

Farm Families ALIVE & WELL



News from Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH)

Vol. 11, Issue 3 - 2005

I-CASH Holds Spring Meeting

The I-CASH Spring Meeting was held April 15th at the Memorial Union on the campus of Iowa State University (ISU) and was attended by 27 board members, advisory council and committee members. Kelley Donham, I-CASH Director, reported on the budget, current research, education, and outreach projects. Partner research projects and reports were presented and the I-CASH committees met to revise action plans for the coming year.

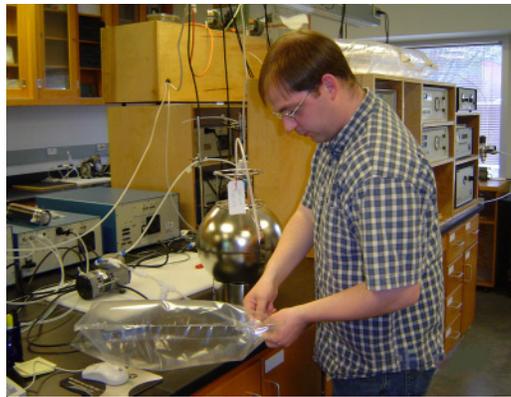
The establishment of a joint endowment between Iowa State University and The University of Iowa Foundations to support more programming in agricultural safety and health was reported as a major accomplishment of the past year. Wendy Wintersteen, Senior Associate Dean of the ISU College of Agriculture, heads up the Endowment Committee.

Kelley Donham and Eileen Fisher have been working

with the Johnson County Public Health Director to establish an AgriSafe Clinic for Iowa, Washington, Johnson, and Cedar counties. Hopefully this model will be replicated in other parts of the state.

A tour of the ISU Air Quality Research Facility was provided by Dr. Steve Hoff. The main focus of these laboratories is air emissions research, especially odor, gases, and particulates from swine production facilities. These laboratories support several USDA National Research Initiative-funded projects in air quality related to livestock operations. ISU leads world-class air quality research related to swine operations studying swine odor via the combination of chemical and olfactometry analysis. Other areas of research

include modeling of swine odor and gaseous emissions, manure management, and odor and gaseous emissions abatement.



Research Associate Brian Zelle prepares a Tedlar bag for gas analysis in the ISU Air Dispersion Evaluation and Control Laboratory.

“I get it... you are a Chicken Doctor”

Over the past 32 years I have had the opportunity to speak with various health professionals about medical, infectious, and injury concerns among agricultural workers. Often, at the end of a session, I get the question “So what is a veterinarian doing lecturing to physicians about human disease?” I usually answer that I am a specialist, I specialize in the two-legged animals on the farm. Then, the puzzled questioner often replies “Oh, I get it, you are a chicken doctor!” This offers me an opportunity to launch into a long diatribe about the veterinarian as an important member of the health care community. The point is, I am proud of my profession

and the contributions veterinarians have made to public health and human medicine.

I was inspired to write this article as my alma mater, the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine, celebrates its 125th anniversary this year. It is the oldest public veterinary college in the United States, and the faculty members have made significant contributions to the field of public health over the years. For example, Dr. I. A. Merchant, former Dean of the ISU College of Veterinary Medicine and father of J. A. Merchant, current Dean of the U of I College of Public Health, was internationally recognized for



Kelley J. Donham
MS, DVM,
DACMPM



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Nominations are now being accepted for the **2005 Agricultural Safety and Health Hall of Fame Award** presented by I-CASH. This award recognizes individuals and/or organizations that have played a substantial role in making Iowa's agricultural community healthy and safe. Nomination deadline is August 1, 2005. For more information and nomination forms contact Eileen Fisher at 319/335-4224 or e-mail eileen-fisher@uiowa.edu.

The Governor's Conference on Public Health - Barn Raising V will be held at Drake University, July 28-29. The Conference offers breakout and training sessions with respected leaders in the public health field. Two special training sessions for registered conference participants will be held before the conference. "Beyond Depression: Best Practices for Treating Major Depression" will be held July 27th and "Abuse Mandatory Reporter Training" will be held on July 28th. For more information visit www.idph.state.ia.us.

Abstracts are being accepted through July 1 for research or outreach presentations at the **Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health Forum** to be held Oct 27-28, 2005 in Johnston, IA. I-CASH and the Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health will host the forum, titled "Bridge Building...Research to Practice." The conference will help build and strengthen collaborative efforts between researchers, practitioners, agricultural producers and medical professionals. For more information visit www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash.

Farm Safety 4 Just Kids is partnering with Cargill to make an educational kit available to help children, youth, and adults gain hands-on experience in ways to stay healthy. The kit includes facts and figures, activity sheets, demonstration ideas, and items such as earmuffs, respiratory masks, sun activated fingernail polish, and more. In all, the kit encompasses 6 different areas appropriate for the rural environment. The topics include; food safety, sun safety, hearing protection, drinking water safety, respiratory safety, and ergonomics. **The Rural Health Kit** is designed to make teaching and learning about rural health issues fun and educational. Cargill has taken a leadership role in helping Farm Safety 4 Just Kids produce this unique resource for rural families. To place your order for the Rural Health Kit call (800) 423-5437 or visit www.fs4jk.org.

his contribution to veterinary medicine and public health. Furthermore, current research at ISU is helping to unravel the relationships between human and swine influenza, and swine and human hepatitis E.

Public health is an important component of the training and function of veterinarians. The Veterinarian's Oath states that veterinarians are to use their scientific knowledge and skill for "the promotion of public health and the advancement of medical knowledge." Similar to human medicine, veterinary medicine has specialty boards. The American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine is the second largest and oldest veterinary specialty board in the profession. Experience and competence in veterinary preventive medicine, including satisfactory completion of the certifying examination, are necessary for certification as a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Preventive Medicine (DACVPM).

Veterinarians are an important component of the health of a community. Please look to your local veterinarian as an information resource, assistant in your farm safety day camps, or member of your county boards of health. Within the state, many organizations can assist with information about zoonoses and other environmental health issues. Contact veterinarians at the Center for Food Security and Public Health at www.cfsph.iastate.edu, the Iowa Department of Public Health at www.idph.state.ia.us, and Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health at www.public-health.uiowa.edu/ICASH.

Dr. Kelley Donham is the director of Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH), and the Associate Department Head for Agricultural Medicine in the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health. He can be reached at 319/335-4190 (kelly-donham@uiowa.edu).

I-CASH

UI ♦ ISU ♦ IDPH ♦ IDALS
Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health

A partnership of:

- ♦ The University of Iowa
- ♦ Iowa State University
- ♦ Iowa Department of Public Health
- ♦ Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship

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Kay Mohling, Ed.

319/335-4219

fax-319/335-4225

kay-mohling@uiowa.edu

www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

To receive this newsletter electronically, send email address to meggan-fisher@uiowa.edu

Congratulations to Grant Recipients

Each year I-CASH designates funds for community grants targeted at the prevention of farm-related injury to young people. This year the Youth Grant Committee recommended tractor safety, ATV safety, rural health, and water safety as focus areas. We are pleased to announce the following recipients for 2005 and their projects.

- **Adair County Wing Walkers 4-H Club** - *Farm Safety Scavenger Hunt*. The 4-H Club will present hands-on farm safety demonstrations in the Adair County 4th grade classrooms, followed by a farm safety scavenger hunt on a local farm.
- **Washington County Extension Service** – *Tractor and Farm Machinery Course*. Following the certification course, an interactive display will be created and used at local events to educate youth and adults about tractor and farm machinery safety.
- **Sioux County Extension/Dordt College/Sioux Center Community Hospital and Health Center AgriSafe Department** – *Tractor and Farm Equipment Safety and Certification*. This certification course is aimed at youth from Sioux County and surrounding counties. Participants will develop skills by participating in hands-on instruction with tractors and farm equipment, as well as learn basic farm safety.
- **Orange City Health System** – *ATV Safety Awareness Program*. An ATV Safety Institute certified instructor will present information at three area middle school assemblies, reaching over 1000 students. The project will also include display boards and protective equipment to be shown at the assemblies and at local events.
- **Wright County Agricultural Extension District** – *Mid-Iowa Day Camp for Agricultural Youth Safety*. A collaborative effort between four ISU County Extension offices, this agricultural safety day camp will reach youth in grades 4-7 from a four county area.
- **AgriSafe Rural Neighbors, Butler, Franklin and Grundy Counties** – *ATV Safety*. A photo contest for 4-H and FFA members will provide the safe ATV images to develop a 12-month ATV safety calendar. Calendars will then be distributed to farm families with youth to provide a daily reminder of the 12 rules of ATV safety.
- **Clarke County Extension** – *Clarke County Agricultural Safety Training*. This collaborative project between Clarke County Extension and the Osceola Vocational Agricultural program will provide safety education for students in grades K-8. The project will also provide tractor and farm safety certification for youth.
- **Keosauqua FFA** – *Tractor Talk*. This project involves the construction of a display box that provides hands-on learning about tractor safety. The display box will be used at area farm safety day programs and at other local events.

calendar

June 12-15

American Society of Safety Engineers: ASSE Professional Development Conference & Expo
New Orleans, LA
www.asse.org

June 22-23

Farm Progress Hay Expo 2005
Fredricksburg, Iowa
www.HayExpo.com

June 25-28

2005 Meeting of the North American Agromedicine Consortium (NAAC)
Wintergreen, VA
www.agromedicine.org

June 26-30

National Institute for Farm Safety, Inc. Annual Conference
Wintergreen, VA
www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~agsafety/NIFS/meetings2005.htm

July 11-13

The Clock is Ticking for Rural America: A Behavioral Health and Safety Conference
Bloomington, MN
www.agriwellness.org

July 28-29

The Governor's Conference on Public Health - Barn Raising V: Building Iowa as a Healthy Community
Des Moines, IA
www.idph.state.ia.us/common/pdf/conferences/barnraising_agenda.pdf

August 30-Sept 1

Farm Progress Show
Decatur, IL
www.farmprogressshow.com

October 27-28

I-CASH Fall Meeting
Johnston, IA
www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash

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Farm and Agricultural Injuries in Press Clippings Region VII (IA, NE, KS, MO)

	2003		2004		2005 to date				
	Press	Fatalities	Press	Fatalities	Press		Fatalities		
	Clips		Clips		Region	IA	Region	IA	
Tractors, Machinery & ATVs	Overturns (inc. ATV)	49	29	54	34	21	7	15	6
	Crashes (inc. ATV)	27	7	25	10	7	1	2	0
	Runovers	16	7	22	14	10	1	7	0
	Entanglements	6	0	15	6	0	0	0	0
	Other and Unknown	26	13	25	11	12	4	9	4
	Livestock	17	7	15	2	4	1	1	0
Bins, Silos, Pits	14	7	10	7	6	3	5	2	
Electric Current	6	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	
*Other and Unknown	46	30	30	18	20	2	15	1	
Total - All Press Clips	207	105	199	104	80	19	54	13	

*Among the "other and unknown" to date this year are 3 children who drowned in farm ponds, 4 adults struck by limbs while working near trees, and 5 adults who were burned when field fires went out of control.

Source: NewzGroup

For additional information contact Murray Madsen at 319/335-4481 or e-mail at murray-madsen@uiowa.edu

THE UNIVERSITY
OF IOWA
UI College of Public Health
Dept. of Occupational &
Environmental Health
100 Oakdale Campus
Iowa City, IA 52242-5000



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