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**News Release**

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**Four-State Dairy Nutrition and Management Conference set for June 15 and 16 in Dubuque**

DECORAH, Iowa – The 2016 Four-State Dairy Nutrition and Management Conference will be held on June 15-16, at the Grand River Center in Dubuque, Iowa. The conference will present the latest research focusing on fiber and nutrient digestibility and nutrition to improve dairy cattle reproduction.

“This conference has more than 20 different speakers during the symposium and breakout sessions,” Jim Salfer, University of Minnesota Extension educator, said. “Every participant will find something relevant for them.”

The conference is a collaborative effort between Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, University of Illinois Extension, University of Minnesota Extension, and University of Wisconsin-Extension.

The program starts on June 15 with the Diamond V pre-conference symposium. During this time, Steve Carlson from Iowa State University will cover the control of Salmonella and other enteric pathogens; Bill Sanchez will discuss how to apply the latest science in practical feeding situations; and Stuart Reeves will discuss immunology. The pre-conference symposium will also hold a producer discussion panel.

This year’s Four-State conference speakers include: Dave Mertens, Mertens Innovations – How to use uNDF to predict cow performance and design rations; Lance Baumgard, Iowa State University – New research on how leaky gut leads to inefficient nutrient utilization; Randy Shaver, University of Wisconsin – Latest research on starch; Phil Cardoso, University of Illinois – The impact of amino acids on reproductive performance; Paul Fricke, University of Wisconsin – The keys to achieving high pregnancy rates in high producing herds; and Don Niles, DVM and Partner in Dairy Dreams Farm – How to turn research into on-farm success.

New this year is a post-conference symposium sponsored by Balchem. Speakers include: Mike Van Amburgh, Cornell University – Feeding for Milk Protein; Greg Bethard, Pagel’s Ponderosa – The Economics of Milk Protein; and John Lucy, University of Wisconsin – The Future of Milk Protein as a Functional Food.

For more information and/or to register, visit http://z.umn.edu/4state or contact Jennifer Bentley, ISU Extension and Outreach Dairy Field Specialist at 563-382-2949 or jbentley@iastate.edu. The conference registration fee is $150 until May 31 and $175 after.

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News Release
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Soil and Water Quality to be Featured at the ISU Research Farm Field Day on June 28

NASHUA – The Annual Spring Field Day at the ISU Northeast Research and Demonstration Farm will run from 1:00 to 4:15 PM. The program will kick off with Kristine Tidgren, Attorney from The Center for Ag Law and Taxation, who will give her insights on the latest legal issues on water quality. Rick Cruse, Professor of Agronomy, will share research information on the aspect of soil quality as it pertains to farming practices. Tom Kaspar, USDA-ARS, will provide the latest up to date information on cover crops for growers. Matt Helmers, Ag Engineer, will address accepted practices that improve soil and water quality and help reduce nutrient losses from farm fields.

The field day is free and open to the public. It starts at the Borlaug Learning Center Headquarters on the ISU Northeast Research Farm and Demonstration Farm. Directions: From Nashua at the Jct. of Hwy 218 (Exit 220) and Co. Rd. B60, go west on B60 1.1 miles to Windfall Ave., then south 1 mile to 290th St., then east 0.2 miles to the farm. CCA credits are available (4 SW). For more information about the event, call Terry Basol at 641-426-6801.

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