

AG

ISU Extension & Outreach

Washington County

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newsletter

September 2013

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The fees for service will be used to off-set direct expenses and to support the County Extension ANR Program."

... and justice for all

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COVER CROP SEEDING DEMONSTRATION – SEPTEMBER 10

A demonstration of aerially seeding a rye cover crop into standing soybeans will be conducted on the Jim Meade farm west of Iowa City on September 10 at 5:00 p.m. Many farmers are starting to consider using fall seeded cover crops in their crop rotations to improve soil quality and reduce soil erosion, according to Jim Fawcett, ISU Extension Field Agronomist. Cover crops can also help to reduce phosphorus and nitrogen losses into streams and so can play a major role in meeting the goals of Iowa's nutrient reduction strategy, according to Fawcett.

In addition to seeing the seeding of the rye (weather permitting), those attending can hear from local farmers that have had experience in seeding cover crops. One producer who will be sharing his experience is Steve Berger. Berger has been seeding cover crops for over 10 years on his farm near Wellman. There will also be information available from the NRCS on cost share funds available for seeding cover crops. Seed salesmen and aerial applicators will also be attending the event.

The Jim Meade farm is located at 2331 340th St. SW, Tiffin (about a half mile south of I80 and 1.5 miles west of the Tiffin exit). A free meal will be provided by the Johnson County Cattleman's Association, courtesy of Iowa Farm Bureau. For more information contact Jim Fawcett in the Johnson County Extension Office at 319-337-2145 (fawcett@iastate.edu).

AG DECISION MAKER—AG CYCLES

The following links provide an analysis of the current state of Iowa agriculture from the crop, livestock, and land market perspectives. It is not intended to be a forecast of annual prices in the coming months or years. It is intended to help put current economic conditions into a historic context, better understand factors influencing prices and margins, and help prepare for whatever direction the market turns.

Introduction www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/agcycles/lawrence.pdf

A Crop Marketing Perspective www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/agcycles/hart.pdf

Livestock Market Assessment and Long Term Prospective
www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/agcycles/schulz.pdf

Land Values www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/agcycles/duffy.pdf

What Futures Markets Project www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/agcycles/hayes.pdf

Agricultural Debt www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/agcycles/kauffman.pdf

OPERATION RELEAF PROGRAM OFFERED TO ALLIANT ENERGY CUSTOMERS

Alliant Energy's Operation ReLeaf is a program to help Alliant Energy customers save energy in their homes using trees to provide shade during the summer and create wind breaks during the winter. For maximum energy efficiency, shade trees should be planted within 30 feet of the east and west and evergreens should be planted as a windbreak on the north and west of your home.

Call 811 before you dig. 811 is the national phone number that initiates the free process of locating and marking the underground utility lines in your yard. It is required by law that you contact 811, Iowa One Call 1-800-292-8989 or iowaonecall.com at least three business days before you dig.

Alliant Energy customers are eligible to purchase up to two trees for \$25 each (average retail cost per tree is \$65.00) with the remaining cost funded through a grant from Alliant Energy). Advance purchase is recommended. In the event that additional trees are available on distribution day, they will be released for purchase at 6:00 pm on a first come/first served basis or until all trees are sold. Trees must be picked up on Thursday, Sept. 26, 2013 between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm at Washington County Fairgrounds (2223 250th Street, Washington). Any trees not picked up by 6:00:00 PM on distribution day will be considered a donation to the Washington County Extension.

Trees are non-refundable, exchanges will not be accepted, and plant material is under no warranty and/or guarantee. In exchange for the Customer's participation in this program, Customer agrees that Alliant Energy, Iowa DNR, or Washington County Extension shall not be liable, in contract, tort, and strict liability otherwise, for any damages arising out of the administration of this program. Alliant Energy makes no warranties, expressed or implied, with respect to any material supplied under this program. Operation ReLeaf is a partnership initiative funded by Alliant Energy and administered by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources – Bureau of Forestry and Washington County Extension.

Complete the application at www.extension.iastate.edu/washington/news/alliant-energy-sponsor-operation-releaf-washington and mail by 9/20/2013 with a check for \$25 (for one tree) or \$50 (for two trees) payable TREES AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE (215 trees available) – Shade trees are 6-8 feet tall in 5-7 gallon containers; Conifers are 2-3 feet tall.

Sweetgum	Pagoda Dogwood	American Linden—American Sentry
Tuliptree	Black Hills Spruce	Bur Oak
Edible Plum 'Toka' or 'Superior' (purchase one of each for fruit production)		

PESTICIDE TESTING IN SEPTEMBER 13

IDALS will offer pesticide testing on September 13 at the Washington County Extension office from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. All tests are available at this site and will be given on a first-come, first-serve basis. Tests are administered by the Iowa Department of Ag and Land Stewardship. Because it may be necessary to cancel or reschedule a test date or site, it is recommended you confirm the test time and site prior to travel. Study materials are available from your local Extension office or on-line from Iowa State University: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/> then select "Environment" on the left sidebar of the page. For more information contact Washington County Extension at 319-653-4811 or IDALS Pesticide Bureau at 515-281-8591.

WEBSITE FOR FOAMING PIT ISSUES

The following link has information about what is known about the foaming pit issues present in the Midwest again this summer/fall and what producers should do from a safety standpoint. Several Midwestern Universities are working together to try and understand this issue better and are pooling their findings at: http://www.manure.umn.edu/applied/health_safety.html

FACT SHEET ON SELLING AND BUYING MANURE IN IOWA IS AVAILABLE

The latest Iowa Manure Manager Series fact sheet, *Selling and Buying Manure In Iowa*, has been finalized and posted to the web at: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/pubs/imms/vol10.pdf>.

PRODUCERS AND IOWA BENEFIT FROM FORAGE AND PASTURE EDUCATION

Current trends in agriculture are forcing Iowa beef producers to raise more beef from fewer forage acres. According to the USDA Census of Agriculture, nearly 20 percent of Iowa pasture land was converted to cropland from 2002 to 2007. High grain prices from 2008 to 2012 have continued or accelerated this trend. Beef producers must improve productivity of the available pastures through better management to increase beef production per acre of land. Producers say forage and grazing educational programs offered by beef specialists with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach are making it possible to do just that.



Extension's response

From 2007-2012, nearly 1,100 beef producers across Iowa attended more than 120 pasture and grazing programs sponsored by ISU Extension and Outreach. When participants were surveyed, 70 percent of respondents said they improved the amount of beef produced per acre of forage by at least 20 percent; 12 percent improved their beef production per acre by 50 percent or more.

Producers made changes

On average, the respondents attended three educational events over five years and, as a result, made changes in their operations:

- Fifteen percent subdivided pastures to rotationally graze livestock and 8 percent plan to subdivide pastures. (Twenty-four percent already had this practice in place.)
- Nine percent said participating in the programs helped them improve pasture fertility; 6 percent plan to make fertility changes.
- Fifteen percent started frost seeding legumes and an additional 7 percent plan to frost seed legumes.
- Thirteen percent body condition scored cows to monitor performance as a result of attending these programs and 6 percent plan to start body condition scoring.
- More than one-fourth of the participants made changes or plan to make changes to their watering systems as a result of what they had learned.
- Stockpiling pasture for winter grazing was a practice 13 percent had in place when they attended the programs; another 13 percent started stockpiling after attending a forage grazing program, and 15 percent plan to start stockpiling for winter grazing.

Putting such actions in place improves productivity and is an incentive to keep marginal land in forage production. Producers said the practices they implemented as a result of the programs had provided a median economic value of more than \$1,000 per operation. Increasing forage production on marginal land benefits the producer AND the rest of Iowa. It improves economic activity in rural Iowa when forage acres are more profitable, and reduces soil erosion and improves water quality when grasslands are well-maintained. **For more information about forage and pasture education contact:**

Dan Loy, Iowa Beef Center Director, dloy@iastate.edu, 515-294-1058 ISU Extension and Outreach Beef Specialists, <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ag/beef>

EASTERN IOWA FORAGE PRICES



These are hay prices paid at auction in recent weeks. Much of the price information is obtained from USDA Hay Market News. Personal contacts of local Iowa hay auctions secured price information for these market outlets. Auctions were chosen to reflect prices in SE Iowa. Other nearby auctions may exist. No endorsement of the listed auctions is intended.

Keosauqua (SE IA) Sin that 11:30A Alfalfa & Mixed Lg/Gr: SmSq \$4.50-6.00/b
Grass : SmSq \$2.50-4.50/bale Straw \$1.75-2.75/bale

Kalona Auction (SE IA) Thursdays 11:00 AM Alfalfa: SmSq \$6.00-7.25/bale;
(LgSq \$85-120/B; LgRd \$47.50/bale Jul) Mixed Leg/Gr: SmSq \$3.00-7.00/b;
LgSq \$60-122.50/bale; LgRd \$55-140/bale Grass: SmSq \$2.75-4.50/bale; LgSq

\$33-100/bale; LgRd \$30-130/bale Straw: SmSq \$3.00/bale; LgSq \$30-40/
bale; (LgRd \$25/bale Jul)

Yoder Auction (Frytown) Alfalfa: SmSq \$5.10-5.50/b; LgSq \$92.50/b; (LgRd \$72.50/bale Jul) Mixed Leg/Gr: (SmSq

\$5.00/b ; LgSq \$70-110/b; Jul) LgRd \$82.50-115/b Grass: SmSq \$3.50-4.00/b ; LgRd \$80-90/bale Straw: LgRd \$50-72.50/b

BEEF COW MANAGEMENT UPDATES AT TWO IOWA LOCATIONS



CHARITON, Iowa -- As interest increases in managing beef cows in dry lot or under roof management systems, local producers and veterinarians are asking Iowa State University for information comparing different systems. To address this interest and provide timely information and expertise, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach has planned three cow facilities and management update sessions in southern Iowa.

Joe Sellers, extension beef specialist, said the sessions will be held Monday, Sept. 9, in Anita; and Monday, Sept. 16, in Oskaloosa. All sessions run from 6 to 8:30 p.m. and include a meal provided by Farm Credit Services of America, the Iowa Beef Center at Iowa State and local sponsors.

“We’re bringing Iowa State faculty and staff to present a variety of informational beef cow operation topics, from feeder calf market outlook to health management concerns and recommendations,” Sellers said. “Each location will cover the same topics by the same presenters.”

Sellers and fellow extension beef specialist Christopher Clark will present comparisons of three cow management systems, including pros and cons of each. Sellers also will talk with attendees about whether they can justify building a facility for wintering and calving cows. Clark will offer cattle health management recommendations. Lee Schulz, Iowa State University ag economist, will present information on feeder calf market outlook and cow-calf business prospects.

All three sessions are offered at no charge, but preregistrations must be made by the Friday prior to the session to be attended. Session dates, specific locations and preregistration information are as follows.

- Sept. 9, Anita, Anita Veterinary Clinic. Call Stuart-Anita Veterinary Clinics 515-523-1755 or 712-752-4193 by Friday, Sept. 6.
- Sept. 16, Oskaloosa, Mahaska County Extension Office. Call Mahaska County Extension Office 641-673-5841 by Friday, Sept. 13.

For more information, see the [update sessions flyer](#) on the Iowa Beef Center website at www.iowabeefcenter.org or contact Sellers at 641-203-1270 or sellers@iastate.edu.

WORKSHOPS LOOK AT COVER CROP USE IN COMMERCIAL FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION



AMES, Iowa – Three cover crop workshops for commercial growers and those working with commercial growers are planned for this fall. The sustainable vegetable production lab in collaboration with researchers at Iowa State University, USDA-National Laboratory for Agriculture and Environment and USDA-SARE will offer workshops on the following dates at these Iowa locations:

- Friday, Sept. 27 – Armstrong Research Station, Lewis
- Friday, Oct. 4 – Horticulture Research Station, Ames
- Friday, Oct. 11 – Muscatine Island Research Station, Fruitland

The workshops are geared toward commercial horticulture field extension specialists, county extension horticulturists, regional food systems working group members, local food organizations, Iowa Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association and Practical Farmers of Iowa board members, and IDALS and NRCS personnel. Fruit and vegetable growers interested in learning about cover crops also are welcome. This workshop is co-sponsored by the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture with funding provided by USDA-SARE Professional Development Grant Program.

Iowa State University educators Ajay Nair, Andy Lenssen, Gail Nonnecke and Tom Kaspar will cover the topics of cover crop types, planting, management, benefits and issues associated with cover cropping in fruit and vegetable cropping systems. Depending on weather, there will be an opportunity to assess cover crops under field conditions. Live cover crop plants also will be displayed indoors. Registration is free but required for arranging lunch. To register, contact Ajay Nair at nairajay@iastate.edu or 515-294-7080 at least one week in advance of the workshop.

Mileage reimbursement

The SARE-Professional Development Grant will reimburse roundtrip mileage for any ISU Extension and Outreach, Regional Food Systems Working Group member or personnel working in organizations helping fruit and vegetable growers. To cut down costs, participants are encouraged to pool rides. Email Nair to apply for a travel scholarship.

IOWA WATER CONFERENCE 2014 THEME ANNOUNCED

AMES, Iowa -- The Iowa Water Center announces the theme for their eighth annual Iowa Water Conference, Making Connections – Solving Problems: Water strategies for success in a changing world. The conference will be held March 3 and 4, 2014, at the Scheman Building in Ames, Iowa.

Through plenary and breakout sessions, conference goers will explore current trends across water resource management in both urban and rural landscapes, with a particular emphasis on the interconnected nature of our water resources, and the opportunities this offers for collaboration.

Attendees can anticipate sessions in storm water and floodplain management and the intersection of agriculture and the environment, with each track incorporating technical presentations, education and outreach information, and problem-solving workshops. The conference will also offer sessions for poster and oral presentations from water professionals, as well as a poster competition for students.

The Iowa Water Conference is an annual gathering of water professionals, researchers, educators and students from across Iowa and surrounding states. The current conference structure was created to bring together the various professional conferences that were already occurring independently of each other. Bringing all of these conferences under one roof encourages collaboration between disciplines, shared resources and costs, and united efforts for clean, abundant Iowa water.

The conference partners include Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities, Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa Flood Center, Iowa Floodplain and Stormwater Management Association, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, Iowa Storm Water Education Program, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, Luther College and the U.S. Geological Survey – Iowa Water Science Center.

For more information regarding the Iowa Water Conference, or to submit a proposal for a presentation, please contact Melissa Miller at (515) 294-7467 or millerms@iastate.edu.

PORCINE EPIDEMIC DIARRHEA VIRUS

Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV) is a coronavirus related to transmissible gastroenteritis virus (TGEV) that was first diagnosed more than 40 years ago in Great Britain. Since then there have been sporadic outbreaks in Europe and it has become an endemic pig disease in Asia since 1982. PEDV affects only pigs and there are no other known hosts. It also poses no known public health threat. IPIC director Rodney "Butch" Baker said the primary clinical sign is severe diarrhea, which can cause high mortality rates in very young pigs. Veterinarians should contact the veterinary diagnostic laboratory for information on what samples are preferred, and Baker said Iowa State University Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory is well prepared to diagnose PEDV and other pathogens that may mimic PEDV. More information on biosecurity and other facts about this virus and its potential impact is the IPIC fact sheet found at www.ipic.iastate.edu/information/PEDVfactsheet2013.pdf. Links to additional sources of information on the IPIC website under Disease-- Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus www.ipic.iastate.edu/topics.html#health

COVER CROPS FEATURED AT SEPTEMBER 12TH SOUTHEAST IOWA RESEARCH FARM FIELD DAY



Cover crops will be one of the topics featured at the fall field day at the Iowa State University Southeast Research Farm near Crawfordsville at 1:30 p.m. on September 12. Many farmers are starting to consider using fall seeded cover crops in their crop rotations to improve soil quality and reduce soil erosion, according to Jim Fawcett, ISU Extension Field Agronomist. Sarah Carlson, a cover crop specialist with Practical Farmers of Iowa will present "Are Cover Crops for You?" at one of the stops on the field day tour.

Other topics on the tour will be "Bioenergy Crop Research" by Greg Brenneman, ISU Extension Ag Engineer, "How to Slow the Spread of Pesticide Resistance" by Mike Owen, ISU Extension Weed Specialist, and "Dry Corn in the Field or in the Dryer?" by Jim Jensen, ISU Extension Farm Management Specialist.

All Field days are open to the public. Certified crop advisors can obtain credits for a fee. The farm is located 1 ¾ miles south of Crawfordsville on Hwy 218, then 2 miles east on County Road G-62, then ¾ mile north. Watch for ISU field day signs on Hwy 218.

ADVANCED RUSLE2 WORKSHOP SEPT. 26



ALTOONA, Iowa — Iowa State University Extension and Outreach and the Iowa USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) have scheduled an Advanced RUSLE2 workshop for Sept. 26 at the Polk County Extension Office in Altoona, Iowa. The workshop starts at 8 a.m. at 1625 Adventureland Drive.

This advanced workshop will enable participants to explore implementation of practice based changes designed to reduce erosion. Workshop instructors are Barb Stewart, USDA - NRCS, and Kapil Arora and Angela Rieck-Hinz, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach specialists. They will focus on RUSLE2 principles, conservation practices both in RUSLE2 and Iowa Phosphorus Index, dominant critical area determinations, and setting up different managements in RUSLE2.

They will place a special emphasis on combination tillage tools, strip cropping, use of cover crops and terraced fields. There will be time during the workshop to explore the use of different template options in the software for use in watershed planning and the use of shortcut keys. Registration is currently open only to those who have previously attended the Introductory RUSLE2 and Iowa Phosphorus Index workshop. Registration is required, there will be no walk-ins allowed. Registration cost is \$200 prior to Sept. 23; \$225 after Sept. 23. The workshop is limited to 30 people.

Participants are required to bring a laptop computer pre-loaded with the most current version of the RUSLE2 and Iowa P-Index software. A total of six credits have been applied for in the Certified Crop Adviser Program and three professional development hours will be available for engineers. Workshop requirements and driving directions are available online. For more information or a print version of the registration go to www.extension.iastate.edu/registration/events/conferences/rusle2/ Contact Kapil Arora at (515) 382-6551, or pbtiger@iastate.edu; or Angie Rieck-Hinz at (515) 294-9590, or amrieck@iastate.edu to have questions about the workshop answered.

CONTRACT GRAZING FACTSHEET SERIES NOW AVAILABLE

Contacts: Joe Sellers, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach beef program specialist, 641-203-1270, sellers@iastate.edu Sherry Hoyer, Iowa Beef Center, 515-294-4496, shoyer@iastate.edu

AMES, Iowa — A new four-part series of fact sheets on contract grazing for cattle is now available on the Iowa Beef Center (IBC) website. Two Iowa State University Extension and Outreach specialists are Iowa representatives to the specialized working group within the Green Lands, Blue Water project that developed the new resource. Iowa State Extension beef program specialist Joe Sellers said he and small farms specialist Andy Larson worked with project members from Wisconsin and Minnesota to identify needs and information for those who graze cattle.

“Our group has been working on these fact sheets as a source of assistance to graziers and cattle owners who use custom grazing in their management schemes,” Sellers said. “As cow numbers increase and available pasture acres decrease, we want people to recognize and learn more about options for their operations.”

One such option is the development of working partnerships with other producers to access pasture through contract grazing. Each of the four new fact sheets focuses on one topic related to contract grazing: contract grazing basics, evaluating land suitability, rental and lease agreements, and contract grazing rates.

The fact sheets can be viewed, download and printed at no cost from these links:

1 The Basics of Contract Grazing www.iowabeefcenter.org/information/ContractGrazing1Basics.pdf

2 Evaluating Land Suitability for Grazing Cattle www.iowabeefcenter.org/information/ContractGrazing2LandEval.pdf

3 Pasture Rental and Lease Agreements www.iowabeefcenter.org/information/ContractGrazing3Leases.pdf

4 Rates Charged for Contract Grazing Arrangements www.iowabeefcenter.org/information/ContractGrazing4Rates.pdf

These fact sheets can be used to supplement existing grazing-related information on the IBC website at www.iowabeefcenter.org/research_projects.html, specifically under “Cattle Grazing Survey 2007”

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GRAPE HARVEST

AMES, Iowa — Home gardeners can successfully grow grapes in Iowa with a good planting site, hardy varieties (cultivars) and proper culture. Horticulturists with Iowa State University Extension and Outreach share grape harvest time tips. To have additional question answered, contact the ISU Hortline at 515-294-3108 or hortline@iastate.edu.



When should grapes be harvested?

Grapes should not be harvested until fully ripe. The best indicators of ripeness are color, size and flavor.

Depending on the cultivar, the berry color changes from green to blue, red or white as the grapes approach maturity. At the fully ripe stage, the natural bloom on the berries becomes more pronounced. However, color should not be the sole basis for harvesting grapes. Many cultivars change color long before the grapes are fully ripe.

Size and firmness are other useful indicators of ripeness. The individual berries should be full-sized. They also become slightly less firm to the touch at maturity. The final and most reliable test for ripeness is flavor. Taste a few grapes when size and color indicate the fruit is approaching maturity. If they are not sweet, leave the clusters on the vines. Grapes do not develop full flavor when harvested before completely mature.

The berries in my grape clusters are not ripening evenly. Why?

Several factors could be responsible for the uneven ripening of the berries within a cluster. Possible causes are over-cropping (too many grape clusters on the vine), a potassium deficiency, moisture stress or 2,4-D damage.

Over-cropping is the most common cause for home gardeners. An average grapevine may have 200 to 300 buds that are capable of producing fruit. If grapevines are not pruned properly in late winter, the number of fruit clusters may be excessive. The vine is unable to ripen the large crop properly, resulting in uneven ripening of the berries within the clusters. In Iowa, 60 is the maximum number of buds that should remain on a grapevine after pruning.

What are the proper storage conditions for grapes?

Grapes can be stored for one to two months at a temperature of 32 to 36 degrees Fahrenheit and relative humidity of 90 to 95 percent. For most home gardeners, the refrigerator is the best grape storage location. Place grapes in perforated/vented plastic bags and store in the refrigerator.

How can I keep birds from eating my grapes?

The best way to prevent birds from eating the grape crop is to place netting over the grapevines. Netting can be purchased at garden centers or through mail-order companies. When placing netting over the grapevines, make sure the netting is secured to the ground to prevent birds from entering.

Learn more about grapes

Visit the Yard and Garden FAQs website, <https://expert-hort.sws.iastate.edu/>, for more information on growing and caring for grapes and other gardening topics. The publication 'Growing Grapes in the Home Garden' can be downloaded from the Extension Online Store at <https://store.extension.iastate.edu/>.

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY ECONOMISTS HAVE CAUTIOUS MESSAGE FOR FARMERS

by John Lawrence, Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension and Outreach

Iowa State University economists are cautioning farmers to be prepared for a potential downturn in the values of commodities and land. John Lawrence, director of Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension and Outreach and associate dean for Extension Programs and Outreach, said four Iowa State economists give “an analysis of the current state of Iowa agriculture” in a series of papers on the Ag Decision Maker website (<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/>, under the Ag Cycles heading). “This analysis is not intended to be a forecast of annual prices in the coming months or years. Nor is it predicting gloom and doom for agriculture. Rather, it is intended to help put current economic conditions into a historic context, better understand the factors that will influence prices and margins in the future and help farmers prepare for whatever direction the market turns,” Lawrence said. The ISU economists offer ways that crop and livestock producers can be ready for the possibility of economic upheaval after many years of increasing prices and land values.

Chad Hart, associate professor of economics and extension economist, points out the cyclical nature of commodity markets and advises farmers to create and follow a marketing plan based on production costs: buy inputs when making crop sales; move to fixed rate loans to protect against higher interest rates; and continue to use risk management programs, such as crop insurance. Lee Schulz, assistant professor and extension livestock economist, presents the supply and demand situations for beef cattle and hogs. He highlights the importance of managing costs and price risks in a successful operation. Michael Duffy, professor of economics and extension economist, reviews the history of Iowa farmland values and sees a likely decline as corn and soybean prices fall, but suggests the decline won't be as steep as the Farm Crisis of the 1980s. Dermot Hayes, professor of economics and Pioneer Chair in Agribusiness, uses an Iowa State-developed method to extrapolate futures prices for five years into the future. The worst-case scenario shows corn prices as low as \$4.27 in 2013, \$3.85 in 2014, \$3.41 in 2015, \$3.12 in 2016 and \$2.89 in 2017, with soybean values for the corresponding years at \$9.69, \$8.89, \$7.85, \$7.09 and \$6.55. An analysis of agricultural debt by Jason Henderson and Nathan Kaufman, economists at the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, is included on the Ag Decision Maker website. It refers to previous articles that deal with cycles in agriculture and how they have affected farm debt.