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News Release

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NE ISU Research Farm Field Day Set for Aug 26
NASHUA -- The annual Fall Field Day featuring the latest ISU research will be Aug 26 at the Northeast Iowa ISU Research Farm near Nashua. The field day starts at 1:00 pm. In case of rain, the meeting will be held inside the Borlaug Learning Center.

ISU Extension specialists Chad Hart, Roger Elmore, Greg Brenneman, Brian Lang and Research Farm Superintendent Ken Pecinovsky will give presentations on seasonal crop progress, harvest tips, grain marketing and some hot topics for this growing season including narrow-row corn, land rolling soybeans, strip tillage, and others.

The Riverton Lucky Clovers 4-H Club will serve refreshments. The program is free and open to the public. CCA credits are available.

Land, climate and agricultural enterprises vary considerably from one area of the state to another. The NE IA Ag Experimental Association established the research farm in 1976 to find solutions to agronomic problems in northeast Iowa.

The Borlaug Learning Center is located at the Northeast ISU Research Farm, just southwest of Nashua. From Nashua at the Jct of Hwy 218 and Co. Rd. B60, go west 1.1 miles to Windfall Ave., then south 1 mile to 290th St., then east 0.2 miles to the farm.

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ICA to hold Northeast Iowa Regional Meeting

POSTVILLE -- The Iowa Cattlemen’s Association (ICA) Northeast Iowa Regional meeting will be held in conjunction with the Regional County Cattlemen’s Annual Tour on Tuesday, August 24.

“Rather than a statewide summer conference we’ve elected, as a convenience, to bring our meetings closer to the members. We hope to have greater input and thus better represent our members’ feelings and views on the critical issues we’re addressing,” said ICA Regional Vice President Larry Johnson of Maquoketa. “This meeting gives Northeast Iowa cattle producers the opportunity to have direct input with ICA leaders and to share their views on issues impacting their businesses.”

The day’s activities will begin at 3 p.m. at Brink Farms, 23098 Gunder Road, Elkader. Brink’s operate a Fleckvieh Simmental/Hereford seedstock operation.

The group will then travel north to Spring Valley Farms near Castalia, arriving at approximately 5 p.m., for a tour of this purebred Angus and composite seedstock operation. Spring Valley Farm is owned by Dale and Karen Green and is located at 1437 111th Ave, Castalia. Supper and the ICA business meeting will also take place at this location.

Hershey Friedman, CEO of Agri Star Meat & Poultry LLC is scheduled to be one of the guest speakers during this portion of the program. ICA CEO, Duane Gangwish, will cover key legislative and regulatory issues impacting cattlemen. There will be a cattle market outlook/market services report presented by Jeff Stolle, Nebraska Cattlemen.

All cattle producers and agri-business entities are invited and encouraged to attend. Those planning to attend are asked to contact the ISU Extension - Clayton Co. n office at 563-245-1451 by Friday, August 20.

News Release

ISU Extension Hosts Farmland Leasing Workshop

NASHUA – If you are thinking of terminating or re-negotiating your cropland rental agreement or lease, Iowa State University Extension can help with those decisions. A series of meetings will be held across Iowa in August to provide the latest information on cropland rental rates and rental agreements for the coming year.

“With the volatile weather and markets and rapidly changing input costs farmers and landowners should attend this meeting to stay up to date on what is happening”, says Kelvin Leibold, ISUE Farm and Ag Business Management Specialist.

Attendees will learn about current land vale and cash rental rate surveys, types of lease arrangements, estimating costs of production, an update on the 2008 USDA Farm Programs and payments, recent Iowa legislative changes relating to lease agreements and ISU Extension print and internet resources. A handbook will be included.

One leasing meeting is scheduled in northeast Iowa on August 24 at 1:30 p.m at the NE Iowa Research Farm, Borlaug Learning Center, 3327 290th Street, Nashua.
Pre-registration is $20 per individual or $30 per couple. Add $5 for late registration (less than 2 days before the workshop). The program fee is payable at the door. Pre-register by calling the NE Research Farm at 641-435-4864.

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**News Release**

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**ISU Extension Hosts Webinar on Rain Gardens**

FAYETTE - Rain gardens are a great way to manage storm water in your landscape. A rain garden is a planted depression that allows rainwater runoff from impervious areas like roofs, driveways, walkways, parking lots, and compacted lawn areas the opportunity to be absorbed. This reduces rain runoff by allowing storm water to soak into the ground.

ISU Extension is hosting a webinar on August 24 to outline the basics of creating a rain garden in your landscape organically. Dr. Ann Marie VanDerZanden, Department of Horticulture, Iowa State University will present this session which is part of the *Summer Webinar Series: Gardening Green 2010* brought to you by the Iowa Master Gardener program.

The host site in northeast Iowa is the Fayette County Extension office in Fayette. The live, interactive webcast will be held on Aug 24 from 6:30-8:30 pm. Pre-registration is required. Contact Ben Lewis at Fayette County Economic Development to register, 800-477-5073 or register online at www.extension.iastate.edu/fayette. Master Gardener education credit is available for both programs.

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**News Release (corrected)**

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**ISU Extension Offers Shade Tree Workshops**

As the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) continues to infest and kill native ash species in the upper Midwest (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin, and now Iowa and Minnesota), homeowners are looking at down the road at their options for shade in their yards.

Proper selection, planting and care of replacement trees is essential to have a tree that will add beauty, shade and value to your property. Planting new trees can be a considerable investment, but provide decades of dividends when done correctly.

Iowa State University Extension is hosting two shade tree selection workshops in August to educate homeowners and alternative shade tree species for their yards. Bob Hauer, ISU Extension horticulturist will discuss common shade trees available in Northeast Iowa along with a few of less familiar species.

He will also talk about the essentials of planting and caring for the trees. Since there are no “perfect” trees, Bob will also answer questions on the advantages and drawbacks of most common shade trees.

The workshop will be held at the ISU Extension—Winnesheik County office on August 26 from 7:30-8:30 pm. The workshop will be repeated at the Gilbertson Nature Center near Elgin on August 28 from 1-3 pm.

Pre-register for the workshop by calling the Winnesheik County Extension office at 563-382-2949 for the Decorah site or the Fayette County Extension at 563-425-3331 for the Elgin site by Aug 25. Online registration is also available at www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek. The workshop costs $5.
Other Releases

Ask the ISU Garden Experts About: Grapes, Wild Cucumbers and Lawns
The experts say black rot can make berries on grapevines shrivel and turn bluish black; destroy wild cucumbers before they are able to produce seeds for best management; seeding lawns can be done successfully at this time of year.

Ask the ISU Extension Garden Experts About: Water Grass and Storing Onions
Learn about management of two common lawn weeds that are sometimes referred to as “water grass” (crabgrass and yellow nutsedge), and about harvesting and storing onions.

Iowa State University Extension news releases are available on the World Wide Web at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/.

This information has been sent to you by Teresa Wiemerslage, Regional Communications Coordinator for Region 4 ISU Extension, wiemer@iastate.edu, 563-794-0599.

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