases a good reference is the **Crop Protection Network** which can be located at <https://cropprotectionnetwork.org>. This website is produced by land grant universities and provides publications that assist the reader with understanding plant diseases in corn, soybeans, and alfalfa.
- Another resource is the **Integrated Crop Management (ICM)** website which can be located at <https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/>. The Integrated Crop Management website is a handy site where articles related to news and current events that are happening in the state of Iowa are posted. These are written by specialists in agronomy. There are three sections on this website – (1) the latest ICM news, which are archived reports related to studies that have been conducted in the state; (2) news releases of programs from the crops team in the state of Iowa; and (3) recent blog posts. The recent blog posts are a great source of information for the reader as they can be updated and posted quickly by the writer. The recent blog posts are the most up-to-date information for the reader about current items seen in the state related to crop production.
- The **Iowa Environmental Mesonet**, which is located at <http://www.mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/>, is filled with helpful climate and weather data for the state of Iowa. The site can be used to find information related to rainfall, precipitation departures, soil temperatures, growing degree days and daily temperatures.
- Another resource is my newsletter. I send a newsletter out monthly by email to those that are subscribed. I provide updates as to what I am seeing in the field and links to publications and articles that are valuable to those in the counties that I serve. Updates on Extension events are also provided. If you would like to receive my newsletter, please send an email to [gentrys@iastate.edu](mailto:gentrys@iastate.edu).

Please let me know if you have any questions throughout the season. I look forward to helping you and your operation.