CROP NOTES for October 17, 2018
Iowa State University Extension Information for Northeast Iowa
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http://www.extension.iastate.edu/winneshiek/page/crop-notes-brian-lang
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WEATHER
Soil Temperature
Soil temperatures are below 50F. Daily average 4-inch soil temperatures are posted at:
http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/NPKnowledge/soiltemphistory.html

HARVEST
Soybean Storage & Handling Issues
1. Harvest the soybeans ASAP. If there is moisture or quality concerns, dedicate a bin and run air on the soybeans. A publication about soybean drying and storage is available at: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/grain/files/Migrated/soybeandryingandstorage.pdf
2. Expect the buyer of soybeans to be looking for moisture or damage in soybeans.
3. Discounts will be enforced by grain buyers and reflected on settlement sheets.

Harvesting, Crop Insurance and MFP payments.
1. Contact your crop insurance agent within 72 hours. The insured could be eligible for a quality adjustment as a part of multi-peril crop insurance.
   a. Minimum damage: 8% for soybeans, 10% for corn
   b. An adjuster will likely be assigned and/or samples will need to be collected in-field, in the bin and prior to delivery to the market.
2. Keep good records at harvest. This includes yield monitor data (calibrated), scales on grain carts, scale tickets, etc. These records are deemed “soft records” by the Risk Management Agency.
   a. These same records can suffice for new FSA Market Facilitation Program (MFP) payment.
   b. Should a crop insurance loss occur, then “hard records” will be required. These include grain bin measurements, warehouse receipts, settlement sheets, etc.
   c. The soybean harvest strategy for securing MFP payments is more completely explained at: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/articles/johnson/JohOct18.html
3. The revenue protection crop insurance that most Iowa farmers utilize provide a guaranteed price for an insured’s Actual Production History (APH) bushels. For 2018, the guarantee is the insured’s APH bushels times the level of coverage elected times the spring projected price of $10.16.
   a. Provide production evidence to your agent as soon as soybean harvest wraps up so potential indemnity claims can be determined.
   b. This same information can be provided to the FSA when applying for an MFP payment.
   c. You need not wait until corn harvest wraps up to file all production evidence for all crops.
   d. Use good communication skills when working with your ag service providers.

Harvest and Post-Harvest Management of Potentially Moldy Corn
The wet 2018 season plus uncooperative harvest conditions this fall suggest the importance to dry and cool corn as rapidly as possible. If mycotoxins are suspected, a well-planned representative sampling process will be needed to give useful information for processing and feeding. This article discusses possible concerns and management suggestions with the current corn harvest: https://crops.extension.iastate.edu/cropnews/2018/10/mycotoxins-and-deterioration-2018-corn-crop

MANURE PITS
Handling/Safety Reminders
1. **Monitor Pit - Look for foam.** As pits become full, the liquid surface is closer to the slats which should be monitored. If foam is present, there is a risk for methane release if/as foam bubbles pop. Greater safety steps are needed ... communicated before room washing and/or manure removal.

2. **Manure Agitation - Human and Pig Safety.** Don’t agitate until manure the manure level is 1 ½¬ to 2 feet below the slats. Hydrogen sulfide is denser than air and as a result will tend to pool on the manure surface, sufficient separation is required to minimize hydrogen sulfide in the animal breathing zone

3. **Avoid aggressive agitation when animals are in the building (no rooster tailing).** Surface agitation causes more turbulence and greatly increases release of hydrogen sulfide

4. **Do not direct agitator nozzles toward pillars, walls, or towards a corner.** Pillars and walls stop flow quickly and cause the manure to churn, increasing the rate hydrogen sulfide is off gassed from the manure. Corners are often dead air zones; releases off hydrogen sulfide in this area are more likely to result in animal loss

5. **Stop agitating when bottom nozzle is less than 6” below the manure surface.** Keep the agitation below the surface at all times.

6. **Avoid sudden changes in agitator depth and intensity.** Quick changes can result in large amounts of solids that haven’t previously been agitated and result in rapid gas release. Slower changes in both power, flow direction, and depth, allow slower, more continuous release that is safer for animals and workers.

“**Safe Manure Removal Policies**”. This is a one-page Fact Sheet from the National Pork Board to train/remind operators and employees to keep people and animals safe during manure removal. [http://porkcdn.s3.amazonaws.com/sites/all/files/documents/Resources/04852.pdf](http://porkcdn.s3.amazonaws.com/sites/all/files/documents/Resources/04852.pdf)

**FARMLAND VALUE SURVEY**

Current Survey Results Posted Yesterday

Results are available at the following link:

[https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/wholefarm/html/c2-75.html](https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/wholefarm/html/c2-75.html)

Little change in values. Northeast is up 0.7% while the statewide average is down 1.7%

**EVENTS**

**Automatic Milking System Tours at 9 Location in Northeast and Eastern Iowa**

Each tour is open to the public, no preregistration is required.

- Oct. 23 near Monona and Elgin
- Nov. 5 near Westgate and Clarksville
- Nov. 13 near Epworth and Colesburg
- Nov. 14 near Bernard, Dubuque and Peosta


For more information, contact extension dairy specialist Jenn Bentley at jbentley@iastate.edu or 563-382-2949 or extension dairy specialist Larry Tranel at 563-563-583-6496 or tranel@iastate.edu

**Oct. 24, The 32nd Annual Tri-State Agricultural Lender’s Seminar, Dubuque**
9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at the Best Western Plus, 3100 Dodge Street, Dubuque. Registration at 9:00. Program agenda includes: 9:30 Dairy Marketing and Risk Management Update (Dr. Robert Cropp, Dairy Marketing Specialist, UW Professor Emeritus); 10:15 The Farm Bill and Implications for Lenders (Dr. Joe Outlaw, Professor and Extension Economist, Co-Director, Ag and Food Policy, Texas A&M University); 11:10 Understanding Farm Stress and How to Help (Dr. John Shutske, Extension Farm Safety Specialist, UW-Extension); 12:50 Ag Decision Maker—A Useful Tool (Ann Johanns, Extension Program Specialist, ISU Extension); 1:30 Land, Grain & Livestock—Marketing and Risk Management (Dr. Chad Hart, Grain Marketing Specialist, ISU Extension). For more information, see the attached document. The cost of the program is $100. Please register with Dubuque County Extension at 563-583-6496 or email lklatt@iastate.edu or tranel@iastate.edu for registration information. Directions: The Best Western Plus, 3100 Dodge Street, is right off Highway 20 on the west side of Dubuque between Theisen’s and Cedar Cross Road.

Oct. 30, Pasture-Walk, Vance & Olaf Haugen Farm, Canton, MN
10:30 AM start at 12620 Deer Rd., Canton, MN. Discuss late fall/early winter paddock planning for dairy grazing. Kura Clover production for seed. Guest speaker is Bonnie Haugen of DGA on “How the importance of soil health for pastures affects feeding our cows, and consequently our profitability. Improving soil health ideas.” Directions from Decorah IA, take Hwy 52 north about 17 miles to the intersection of Hwy 44 & 52, go through the intersection onto Dove Rd., go 0.5 mile to right on Deer Rd. Go 1.5 miles to farm on east side of road. Fire # 12620. Any questions, please call the Haugen’s at 507-459-3264.

Nov. 9 to Dec. 12, 2018 Pro-Ag Outlook Meetings, 10 locations in Iowa
The meetings are designed to provide agribusiness leaders with a concise evaluation of current market conditions, expected trends in crop and livestock income potential and management implications. For links to individual meeting locations, go to: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/agdm/info/meetings.html
- Altoona - Nov. 9
- Carroll - Nov. 12
- Fort Dodge - Nov. 14
- Waterloo - Nov. 15
- Cresco - Nov. 21
- Greenfield - Dec. 3
- Iowa City - Dec. 5
- Mt. Pleasant - Dec. 6
- Storm Lake - Dec. 12

Nov. 13, Women and Grain Marketing, Nashua
A four-session course (Nov. 13, 20, 27, Dec. 4) to assist women in developing a plan for marketing corn and soybeans. Learn how to manage price risk using tools like forward contracts, futures and options contracts, alternative marketing contracts, and crop insurance. Participants will work in a computer lab to access online decision tools and to develop a marketing plan. Learn market strategies and how to stay on track for long term marketing success. For registration more information, go to: http://www.aep.iastate.edu/womeninag/2018/nashua
Nov. 14-15, North Central Extension-Industry Soil Fertility Conference, Des Moines
Intended for university soil fertility and crop production specialists, industry agronomists, crop advisers, and agency personnel. The goal of the conference is to facilitate sharing of new soil fertility and nutrient management research information and fertilizer industry developments. Presentations highlight ongoing soil fertility research at universities in the North Central region (IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, ON, PA, SD, and WI). For more information, go to: https://conference.ipni.net/conference/ncsfc2018

Nov. 15, Tri County Ag Marketing meeting, Conrad
6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Grain marketing meeting featuring ISU Extension Steve Johnson. Location is the Conrad Mid Iowa Coop Marketing Office in Conrad. For more details contact Shari Sell-Bakker at the Grundy County Extension office, 319-824-6979, sellbakk@iastate.edu

Nov. 16, Cover Crop, Strip-tillage and Water Quality Field Day, Floyd
10:00 AM to Noon hosted at the Ben and Andy Johnson farm, 1170 Hwy 218, near Floyd. The event is free and open to the public and includes a complimentary meal. For more information go to Iowa Learning Farms at: http://www.iowalearningfarms.org or the local contact John Sjolinder, 641-423-0844, sjolinde@iastate.edu at the Cerro Gordo County Extension office www.extension.iastate.edu/cerrogordo

Nov. 18-19, 18th Annual Iowa Organic Conference, Iowa City
For everything about the conference, go to: https://register.extension.iastate.edu/iowaorganic

Nov. 26-27, Iowa Forage and Grasslands Conference, Des Moines
At the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn. Jim Gerrish, renowned grazing consultant, and Byron Shelton, senior program director of the Savory Institute, are scheduled to speak during the Nov. 26 evening session and again in in-depth sessions on Nov. 27. For program details, go to http://iowaforage.org/

Dec. 5, Nuts and Bolts of Estate Planning, Elkader
1:00 to 4:00 PM at the FreedomBank Community Room, Elkader. Learn about the basics of estate planning and learn about the options for planning for your estate. This program is being planned in partnership with the Clayton County Women, Land, and Legacy Group. Topics include Property Ownership, Powers of Attorney, Wills & Trusts, Estate & Inheritance Taxes, Gifting, Goal-setting, Family conversations — talking about transition, How to build & work with your professional team — legal, tax, and others, Treatment of Heirs — fair vs. equal. Seating is limited, please register ($5 fee includes refreshments and materials). For more information contact Holly Loan, 563-245-1451, hloan@iastate.edu at the Clayton County Extension office.

Dec. 5 Swine Biosecurity Workshop, Manchester
1:00 to 4:00 PM at the Delaware County Extension office. Free program. More details to follow.

Dec. 6, Advanced Calving Clinic for Dairy and Beef, Calmar
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the Dairy Center, Calmar. A free in-depth program on neonatal calf care, calving first aide and hands-on experience with "Frosty" a life size-cow model used to
teach calving management, dystocia, and delivery. The program is open to all dairy and beef producers, students, and industry persons. The program is generously supported by local businesses, therefore it is free of charge for participants. Please pre-register by November 28 to reserve your seat. Seats are limited. Register online at www.nicc.edu/solutions (type calving clinic in the search box upper right corner of page to get to the dairy and beef registration pages)

Oct.-Dec., Commercial Pesticide Applicator CEU Programs
These programs are offered at most county extension offices. Contact the local extension office to reserve a space. Registration forms will not be available until mid-September.
https://www.extension.iastate.edu/psep/ComAp.html

Oct. 25, Categories 7D (Community Insect Management), 8 (Public Health Pest), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)
Nov. 2, Categories 3G (Greenhouse Pest Control), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)
Nov. 7, Categories: 3O (Ornamental Pest), 3T (Turf Pest), 3OT (Ornamental and Turf Pest), and 10 (Research and Demonstration)
Nov. 13, Private and Commercial, Categories: 7C (Fumigation), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)
Nov. 14, Categories 1A (Ag Weed), 1B (Ag Insect), 1C (Ag Disease), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)
Dec. 5, Categories 7A (General & Household Pest), 7B (Termite Control), 8 (Public Health Control), and 10 (Research & Demonstration)

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