



FIELD&FEEDLOT a monthly agriculture publication for Northwest Iowa

November 2022

In this Issue:

Online References	1
Numbers to Know	1
Soybean Cyst Nematode Sampling	1
Challenges Facing New Beef Processors and Lockers	2
More Details About Foreign Animal Disease Preparation Efforts	3

Online References

Ag Decision Maker

www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/

Iowa Beef Center

www.iowabeefcenter.org

Manure Management Action Group

www.agronext.iastate.edu

Iowa Pork Industry Center

www.ipic.iastate.edu/

ISU Extension Dairy Team

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

Soybean Cyst Nematode Sampling

Gentry Sorenson, Field Agronomist

641-430-6715 or gentrys@iastate.edu

Fall is a great time to sample for soybean cyst nematodes, which are commonly referred to as SCN.

Soybean cyst nematodes are microscopic roundworms that attack soybean roots. The SCN is the most damaging soybean pest in the United States and can have up to six generations during a growing season. The number of generations may depend upon the growing season and factors such as planting date, length of the growing season, location, and maturity group of the soybean. Eggs are released in a mass and infect roots of soybeans the same year they are produced. Some eggs remain in the body after the cyst dies. This is the way the cyst protects the eggs and overwinters. When soil sampling, this is what is found in the sample.

Plants with high numbers of SCN can have root systems that are poorly developed and are not able to uptake nutrients as a normal root can. Stunting and chlorotic leaves may be a symptom, as well as a reduction in the number of nodules that are formed by nitrogen fixing bacteria. Many times, yield losses occur when no visual symptoms are present.

In the fall, soil sampling can be done to understand the levels of SCN present in the field to help make management decisions in the future. After corn harvest, a field can be sampled to learn the SCN levels as those fields will rotate to soybeans in 2023. In soybean fields, samples can be collected to learn what the levels were and what effects it had on the soybean crop in 2022. Sampling for soybean cyst nematodes can be done with a soil probe. Collect 15-20 cores with the soil probe eight inches deep from every 20 acres. Combine the soil cores from the sampled area. Then break up and mix the cores in the bucket and send the sample in a soil sample bag to a certified lab for processing. Iowa State University's Plant and Diagnostic Lab can process the samples or other certified labs can process samples as well.

When a field has been found to have SCN, an approach to management would be to grow SCN resistant soybeans in rotation with non-host crops such as corn. Nematode protectant seed treatments can also be used to protect soybeans. Many soybean varieties have the P188788 SCN resistance but have lost some effectiveness as SCN populations are becoming resistant to P188788. Peking resistance is effective against SCN and could be an option when available, but this resistance can be hard to find in soybean varieties.

Challenges Facing New Beef Processors and Lockers

Beth Doran, Beef Specialist

712-737-4230 or doranb@iastate.edu

Announcements of proposed beef processing plants and new local lockers seems to be the norm. Some of this was brought about by beef distribution problems due to COVID. But lack of profitability in the cattle industry is also fueling the proposed construction of new plants and lockers.

Beef producers hope the construction of new plants not owned by the “Big Four” will increase both packing capacity and producer profitability. Only the future holds the answer to this, but there are important challenges to consider in proposed business plans.

Will the new plant or locker be able to source cattle? The nation’s cowherd had shrunk 2.2 percent at the beginning of 2022, and drought continues to increase the harvest of cows. This points to less calves in 2023. New processors and lockers will need to bid more to secure cattle, putting an extra strain on their cash flow.

What about the economy of scale? A breed representative once pointed out that to be competitive, a plant must either produce beef that is cheaper or offer a better product. A lot of proposed plants are smaller than established plants and won’t have the advantage of economy of scale. So, they must be able to offer a product that is unique, such as more sustainable or guaranteed more tender. Local lockers can offer customer-based products such as “locally grown” and further processed beef products such as beef sticks and dried beef.

Who’s the buyer for the plant’s meat and what do they want? The latest trend in the beef industry has been the demand for high quality beef – especially the steaks. However, the rib, loin and sirloin comprise only 25 percent of the carcass. Even if shoulder steaks are added in, the total percentage of higher quality steaks is only about 50 percent of the carcass. This leaves 50 percent of the carcass to be sold as lower-priced cuts. And all cuts (steaks, roasts, ground beef) need to be case-ready for retail or food service.

What about organ meats and the by-products? Larger packers obtain a portion of their revenue from the organ meats (livers, tongues, hearts) and by-products such as hides and blood. “Big Four” packers have designed their plants to process these items on site and avoid the cost of shipping to another site for further processing. Smaller plants and lockers probably will not be as efficient in handling organs and by-products.

Who’s the labor force? Currently businesses in the U.S are struggling to find labor, and new plants and lockers will have to offer attractive wages to recruit new employees. Ideally, a packing plant or locker would like to hire employees who are already trained and skilled. If they aren’t, time is lost training new workers.

Can the infrastructure accommodate a new plant or locker? It takes a volume of water to operate the facility, and drought has added to the cost of water in some locations. Relative to infrastructure, does the community have housing, schools, and businesses to support an increased population?

Is everybody supportive? Ultimately, success in these kinds of ventures involves strong commitment from everyone – the cattle producers, local businesses, and the community. Together, much can be accomplished!

Upcoming Beef Programs:

- **Beef Quality Assurance Transportation Certification**
Nov. 29, 1-3 p.m., Cherokee County Extension Office.
RSVP by Nov. 28 to 712-225-6196. No cost.
- **Feedlot Forum 2023: Adding Income to the Feedlot Enterprise**
Jan. 17, 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Terrace View Event Center, Sioux Center.
Featuring improving and feeding high moisture corn and ear corn, manure utilization and technology to enhance feedlot revenue, market situation and outlook, and a trade show.

**IOWA
CONCERN**
hotline

800-447-1985

- call or text -

stress counseling
legal education
financial concerns



**IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
Extension and Outreach

More Details About Foreign Animal Disease Preparation Efforts

Dave Stender, Swine Specialist
712-225-6196 or dstender@iastate.edu

As pork producers continue to prepare for the possibility of a foreign animal disease it is important to try to keep up with the various options available to help.

One of the resources is called the U.S. Swine Health Improvement Plan (SHIP). The idea is to build from the National Poultry Improvement Plan, using that success as a road map to improve the response to a major swine health foreign disease event.

Participating in the SHIP program is currently not difficult. A valid veterinary client-patient relationship is required, along with a premises identification number, the swine owner contact information, the type of production, the site location, the site capacity, and a couple other minor demographic details.

From there, the sites are asked to maintain movement records for any swine entering or leaving the premises. Movement records will include date, destination premise, origin premise, and number shipped for each movement. AgView is one way to track animal movement. The pork board has developed this tool to help swine producers manage this record requirement easily. Look for more information at porkcheckoff.org.

For SHIP, the animal identification must comply with state or federal identification laws. There will be some feed biosafety requirements, especially feedstuffs that may have porcine origin source which could include heat processing or holding time and temperature. Another part of the program is sampling and testing for disease surveillance. The requirements will vary by production type, region, and foreign disease status.

Currently, Iowa swine producers can register at the Iowa Pork Producer website. Find the site through a search engine, 'IOWA US SHIP Enrollment Form' or go to this website: <https://www.iowapork.org/iowa-u-s-ship-enrollment-form/>. Note that the biosecurity practices survey is important to the enrollment process. Results will provide insight for biosecurity standards to put into place in the future. Remember that it is important to have a five-day downtime requirement for any foreign country visit or contact.

Another resource is the Center for Food Security and Public Health at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Swine producers can find resources regarding animal diseases, prevention, preparedness, and response to a foreign animal disease, as well as courses and products. Check out <https://www.cfsph.iastate.edu/> for more information.

At that website:

- The 'Animal Diseases' information lists all foreign animal diseases in detail.
- 'Prevention' discusses biosecurity and disinfection.
- 'Preparedness & Response' outlines how to do a secure food supply plan and other disease preparation considerations.

The courses are for professionals (veterinarians, public health, and emergency responders) to get credit hours, and the products include posters and factsheets.



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Ag Decision Maker

**PRO AG OUTLOOK
AND MANAGEMENT**

FOUR-PART WEBINAR SERIES
NOVEMBER 7 - 10, 2022

www.aep.iastate.edu/proag

14,255
37 2,370
50 50
440 16,675
100 3,475
110 1,000
2,200 1,675
4,370 14,255
3,370 2,375

As always, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is available to help swine producers learn and utilize these tools.

Again, I really encourage producers to realize that it is best to do some pre-work. After a foreign animal disease outbreak occurs, it will be more difficult to implement these tools to get a movement permit if needed.

Contact me, Dave Stender, ISU Extension and Outreach Swine Specialist, with any questions at 712-225-6196.