

AG

ISU Extension Washington County

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newsletter

November 2012

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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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ISU EXTENSION WORKSHOP-BUSINESS & FARM SUCCESSION CONVERSATIONS & PLANNING

"Successfully transferring a farm business, or any business for that matter, begins with conversations about goals – the goals of all parties involved," said Baker. "The current owner and spouse as well as future owner and spouse need to be included in the conversations. These talks are often hard to initiate, but they are vital to creating an understanding that can be the basis for a succession plan."

Iowa State University Extension is offering business and farm succession workshops to help business and farm families begin those conversations and start putting transition plans on paper. Gene Mohling, ISU Extension Regional Director, says the Business and Farm Succession Workshops are a result of needs expressed by residents of southeast Iowa.

The workshop is planned as a multi-generational event for exiting owners and spouse, and succeeding owners and spouse. The workshops will be held on consecutive days to allow for the initiation of conversations and written plans. David Baker and John R. Baker, Beginning Farmer Center Administrator and Attorney at Law, will present the workshops.

"During the first day we will take a look at the wants, needs, expectations and fears associated with succession planning," said David Baker. "We will look at what must happen to make the transition work." Over the two days, participants will review the retirement plan concept and receive information on transfer plans, estate plans and a process for creating a family statement of intention. Family groups will be given time to write a statement of intent and vision of the future. "Families will go home with a blueprint to the future – knowing what they need to do, who they need to talk to, and understanding that the plan may need to be adjusted along the way."

The Washington County Extension office will be the location of the December 14-15 workshop that Friday 1 – 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.. The cost of the workshop is \$125 per family of four; \$25 per each additional person. Pre-registration can be made contacting the Washington County Extension Office at 319-653-4811 or email nadrian@iastate.edu

Additional information about the Beginning Farmer Center is available online at www.extension.iastate.edu/bfc/, by e-mailing bfc@iastate.edu or calling 877-BFC-1999.

Co-sponsored by Farm Credit Services of America // 2216 James Avenue, Mt Pleasant, IA 52641



Farm Credit Services of America

PRIVATE PESTICIDE APPLICATOR DATES SET

The 2012-2013 private pesticide applicator continuing instructional courses have been scheduled for Iowa, Johnson, Keokuk and Washington County. If you wish to recertify by training and not by exam, you must attend a CIC session each year. Remember, you always have the option of taking the exam. There is a \$20 fee per person. A private pesticide applicator may attend a class offered in any county. Pre-registration is not required.

Date	Time	County	City	Address
December 20	9:30 a.m.	Johnson	Iowa City	Johnson County Extension Office
December 20	1:30 p.m.	Washington	Washington	Washington County Extension Office
January 3	1:30 p.m.	Iowa	Marengo	American Legion, 1240 Lafayette Avenue, Marengo
February 7	1:30 p.m.	Keokuk	Sigourney	Expo Fairgrounds, Sigourney
February 7	7:00 p.m.	Keokuk	Sigourney	Expo Fairgrounds, Sigourney
February 13	1:30 p.m.	Iowa	I-80, Exit 216	Kinze Mfg. Product Center
February 13	4:15 p.m.	Iowa	I-80, Exit 216	Kinze Mfg. Product Center
February 21	1:30 p.m.	Johnson	Iowa City	Johnson County Extension Office
March 21	1:30 p.m.	Washington	Washington	Washington County Extension Office
March 21	7:00 p.m.	Washington	Washington	Washington County Extension Office

MANURE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Manure applicators that haul or handle manure from a confinement site facility with more than 500 animal units and all commercial manure applicators are required by Iowa law to be certified to apply manure in Iowa. "My best estimate based on historical numbers of certified applicators is somewhere between 300-800 applicators still need to attend training this year to maintain or renew their licenses to apply manure before the fall application season," says Angie Rieck-Hinz, Extension program specialist.

Confinement site applicators must attend two hours of annual training to maintain their three-year license. Applicators must pay certification and education fees. After March 1 of the current year, applicators that are renewing their certificates must also pay a late fee. Commercial manure applicators must attend three hours of training or take and pass an exam annually. Commercial applicators that need to renew their licenses after March 1 will need to pay a late fee in addition to the certification fee and education fee. Commercial manure applicators are reminded they must be associated with a commercial manure service. Commercial and confinement site applicators may meet certification requirements by scheduling an appointment with their local ISU Extension county office to watch a videotape or by contacting their local DNR field office to schedule an appointment to take the certification exam. Four certification programs will be offered this winter for confinement site and commercial manure applicators:

- Commercial manure applicator certification is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 4, 2013, 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at the Johnson, Iowa, Keokuk and Washington County Extension Office.
- Confinement site certification - Thurs., Jan. 17 2013, 9:30 a.m.-Noon, Expo Building, Sigourney Fairgrounds
- Confinement site certification - Tuesday, February 5, 2013, 9:30 a.m.-Noon. , Johnson Co. Extension
- Confinement site certification - Tuesday, February 12, 2013, 7:00-9:30 p.m. , Washington Co. Extension
- Confinement site certification (Dry Manure) - Monday, Feb. 18, 2013, 1:00-4:00 p.m., Washington Co. Extension

For information about manure applicator certification requirements contact Greg Brenneman, Ag Engineer, at gregb@iastate.edu or 319/337-2145; Tom Miller, Program Specialist, tmiller@iastate.edu 319-653-4811 or Terry Steinhart, Swine Specialist, tsteinha@iastate.edu 641-622-2680.

SOIL TEMPERATURES

The average 4-inch soil temperatures in Iowa are currently running in the upper 50's. Since the weather is fluctuating by as much as 15-25 degrees over the past week it will be a while before soils remain below 50 F for fall anhydrous ammonia applications. You can check anytime on average soil temperatures in Iowa at: <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/NPKnowledge/>

UPCOMING CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHTS ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

Article | Wed, 09/19/2012 - 09:55 | By [Kathleen Delate](#), [Laura Miller](#)

IOWA CITY, Iowa – Registration is now open for the Twelfth Annual Iowa Organic Conference, to be held on the University of Iowa campus on Nov. 18 and 19. Farmers, extension staff, industry representatives and students are invited to learn about science-based research in organic agriculture and practical applications for Iowa farms.

The conference will open with a reception on the evening of Sunday, Nov. 18 at the UI Memorial Union, and continue with a full-day program of speakers, workshops and exhibits on Monday.

“Iowa State University is very excited to be partnering with the University of Iowa Office of Sustainability and New Pioneer Food Cooperative in Iowa City to bring a new perspective to the conference,” said Kathleen Delate, ISU conference organizer. The morning keynote speaker will be Will Allen, who will address the conference theme of “Organic Farming: What You Do Makes a Difference.” The recipient of a McArthur Genius Grant, Allen founded Growing Power LLC, a nonprofit center for urban agriculture training and community food systems.

“I like nothing better than to get my hands into good, rich soil and sow the seeds of hope,” said Allen, who is involved in organic farming projects and outreach programs throughout the world. The afternoon keynote speaker will be Fred Kirschenmann, Leopold Center Distinguished Fellow and an organic farmer. Kirschenmann will speak about how organic principles can address a future with peak oil, rising fuel prices and limits on fertilizer supplies. Both Allen and Kirschenmann received the Leadership Award from the James Beard Foundation in 2011, which honors pioneers who have inspired positive action to improve the country’s food systems.

Other speakers at the conference will address strategies for dealing with drought, local food systems, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), certification cost-share programs, alternative grain crops, cover crops, organic food research and more. Farmers will offer tips for best practices during the transition to organic farming, and Delate will discuss data from the 15-year-old Long Term Agroecological Research project, a comparison of organic and conventional crop rotations.

The conference includes an all-organic lunch prepared by UI Dining Services chef Barry Greenberg and his staff, made with local and regional organic products and produce grown by students at UI and ISU. Register online at <http://iowaorganicconference.eventbrite.com> or contact Kathleen Delate at (515) 294-7069 or kdelate@iastate.edu. Discounted early registration ends Oct. 28. Details about how to become a sponsor or exhibitor are also available on the event website.

CRAIG JOHNSON FEATURED AT CROP CONFERENCE JANUARY 30

Craig Johnson, Meteorologist and Executive Director of the Iowa Academy of Sciences, will be the lead-off speaker at the Iowa State University Extension Crop Advantage Series at 9:00 a.m. on January 30 at the Highlander Conference Center in Iowa City. Johnson will be presenting the topic, “Iowa Weather – Past, Present, and Future.” Also featured at the conference are topics on corn rootworm resistance to Bt corn, and adjusting fertilizer applications after the drought of 2012.

Certified crop advisors can earn up to 5 credits at the conference in Iowa City and private pesticide applicators can become re-certified. Advance registration for each location is \$35 and includes workshop materials, lunch, and refreshments. An additional fee is charged for CCA credits and private pesticide applicator recertification. Registration less than one week prior to the meeting or at the door is \$45. Other sites in eastern Iowa include the Catfish Bend Casino in Burlington on January 7 and Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo on January 24. Registration materials for all sites are available at www.cropadvantage.org or from your local ISU Extension office.

AG CHEMICAL DEALER UPDATE SET FOR DECEMBER 5

Updates on the latest crop production products and recommendations for seed, fertilizer, and ag chemical dealers are the featured topics of the Ag Chemical Dealer Update on December 5 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Highlander Conference Center in Iowa City. “These meetings are a chance for ag input dealers to meet with Extension specialists to review current research, discuss new products, and learn of new recommendations,” says Jim Fawcett, ISU Extension field agronomist in eastern Iowa.

Featured speakers will be Mike Owen, ISU Extension Weed Specialist; Erin Hodgson, ISU Extension Entomologist; Greg Tylka, ISU Extension Nematologist; Antonio Mallarino, ISU Extension Soil Fertility Specialist, and Matt Helmers, ISU Extension Ag Engineer. There will also be a similar meeting in Ames on December 6. The meetings are approved for Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) credits, and Iowa Commercial Pesticide Applicators can renew their certification for 2012 in categories 1A, 1B, 1C and 10. Registration fees for the meetings are \$70 one week prior to the event (\$85 at the door). Registration materials will be available soon.

COOL STORED GRAIN

So far this harvest, a lot of corn and soybeans have gone into storage at temperatures in the 70s and some 80s. With grain this warm, moisture migration and spoilage can occur quickly, even with fairly dry grain. With forecast highs in the 50s with lows in the 30s, grain bin fans should be running to get stored grain cooled down as soon as possible.

While we want stored grain cooled to 30-35 degrees for winter storage, the sooner we get grain temperatures down, the better. Every 10 degree drop in grain temperature will nearly double the allowable storage time. Fans might need to be run several times during the fall to get grain down to wintertime storage temperatures.

The time required to completely cool a bin of grain depends on fan size. In general terms, a large drying fan will take 10-20 hours to cool a bin of grain. However, a small aeration fan can take a week or more to completely cool a full bin. In either case, it is best to measure the temperature of the air coming out of the grain to see if cooling is complete. It is much better to error on the side of running the fan too long rather than turn it off too soon.

If grain is dried down to the proper moisture and correctly cooled, it should store very well through the winter. Even so, it is best to check stored grain at least every two weeks during the winter and once a week in warmer weather. For more details, order a copy of "Managing Dry Grain in Storage" AED-20 from Midwest Plan Service at <http://www.mwpshq.org> or check out more grain storage information at <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/graindrying>.

GREENHORN GRAZING WORKSHOP FEATURES PLANNED GRAZING & DRY LOT CATTLE PRODUCTION

Area livestock producers are invited to attend a Greenhorn Grazing workshop at the Matt Wulf farm on October 30. A variety of topics will be covered during this session. The fee is \$15 and includes a light meal and materials.

The session will begin at 1:30 p.m. at the Washington County Extension Office. Topics will include: market outlook for grain and livestock and cull cow program. The group will move to the Wulf farm where they will share information on dry lot cattle production, planned grazing, and facilities. The program will conclude at 6:00 p.m.

The Greenhorn Grazing Series is sponsored by ISU Extension and Outreach, Iowa Beef Center, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, and the Southern Iowa Forage and Livestock Committee. For more information and to register for Greenhorn Grazing, contact Nancy Adrian by phone at the Washington County Extension Office at 319-653-4811 or email at nadrian@iastate.edu.

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 across Iowa. No endorsement of the listed auctions is intended.

Keosauqua (SE IA) Sat 11:30A Alfalfa & Mixed Lg/Gr: SmSq \$4.00-7.00/bale Grass: SmSq \$3.00-5.00/bale LgRd \$60-70/bale Straw: SmSq \$2.00/bale Cornstalks (local Private sale) LgRd \$ 35/bale CRP SmSq (\$1.75-3.00/bale Aug); LgRd \$40-50/bale

Kalona Auction (SE IA) Thursdays 11:00 AM Alfalfa: SmSq \$5.00-6.25/bale; LgSq \$62-100/B Mixed Leg/Gr: SmSq \$4.50-5.25/bale; (LgSq \$95-140/b Aug); LgRd \$12.50-100/bale Grass: SmSq \$2.50-5.25/bale; LgSq \$32-97.50/bale; (LgRd \$40-127.50/bale Straw: (SmSq \$ 1.75-3.75/B Aug) Cornstalks: LgRd \$20-28/bale

Yoder Auction (Frytown)

Alfalfa & Mixed Leg/Gr: SmSq \$4.50-7.10/B; LgSq \$82.50-105/b; LgRd \$132/T Grass: SmSq \$3.10-6.50/bale; LgSq \$55-90/bale; LgRd \$87.50/bale

PRO-AG OUTLOOK WORKSHOPS AT AMANA & MT. PLEASANT

The 2013 Pro-Ag Outlook meetings for Southeast Iowa will be held in Mt Pleasant and Amana Colonies on November 14. The Henry County Extension office, at 127 N Main street, Mt Pleasant will host the meeting with registration beginning at 7:30 AM and the program beginning at 8 AM. The Amana meeting will be held at the Clarion Inn, I-80 West, exit 225, Amana Colonies. The registration will begin at 3:30 PM and the program will begin at 3:45.

At both locations, the 2013, outlook for crops and livestock will be discussed. Dr. Chad Hart, ISU Economist, will present the discussion on crops and Dr. Lee Schulz, ISU Economist, will discuss livestock outlook. Additionally, at both sites, Gary Luebke, Senior Risk Management Specialist for the USDA-Risk Management Agency, St Paul, MN office will give an update on issues important to lenders, ag professionals, and producers in using crop and livestock insurance to manage production risks. At both locations there will also be a presentation on the implications of the new CSR-2 soil rating system. Pre-Registration for both meetings can be made by contacting the Henry County Extension Office at 319-385-8126. Reservations for Mt Pleasant are \$35.00 and include breakfast and handouts.

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BEEF AND DAIRY FEEDLOT FIELD DAY

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach is hosting a manure management and runoff control field day on Wednesday, October 31 from 10:30 to noon at a Naeve Livestock Farms feedlot west of Andover, Iowa. Lunch will be served by the Clinton County Cattlemen's Association. The purpose of this field day is to review low-cost options for managing runoff water and manure from small to medium size beef or dairy feedlot operations.

Feedlot owners, Ray and Andrew Naeve will discuss the two different manure control systems at this feedlot location and will share the decisions they made on how to approach feedlot runoff concerns.

In addition to the manure control systems, the field day will also include information on regulations for small and medium sized feedlots, nutrient content of feedlot manure and use in cropping systems, stockpiling regulations, and cost-share opportunities for feedlot owners.

The Naeve feedlot is located at 4166 135th St., Clinton, IA. Go 0.5 miles north of the intersection of Co Hwy E-50 and Z-50 on Co Hwy Z-50 (thru Andover) to 135th St. Turn left (west) on 135th St. and go 1.6 miles to first place on north side of road. This field day will be held rain or shine.

For more information please contact: Greg Brenneman, extension agricultural engineer, 319-337-2145, gregb@iastate.edu Denise Schwab, extension beef specialist, 319-472-4739, dschwab@iastate.edu Or the Clinton County Extension Office at 563-659-5125.

2012 IOWA FARM INCOME TAX WEBINAR KEOKUK COUNTY EXTENSION OFFICE-NOV. 9

For many years, Iowa Farm Bureau, has provided an educational event for farmers entitled the Iowa Farm Income Tax seminar. In the past, this has been held over the Iowa Communications Network (ICN) and provided farmers with the opportunity to get updated information and receive tax tips as they make their tax preparation.

The seminar's long appeal and popularity is evidenced by participant evaluations from last year's event: highlights for participants included good info on bonus depreciation, farm tax changes, tax planning, etc.

In 2012, this event is being moved to a webinar format. The speakers have been secured and the webinar will be held Friday, November 9 at 1:00 pm. (program to be no longer than 2 hours) at the Keokuk County Extension Office, 102 E. Washington, Sigourney (641-622-2680). The speakers, Roger McEowen, Director of the Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation (CALT) at Iowa State University and Charles Brown, President of AgriFinancial Services, LLC, will draw on their experiences to provide useful, timely information for participants. The live event will be available to anyone who wishes to attend (the target audience is farmers); the webinar will be recorded and available to Farm Bureau members on our website after the event.. We will be providing the opportunity for farmers to connect via their home/farm computers, but also have local sites where people can gather to participate. More information and a list of local sites is at www.iowafarmbureau.com. For more information or any questions, contact Ed Kordick, Commodity Services Manager, Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, Phone: 515.225.5433, e-mail: ekordick@ifbf.org

REGISTER FOR SOWBRIDGE DISTANCE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

AMES, Iowa — The successful distance education program SowBridge begins its fifth year Nov. 7. Iowa State University animal science associate professor and extension swine specialist Ken Stalder said people need to register soon.

“The year-long program is offered by subscription only with an Oct. 15 deadline to ensure participants will receive materials for the first session on Nov. 7,” he said. “SowBridge provides all participants with the opportunity to hear directly from experts, and to contact those experts following the individual sessions at the reasonable price of \$250 for the entire year.”

Entities with more than one location have the opportunity to add locations at a lower rate. Cost is \$250 for the first registration from an entity and \$125 for each subsequent subscription from the same entity. This provides access to one phone line per session and all program materials for each registration. Materials, delivery process and program costs are slightly different for those with non-U.S. mailing addresses, and potential subscribers from outside the U.S. should contact Sherry Hoyer at the Iowa Pork Industry Center by phone at 515-294-4496 or email shoyer@iastate.edu for more information.

A brochure with information and a registration form is available on the IPIC website at www.ipic.iastate.edu/SowBridge/2012BrochureIPIC.pdf. Iowa residents who want more information can call Stalder at 800-808-7675. To see presentations and hear audio from SowBridge sessions in earlier years, visit www.ipic.iastate.edu/sowbridge.html. SowBridge is sponsored by a group of 11 state universities – including Iowa State – from the major swine producing states.

IPIC was established in 1994 as a coordinated effort of the colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University. Its mission is to promote efficient pork production technologies in Iowa, maintain Iowa's pork industry leadership and strengthen rural development efforts. IPIC focuses its efforts on programs that are integral and complementary to ISU Extension and Outreach. Through IPIC, Iowa producers receive accurate and timely information to make their operations more efficient and profitable.

PQA PLUS ADVISOR TRAINING—NOV. 19

AMES, Iowa -- People who need to be recertified as Pork Quality Assurance Plus® Advisors under the National Pork Board's PQA Plus program are reminded of an upcoming session in Ames. The Iowa Pork Industry Center at Iowa State University is hosting the morning session on Nov. 19, which will run concurrently with an initial daylong PQA Plus certification session. James McKean, IPIC associate director and ISU Extension swine veterinarian, is coordinating both trainings that will be held in the Ensminger Room in Kildee Hall on the Iowa State campus. “The recertification session is limited to the first 30 participants who preregister and pay the recertification fee of \$50 per person,” McKean said.

The registration form for recertification is available at www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPRecert111912.docx and is due with the \$50 fee by Nov. 5. Those who wish to become certified for the first time need to download, complete and submit the two-page application form available online at www.ipic.iastate.edu/PQAPapp111912.docx. The form also is available by fax by calling Sherry Hoyer at IPIC at 515-294-4496. The application deadline is Nov. 5 with the \$75 due from approved applicants by the certification session.

To be eligible to submit an application for initial certification, people must meet the following qualifications:

1. Be a veterinarian, extension specialist or ag educator (defined for this program as a person who spends full time in adult education or at least half time in production training) AND
2. Have a D.V.M. or B.S. in animal science or an equivalent combination of education and swine production experience as determined by the PQA Plus trainer reviewing the application AND
3. Have two years of recent documentable swine production experience.

For more information on PQA Plus, contact the National Pork Board at 800-456-PORK, or go to <http://pork.org/Producers/PQAP.aspx?c=PQAP>.

EXTENSION DROUGHT WEB PAGE

ISU Extension continues to add resources on a web site to help you deal with the drought. The resources listed under various categories: “Crops”, “Livestock”, “Dealing with Stress”, “Home and Yard”, “Financial Concerns”, and “Tips for Businesses”. Go to: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/topic/recovering-disasters>

AUTUMN LAWN CARE

AMES, Iowa – Fall is a busy time for gardeners. With so much to do, lawn care is sometimes neglected. However, proper lawn care in fall helps ensure an attractive, healthy lawn next season. Important fall lawn care practices include mowing, fertilizing, controlling broadleaf weeds and raking. To have plant and garden questions answered, contact the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Hortline at 515-294-3108 or hortline@iastate.edu.

Do I need to remove the leaves on my lawn?

Turfgrass plants use light, water and nutrients to manufacture food. In fall, lawn areas beneath large trees are often completely covered with leaves. The leaf debris prevents the turfgrass plants from manufacturing and storing food prior to winter. Leaves also may mat down and smother the grass over winter. A thick layer of leaves (little or no grass is visible) will need to be raked up and removed. A small amount of leaves can be chopped up with a mulching mower. Small quantities of finely shredded leaves will filter down into the grass canopy rather than rest on the grass surface.

How long should I continue to mow the lawn?

Continue to mow the lawn until the grass stops growing in fall. The foliage of cool-season grasses, such as Kentucky bluegrass, stops growing when daytime high temperatures are consistently below 50 F. In Iowa, bluegrass usually stops growing in late October or early November. Once the foliage stops growing, the lawn mower can be put away for the winter.

How late can I apply a broadleaf herbicide to my lawn?

Fall is the best time to control perennial broadleaf weeds (dandelion, plantain, clover, etc.) in the lawn with a broadleaf herbicide. Applications can be made from mid-September to early November in Iowa.

Effective broadleaf herbicides include 2,4-D, MCPP, MCPA, dicamba, triclopyr, and others. The most effective broadleaf herbicide products contain a mixture of two or three herbicides, as no single compound will control all broadleaf weeds. Broadleaf herbicides can be applied as liquids or granules. Before applying any herbicide, carefully read and follow label directions.

When should I fertilize the lawn in the fall?

Fertilizer applications can be made in mid-September and late October or early November. Mid-September fertilization promotes a moderate rate of shoot growth and helps to thicken the turf. An application of fertilizer in late October or early November (when the turfgrass foliage has stopped growing) promotes root growth and early green-up next spring. Apply 1 pound of actual nitrogen per 1,000 square feet in mid-September and late October or early November.

What is the best way to store an opened bag of lawn fertilizer?

Store lawn and garden fertilizers in their original bags or containers so you will know the content and analysis of the product next season. Store granular fertilizers in a protected location where they will remain dry. Granular products absorb moisture from the air, causing them to cake up like cement. An excellent way to store opened bags of lawn and garden fertilizers is to place the bags in large containers, such as five gallon buckets, and cover with tight-sealing lids.

DEVELOPMENT OF CSR2

Updated Corn Suitability Ratings (CSR2) Not Related to Recent Land Valuations

Some recent news stories on changes in land valuations in county assessors' office mention "the new soil study" being used. This does not have anything to do with the current development of CSR2. These stories on land valuations reference the recent Iowa Department of Revenue's emphasis on uniformly assessing agricultural land at the county level. For some of the assessor offices, it has meant implementing the most current, finalized county soil survey, which may be 10 or more years past its published date. Those soil surveys include the original CSR, not the new CSR2. The county assessors have just completed 2011 assessments. Their next updates in 2014 for the 2013 assessments will be the first time they have an opportunity to use the new CSR2 system.

What is CSR2? The new and easier to understand CSR2 will make very little or no change to most soils with an average difference of 0.3 points. However, about 15% of Iowa's soil map units will have CSR and CSR2 values differing by 15 or more points. This is mainly due to the complexity of some soils, especially a soil map unit containing two very different kinds of soil. For these soils, experts will review and determine if available data merits the differences. Please contact your local Extension Office for more information.

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

PQA PLUS[®] TRAINING SET IN WASHINGTON COUNTY

WASHINGTON, Iowa -- The Iowa Pork Industry Center and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach are teaming up to provide training for pork producers and others who need certification in the Pork Quality Assurance Plus[®] (PQA Plus[®]) program. One certification session has been set for November 8th in Washington County.

Washington County administrative assistant Nancy Adrian said the session will be held at the Washington County Extension office, 2223 250th St. Washington, and will be taught by ISU Extension and Outreach swine program specialist Tom Miller.

“The PQA Plus[®] session is set for 7 to 9 p.m.,” she said. “Anyone who plans to attend should let us know as soon as possible to ensure that we have adequate materials for everyone.”

Cost for this certification program is \$25 per person and is payable at the door. To preregister, contact the Washington County Extension office at 877-435-7322 or 319-653-4811. To learn more about PQA Plus[®] please see the National Pork Board Web site at <http://www.pork.org/certification/default.aspx>

