May 31, 2011

IN THIS EDITION

News Releases specific to NE Iowa:
- Beef Checkoff Offers Programs On Proper Livestock Handling Methods
- Breakfast on the Farm June 11 at The Dairy Center!
- Forestry Field Day Focuses on Timber Sales
- Advanced Swine Reproduction Seminar Set for June 28
- Waukon Farm Hosts Field Day Featuring Specialized Farm Equipment

News Release

Contact: Matt Deppe, IBIC Director of Industry Relations, 515-296-2305
Teresa Wiemerslage, Communications Coordinator, 563-794-0599, wiemer@iastate.edu

Beef Checkoff Offers Programs On Proper Livestock Handling Methods

POSTVILLE - The beef checkoff-funded Iowa Beef Quality Assurance program is bringing Curt Pate back to Iowa the week of June 20. The tour includes a stop at the Postville Veterinary Clinic on June 22.

The tour will start in the south central part of the state at the Craig and Becky Hays residence near Diagonal on June 20 and include stops at the Bloomfield Livestock Auction on June 21, Postville on June 22 and Jackson County Fairgrounds on June 23. The initial program on June 20 will start at 10:00 a.m. while the following three locations will start at 6 pm. Each program will include a meal and Beef Quality Assurance certification for participants.

“The Stockmanship & Stewardship Tour” travels the country and uses live cattle-handling demos to inform cattlemen about the importance and benefits of proper cattle handling—and its critical role in increasing consumer confidence in beef. The tour includes special hands-on training sessions at livestock auction markets and other venues where cattle producers meet to discuss improved stockmanship methods, as well as the pivotal role producers play in sustaining beef quality for consumers.

Curt Pate has been conducting livestock handling programs nationally and internationally, for over 10 years. More information about Pate and his program can be found at www.effectivestockmanship.com.

Matt Deppe, director of industry relations for the Iowa Beef Industry Council (IBIC), will also be participating in these programs. He will be discussing the tools that are available for cattlemen to improve animal care and well-being on the farm.

“Pate’s program is a real eye opener for producers as it allows them to see first-hand the benefits of moving cattle with minimum stress and the positive impact it has on both the cattle and those moving them,” says Deppe.
News Release

Contact: Jennifer Bentley, ISU Extension dairy specialist, jbentley@iastate.edu
Teresa Wiemerslage, ISU Extension program coordinator, wiemer@iastate.edu

Breakfast on the Farm June 11 at The Dairy Center!
CALMAR -- Everyone is invited to attend Breakfast on the Farm on June 11, 8 a.m. to noon at the Dairy Center, Calmar.

The menu includes pancakes, sausage, eggs, coffee and milk. The family-oriented event includes a tour of the 250-cow dairy farm at The Dairy Center and a farm animal petting zoo.

Dairy Breakfasts in Wisconsin and Minnesota have been held for decades, and often draw in up to 5,000 people. Two large tents will be put up for serving and eating, and the event will be held rain or shine.

Everyone will be allowed to park at the Northeast Iowa Community Based Dairy Foundation parking lot. The Dairy Center is located about a half mile south of NICC at 1527 Highway 150.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about the event or working as a volunteer at the event can contact Jenn Bentley at 563-382-2949.

-30-

News Release

Contact: Jesse Randall, ISU Forestry Extension, 515-294-1168

Forestry Field Day Focuses on Timber Sales

WADENA -- Each year many landowners receive substantial earnings by properly marketing mature trees from their woodland. However, many other woodland owners receive only a fraction of the real value for their timber because they do not follow recommended marketing guidelines.

Woodland owners can learn how to get the most value from their timber by attending a field day on Thursday, June 23 which focuses on “A Timber Sale: Start to Finish”. The field day is hosted by ISU Forestry Extension and Iowa DNR Forestry.

Throughout the day, forestry professionals will advise participants on all aspects of a timber sale. IDNR foresters will discuss management plans and how they guide timber harvesting activities. Instruction will be given on how to establish a timber tax basis for your woodlands to minimize tax liability following a timber sale.

Participants will see ongoing timber stand improvement practices that promote even-aged and uneven-aged forest stands. The pros and cons of different methods of selling timber will be discussed and we will visit an active timber sale/harvesting operation.

There will be a live demonstration of directional felling techniques to minimize disturbance to the surrounding trees, as well as how logs are moved from the point of harvest to a log landing. Once the trees reach the landing, participants will learn how logs are evaluated for quality and grade. At the end of the day, participants will learn about post-sale timber stand improvement practices.
The program will begin at 8:30 a.m. at Leon and Linda Deutsch’s property at 13421 D Ave., Wadena. From Wadena, take county Road W-51 (D Ave.) south ½ mile to the farm. Look for the ISU Forestry Field Day signs that will be posted at their driveway.

There will be a small fee collected at the registration table to cover the cost of the meal. Pre-registration is required so please call Jesse Randall at (515) 294-1168 to register for this very unique field day. The day will end at 4 p.m. and participants should dress for outdoor conditions.

More information and the full agenda can be found at www.forestry.iastate.edu.

-30-

**News Release**

Contact: Mark Storlie, Extension Swine Specialist, 563-425-3331, mstorlie@iastate.edu
Teresa Wiemerslage, Communications Coordinator, 563-794-0599, wiemer@iastate.edu

**Advanced Swine Reproduction Seminar Set for June 28**

WAVERLY - Pork producers who manage or own a sow herd will want to attend an advanced swine breeding herd management seminar in Waverly on June 28. The event is sponsored by Iowa State University Extension, Iowa Pork Industry Center and Iowa Pork Producers Association.

Seminar topics will discuss gilt development, impacts of genetic selection, new technologies, disease management, proper semen handling and management and review induced farrowing and oxytocin usage.

Dr. Mark Knauer, Swine Specialist, National Pork Board, will share how gilt development happens early in their lifecycle which may change how you raise and select your replacement gilts. He will also address how genetic selection impacts reproductive performance.

Dr. Roger Main, DVM, Director of Operations at ISU Vet Diagnostic Lab, will outline the key factors that influence reproductive health and share management tips with awareness of new technologies that can improve reproductive success.

Nicky Sleezer, Director of the Sleezer Fertility Center, will review proper semen handling and management and highlight management needs during hot weather.

Mark Storlie, ISU Extension Swine Field Specialist, will review the practice of induced farrowing, proper oxytocin usage and share a study that examines fetal imprinting.

The conference will be held at the Waverly Civic Center from 10 am – 3:30 pm. Contact Mark Storlie at the ISU Extension - Fayette County office for registration information and cost, 563-425-3331 or email: mstorlie@iastate.edu.

-30-

**News Release**

Contact: Teresa Wiemerslage, ISU Extension program coordinator, wiemer@iastate.edu

**Waukon Farm Hosts Field Day Featuring Specialized Farm Equipment**
WAUKON -- Specialized farm equipment will be showcased at a field day hosted by Kymar Acres and Windridge Implements on June 18. The equipment includes various seeders, tiller and transplanters designed for small to medium-sized vegetable farms.

Kymar Acres is diversified farm owned by Kyle and Mari Holthaus and located between Waukon and Decorah. They raise 5 acres of vegetables, herbs and flowers for sales to farmers markets and wholesale accounts. Visitors will also be able to tour rotational grazing for laying hens, a greenhouse and new farmstand where their farm products are sold.

A variety of equipment will be featured including BCS two wheel tractors, Jang seeders from South Korea, seed bed tillers, a Falc bed builder from France, Checchi & Maggli transplanters for vegetable sets and plasticulture layers in red, silver and deep green plastic. It is planting season and visitors can inspect some of the recent plantings and watch new crops go into the ground.

The equipment will be provided by Windridge Implement, LLC (www.windridgeimplements.com). One of a handful of dealers in the country, Windridge started carrying lines of specialized equipment in response to increased vegetable production in the region. Equipment is available for purchase or lease.

Other agencies supporting area farms will also be available. Members of GROWN Locally, a wholesale farmer cooperative, will be on hand to answer questions from buyers and farmers about joining the coop. Information about the Northeast Iowa Food and Farm Coalition, ISU Extension, Farm Energy Working Group and Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) and Local Dirt will be available. The Bear Creek Kids 4-H Club will provide refreshments and will be selling homemade baked goods.

The field day will last from 1 to 4 pm and is open to the public. Kymar Acres is located at 2168 Winnmakee Road, near Waukon. For more details about this event, please call Kyle Holthaus at (563) 382-0489.

-30-

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:

Allamakee: Julie Christensen, 563-568-6345, juliechr@iastate.edu
Chickasaw: Mary Lynch, 641-394-2174, mjllynch@iastate.edu
Clayton: Rita Severson, 563-245-1451, ritas@iastate.edu
Fayette: Kathy Steege, 563-425-3331, ksteege@iastate.edu
Howard: Sue Barnes, 563-547-3001, skbarnes@iastate.edu
Winneshiek: Carrie Courtney, 563-382-2949, ccourt@iastate.edu

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, and marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Many materials can be made available in alternative formats for ADA clients. To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call 202-720-5964.

..............................................................