May 12, 2010
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Photo & Caption
Download photo here
Contact: Teresa Wiemerslage, ISU Extension program coordinator, wiemer@iastate.edu, 563-794-0599

Talking Tunnels
Mike Bollinger (center) from Four Season Tools of Decorah talks to thirty farmers about high tunnel construction at a recent workshop hosted by ISU Extension. High tunnels are inexpensive, simple, passive-solar greenhouses in which crops are grown directly in the soil. They allow growers to extend the season and produce high yields of quality produce earlier than field-grown crops, thus commanding a higher price at market. Workshop participants learned about site and high tunnel selection, construction, soil management, irrigation, pest management, bed design and cropping systems and business plan development. For more information about growing crops in high tunnels, contact Teresa Wiemerslage, ISU Extension at wiemer@iastate.edu.

Photo & Caption
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Weaving a Food System Web
Nathan Pech (center) from Starmont High school and David Lester from Oneota Community Food Coop of Decorah participated in a food system web activity at the Food & Community Gathering in Chandler, Arizona. Pech and Lester were two of twenty-two adults and youth from northeast Iowa who attended the networking event which included people from across the country.

The Food & Community Networking Meeting (formerly called the Food & Society conference) is an annual gathering hosted by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. This year’s conference featured more than 700 people actively involved in creating a healthier future for our nation's most vulnerable children. This year marks the 10th anniversary of this gathering.

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News Release
Contact: Dan Lane, ISU Extension program coordinator, danlane@iastate.edu, 563-245-1451

Youth Livestock Showmanship Clinic on May 27
WEST UNION -- 4-H and FFA members exhibiting livestock during the upcoming fair season are invited to sharpen their skills by attending a regional Livestock Clinic on May 27. The workshop is open to all 4-H and FFA youth in the area.

Youth will learn nutrition, health, home preparation, and show day tips. Educational sessions will include live demonstrations of show ring preparation and skill development for those interested in improving their showmanship skills for beef, meat goat, sheep and swine projects.

The workshop will be held at the Fayette County Fairgrounds in West Union from 6-9 pm. More information about the workshop is available from your local ISU Extension office or by contacting Dan Lane, ISU Extension program coordinator at 563-245-1451 or 319-231-0495.

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News Release
Contact: Cindy Baumgartner, 563-927-4201, cbaum@iastate.edu

Safe Food Workshop offered by ISU Extension

WAUKON -- Food service workers in restaurants, schools or institutions are invited to participate in a “Safe Food” class is being offered by Iowa State University Extension on June 8 in Waukon.

Cindy Baumgartner, ISU Extension Nutrition and Health Specialist will teach the class. Participants will receive a “ServSafe Starters” book, a folder with handouts, and information that is essential for keeping food safe in quantity food production.

The class will be held from 8:30-11 am at the Waukon Living Center, 209 2nd Ave SW in Waukon. Although this is not a certification class, the content is based on the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation’s ServSave class. The cost of the class is $35.

For more information about this class, contact Baumgartner at 563-927-4201 or email cbaum@iastate.edu.

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Other News from ISU Extension

Ask the ISU Extension Garden Experts: Bagworms, Hanging Planters and Moving Spring-flowering Bulbs
http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2010/may/160601.htm
Mid to late May is the right time for being on alert for bagworm hatch, getting into a routine of watering hanging planters and preparing to move spring-blooming bulbs.

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.

For information about local Extension events and programs, contact: