

CROP NOTES for December 2, 2019

Iowa State University Extension Information for Northeast Iowa

Brian Lang, ISU Extension Agronomist, Decorah, IA

Past issues of Crop Notes are posted at:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/page/crop-notes-brian-lang>

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VARIETY TRIALS

Iowa Crop Improvement Corn and Soybeans Variety Trials

Go to: <http://www.croptesting.iastate.edu/>

Neighboring state variety trials:

Minnesota

- Soybean trials at Rochester: <https://blog-crop-news.extension.umn.edu/2019/10/2019-u-of-m-se-minnesota-regional.html>
- Oats: https://www.maes.umn.edu/sites/maes.umn.edu/files/2019_oat_final.pdf
- All 2019 variety trials will eventually be posted at: <https://www.maes.umn.edu/publications/field-crop-trials>

Illinois: <http://vt.cropsci.illinois.edu/>

South Dakota:

- Corn: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/corn-hybrid-trial-results>
- Soybean: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/soybean-variety-trial-results>
- Oat: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/oat-variety-trial-results>
- Wheat: <https://extension.sdstate.edu/wheat-variety-trial-results>

Wisconsin: <https://fyi.extension.wisc.edu/fieldcroppathology/university-of-wisconsin-variety-trials/>

TESTING FOR NEW CERTIFIED CROP ADVISORS

Certified Crop Adviser Test Prep is Available Online

The next certified crop adviser exam is Feb. 7, **and registration for the exam continues through Dec. 13.**

Iowa State University offers an online course to help prepare for the CCA exam. The CCA review course is divided into the four major exam competency areas, with a total of 26 modules and nearly eight hours of recorded programming. Each module includes a practice quiz of up to 10 questions, randomly selected from a pool of questions. A practice exam covering information from all modules is also available, and consists of 100 randomly selected questions. “The practice quizzes can identify a person’s weak areas and allow them to focus on subjects where they need to improve,” said Bob Hartzler, professor in agronomy and extension weed specialist at Iowa State University.

According to Hartzler, the online course is an ideal way for participants to prepare, because it compiles all of the necessary information into one place, in a way that allows participants to review and refresh their understanding of current standards. The online course is available through the ISU Extension Store and is offered at a cost of \$100. This does not include registration for the actual exam. Register for the online preparation course at:

<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/product/14308>

Register for the CCA exam at: <https://iowacca.org/become-a-cca/>

EVENTS

Nov. & Dec., Farm Bill Programs, many locations across Iowa

Free program but preregistration required at least 48 hours in advance. Topics include: Rules and regulations; The ARC or PLC decision; Farm stress management. Speakers from ISU Extension and USDA-FSA. To register, either call your county office or go

to www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/meetings.html

- Dec. 4, 1:00 PM, Dubuque Co., Epworth City Hall, 563-583-6496
- Dec. 5, 1:00 PM, Buchanan Co., Heartland Acres Event Center, 319-334-7161

- Dec. 9, 1:00 PM, Chickasaw Co., New Hampton Community Center, 641-394-2174
- Dec. 11, 1:00 PM, Winneshiek/Allamakee Co., Winneshiek Co. Fairgrounds, Decorah, 563-382-2949
- Dec. 17, 9:00 AM, Howard Co., Fairgrounds, Featherlite Center, Cresco, 563-547-3001
- Dec. 18, 1:00 PM, Fayette Co., Opera House, Fayette, 563-425-3331

Other locations, dates and times are available

at: www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/meetings.html

Dec. 3, Cover Crop Meeting, Grundy Center

5:30 to 7:30 PM at Titan Machinery in Grundy Center. The event is free, open to the whole family and includes a complimentary meal. The workshop will feature Grundy County farmers Fred Abels and Dale Launstein sharing their experiences with cover crops and how they have successfully integrated them into their farming operations. Kay Stefanik, Iowa Nutrient Research Center assistant director, will demonstrate how to use nitrate test strips can be used to collect water quality information for your personal use on the farm and highlight practices listed in the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy that help improve water quality. Ann Staudt, ILF manager and content specialist, will share results from cover crop projects examining species selection, water quality implications, and soil health indicators such as earthworms. The event is free and open to the whole family, but reservations are suggested to ensure adequate space and food. Please RSVP to Liz Juchems at 515-294-5429 or ilf@iastate.edu

Dec. 4, Beef Nutrition Research Showcase, Ames

Meeting starts at 1:30 PM with an optional beef nutrition farm tour at 12:00 PM, and dinner at 5:30 PM. The program and meal are free thanks to sponsor Merck Animal Health. Topics include: Growth promoting technologies and their effect on cattle mineral status; Precision livestock farming tools for the feedlot; Beef cattle market situation and outlook; Transit stress in receiving calves; Finishing high quality beef. Please RSVP by Nov. 27 by contacting Allison VanDerWal, 507-822-5921, avand@iastate.edu. The showcase will be held at the Hansen Ag Student Learning Center, 2508 Mortensen Road in Ames. The optional tour at 12:00 PM is at the Iowa State Beef Nutrition Farm at 3405 North Dakota Ave. See the showcase flyer at: <http://www.iowabeefcenter.org/events/ResearchShowcaseFlyer2019.pdf>

Dec. 4-5, Integrated Crop Management Conference, Ames

The ISU Integrated Crop Management Conference is Iowa's premier crop production education event. No other program brings together the diverse range of topics, slate of expert presenters and results of the latest University research. Drawing nearly 1,000 of the top crop production professionals from across Iowa and the Midwest together for two days. All of the program details provided at: <http://www.aep.iastate.edu/icm/>

FYI, here's some of the topics from guest speakers for this program:

- Peter Kovács, South Dakota State University, will discuss agronomic implications of new planter technologies.
- Scott Wells, University of Minnesota, will present on the evolving use of cover crop interseeding.
- Charles Lynch of the University of Iowa will share information on glyphosate and cancer and the findings of the Agricultural Health Study.

- Anita Dille, Kansas State University, will review integrating cover crops for weed suppression in corn-soybean systems.
- Justin McMechan, University of Nebraska, will discuss the ecology and management of soybean gall midge.
- Damon Smith, University of Wisconsin, will share information on smartphone-based apps used to predict and manage plant diseases.
- Newell Kitchen, from the USDA-ARS, will take a look at the history, and future, of corn nitrogen recommendations.
- Robert Mullen, with Nutrien, will discuss the global nature of the fertilizer industry and how the changing landscape is affecting US farmers.

Dec. 5, Cover Crop Meeting, Luana

10:00 AM to Noon at the Luana Savings Bank. The event is free, open to the whole family and includes a complimentary meal. Attendees will have the opportunity to hear from local farmers about the benefits of cover crops, choosing seed varieties, innovative application methods, best management practices and opportunities for cost share. The program starts with a farm panel discussion; next are results from cover crop projects examining species and soil health indicators. Tom Leitgen, drone operator, will share a video and lead a discussion on using drone technology to seed cover crops. Project Coordinator Eric Palas will discuss cost share opportunities for cover crops in Clayton County. Weather permitting, there will be a short tour to compare cover crop seeding methods following the program. The event is free and open to the whole family, but reservations are suggested to ensure adequate space and food. Please RSVP to Liz Juchems at 515-294-5429 or ilf@iastate.edu

Dec. 13, Midwest Dairy & Beef Day, Calmar

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Iowa's Dairy Center, Calmar. ISU Extension, the Northeast Iowa Dairy Foundation and NICC will offer the annual Midwest Dairy & Beef Day. This year's event will discuss opportunities and challenges to adding value to dairy calves and dairy beef cross calves. Producers will also share their experiences from feeding to breeding during a panel discussion. Midwest Dairy & Beef Day is open to all beef producers, dairy producers, students and industry persons. This program is generously supported by local businesses and is free of charge for participants. Please register by Dec. 5 to reserve your seat. <http://iowadairycenter.com/farmers/midwest-dairy-day.php>

Dec. 14, Dairy Goat Management Program, Elkader (register by Dec. 6)

10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Keystone AEA in Elkader. The program "Fine-Tuning Your Dairy Goat Management" will focus on managing forages, utilizing health strategies, improving colostrum management, implementing business practices and dealing with the challenges of managing dairy goats. All dairy goat producers are welcome. The agenda will include:

- Dairy Goat TransAnalysis – Larry Tranel, NE/SE IA Dairy Field Specialist, Dubuque, IA
- Health Strategies for the Milking Goat Herd - Dr. Chris Duemler, Brodhead Veterinary Medical Center, Brodhead, WI
- Managing Forages for Milking Goats - Daniel Olson, Program Coordinator with Better than BMR, Lena, WI
- Colostrum Management – Jennifer Bentley, NE IA Dairy Field Specialist, Decorah, IA

- Approved Medications for Dairy Goats – Dr. Megan Kleve, Elkader Vet Clinic, Elkader, IA
- Producer Panel: Challenges of Producing Goat Milk – Clare Heberlein and Allan Shindelar

“Dr. Duemler is a noted expert in dairy goat and dairy cow management,” Hall said. “His presentation will examine tests and methods to ensure that the goats in a dairy are healthy and profitable. From parasite control to nutritional evaluations and everything in-between, participants will appreciate learning from Dr. Duemler’s 42 years of veterinary experience.” There is a \$5 per person registration fee to attend the program which includes lunch, materials and all presentations. Register online at: <https://form.jotform.com/4Hregion1/dairy-directions-2019-goats> or via phone at 563-245-1451. Deadline to register is Dec. 6.

Dec. 17 & 18, Ag Chemical Dealer Updates, Coralville and Ames locations, respectively

Provide the latest crop production recommendations, news and information directly from ISU specialists. Review the positives and negatives of the 2019 growing season and prepare seed, chemical and fertilizer dealers, crop consultants, farm managers and agronomists for the challenges of 2020. For details about the program and each location, go to:

<http://www.aep.iastate.edu/acu/>

Jan. 3-30, Crop Advantage Conferences, 14 locations across Iowa

The meetings provide current research-based crop production information to help make informed decisions for their farming operations. Multiple topics per hour to choose from. For dates, locations, agenda, registration, etc., please go to: <http://www.aep.iastate.edu/cas/> This meeting can also provide Private Pesticide Applicator recertification, and Certified Crop Advisor Credits.

Jan. 10-11 and Feb. 14-15, Returning to the Farm Seminar, Ames

Passing a farm operation to the next generation is usually one of the biggest and most challenging decisions farm families will ever make. Many things are at stake – money, emotions, goals and lifestyles – and farm families need to think critically about where they’re at today, and where they want to be in the future. Recognizing the complexities of farm succession, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will hold a four-day Returning to the Farm Seminar. Iowa State University students can earn two credit hours for participating. For more information, please refer to the news release and webpage.

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/farm-families-can-focus-succession-returning-farm-seminar>

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/bfc/returning-farm-seminar>

Jan. 30-31, Driftless Region Beef Conference, Dubuque

Select from 8 different workshop topics to develop a customized program. Visit with the many conference sponsors in the display area and learn about products and services they offer. Visit with fellow beef producers from the region. This is an informative and enjoyable event you won't want to miss. Program details are available at:

<http://www.aep.iastate.edu/beef/>

Farm Couples Weekend ‘Getaway’ this Winter, Decorah and Dubuque

- Dec. 14-15, EWALU, Strawberry Point

- Jan. 31-Feb. 1, Hotel Winneshiek, Decorah
- Mar. 19-20, Best Western Plus Hotel, Dubuque

In response to high levels of both personal and financial farm stress, ISU Extension is offering three “Farm Couple Getaways” in northeast Iowa aimed at farmers wanting to take advantage of activities to improve farm family communication, work on farm or family goal-setting, farm transitioning, or who would just like a weekend away to discuss farm and family issues. The “getaways” run from 12:30 PM on the first day to 3:15 PM on the second day of the “getaway.” There is no cost to attend, as food, lodging and other expenses are being paid for by sponsorships. However, there is a \$50 per couple deposit to hold each reservation, refundable on the second day of the getaway. Past “Farm Couple Getaways” have proven to be beneficial to farm couples. They are a very productive and delightful time to discuss items of importance to help farms and families be successful,” said Larry Tranel, dairy specialist with ISU Extension. Each “getaway” will consist of ten farm couples and the extension facilitators. Registration will be on a first-come, first-serve basis, due two weeks prior to each session. Registration brochures for the various sites can be obtained from Jenn Bentley, at jbentley@iastate.edu , or at the Winneshiek County ISU Extension Office, at 563-382-2949, and Larry Tranel, at tranel@iastate.edu , at the Dubuque County ISU Extension Office, at 563-583-6496. The “Farm Couple Getaways” statewide Gold sponsor is the Iowa Farm Bureau Federation, with other local sponsors recognized at the local events. More information is available in the event brochure at: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/dairyteam/files/events/files/farm_couple_getaway_brochure_2019-2020.pdf

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Brian Lang

Iowa State University Extension Agronomist

325 Washington St., Suite B, Decorah, IA 52101

Office 563-382-2949; Cell 563-387-7058

<https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/>

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