



June 2008

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## REMINDER: SMOKE FREE WORKPLACE ACT GOES INTO EFFECT JULY 1, 2008

### HOUSE FILE 2212

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, Governor Culver signed the Smoke-Free Air Act into law. With the passage of the legislation, smoking will be prohibited in most public places and places of employment. The bill exempts casino gaming floors, racetracks, clubs of fraternal organizations that have no employees, tobacco outlets, designated hotel rooms, the Iowa Veterans home, limousines under private hire, farm vehicles, areas for smoking cessation programs or medical research programs, private homes unless used as a child care home, retail tobacco stores, private and semi-private rooms in long-term facilities. For administrative rules and resources go to [www.iowasmokefreeair.gov](http://www.iowasmokefreeair.gov)

## REFERENDUM TO RAISE THE CORN CHECKOFF ANNOUNCED

Iowa Agriculture Secretary Bill Northey and the Iowa Corn Promotion Board announced plans to conduct a referendum on July 8 to increase the corn checkoff by ¼ cent per bushel.

Any producer who raised and marketed at least 250 bushels of corn during 2006-07 is eligible to vote at any county extension office in the crop reporting district where they live from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on July 8.

Growers who wish to vote by absentee ballot may do so by contacting the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Producers may call 515-281-5321, email [cornvote@iowaagriculture.gov](mailto:cornvote@iowaagriculture.gov) or visit the Henry Wallace Building, 502 E 9<sup>th</sup> St., Des Moines, IA 50319 to solicit an Absentee Ballot Request Form.

The Absentee Ballot Request Form must be signed and returned to the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. The producer will then be mailed an Absentee Ballot. Absentee Ballot Request Forms must be postmarked by June 26, 2008 and Absentee Ballots must be postmarked by **July 8, 2008**.

The current corn checkoff, last increased in 1995, is one-half cent per bushel marketed. For an average Iowa yield of 170 bushels per acre, it translates to a checkoff contribution of 85 cents per acre of corn. The checkoff is collected on corn that enters commercial channels but not on grain used on-farm. Producers are able to request a refund of their checkoff contribution and that will not be affected by the vote.

The Iowa Corn Checkoff was established by producer referendum in 1977. The Iowa Corn Promotion Board, made up of farmers elected by their peers, invests checkoff dollars for research, education, promotion, and market development. For more information on how checkoff dollars are used contact the Iowa Corn Promotion Board at 515-225-9242 or find out more online at [www.iowaCorn.org](http://www.iowaCorn.org).

In accordance with Chapter 185C of the Iowa Code, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is responsible for holding corn checkoff referendum votes. All costs incurred by the Department will be reimbursed by the Iowa Corn Promotion Board.

Read inside this issue of the ISA News Bulletin for more information about:

*The Annual ISA Golf Tournament*

&

*The Annual Meeting*

***Iowa Seed  
Association Annual  
Golf Tournament***

**Thursday, June 26,  
2008**

**Cold Water Golf Links  
Ames, Iowa**

The weather is warming up and the golf courses are getting busy. It is time again for our Annual Golf Tournament. This year's tournament will be held on **Thursday, June 26, 2008**. The proceeds of the Annual Golf Tournament go to the ISU/ISA Endowed Scholarship Fund.

We are encouraging you to register a foursome. If you are signing up as an individual, you will be placed into a foursome by your average score on 9 holes. As in previous years, we will be playing four-person "best ball" which means low scores and more fun.



We will be golfing in Ames at the Cold Water Golf Links Course this year. The course is located at 6515 South 16th Street. This is a spikeless course. Awards and refreshments will wrap up the event.

Last year we had a great showing and we hope to increase our numbers this year. Bring your co-workers, your golf clubs and your prize contributions. After all, it's for a great cause!

Hope to see you on the green!

See flyer for registration and sponsorship information.

## AERIAL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

ISA worked with the Iowa Aerial Applicator Association and the Iowa Department of Agriculture on the rules regarding air application. Below is a brief overview of licensing, certification, and other requirements specific to Aerial Applicators. Attached is a brochure containing all of the detailed information, including updates from the 2008 legislative session. If you have any questions please call the Iowa Seed Association office at 515.262.8323 or 800.383.1682. The Iowa Aerial Application brochure is also posted on the ISA website at [www.iowaseed.org](http://www.iowaseed.org).

**Aerial Application, Iowa Regulations:** Application of a pesticide in a manner that results in drift is a violation of the Iowa Pesticide Law. Please take the necessary precautions to prevent drift to any area but especially to areas where people reside or where agricultural workers may be detasselling corn, baling hay or other activities on the farm. Also, there are livestock producers, organic producers, fruit and vegetable producers, honey producers, milk producers, home gardens, bike trails, farm ponds, among other areas that could be adversely impacted by pesticide drift or misapplication. Please keep safety for you and the environment in which you will be working a priority.

**Read the Label:** Iowa's pesticide law declares it unlawful to use a pesticide in a manner inconsistent with its label. All applicators and handlers are required to follow the label directions and precautions, including compliance with minimum dilution rates, personal protective equipment, environmental precautions, drift precautions, pre-harvest intervals and the worker protection standard.

**Requirements for the Worker Protection Standard:** Commercial applicators are considered commercial handlers under the federal Worker Protection Standard and at the minimum are required to provide pesticide safety training, decontamination site, and emergency assistance for handlers, including flaggers.

**Commercial Pesticide Applicator License:** All commercial applicators operating in Iowa are required to be licensed and certified by the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS).

**Nonresident Applicator:** Currently an out-of-state commercial applicator must obtain an Iowa commercial pesticide applicator's license. An aerial applicator may either obtain a license or operate under an Iowa licensed aerial applicator.

**Certification:** Each individual who aerially applies any pesticide is required to be certified in Iowa's Category 11 - Aerial Application. *All employees of licensed applicators or pesticide dealers who mix, load or transfer pesticides in open containers are required to be certified as applicators or handlers.*

**Containment:** New Rules effective April 4, 2008 requires all aerial applicators to have access to secondary containment for the purpose of repairing or maintaining the spray component of an agricultural aircraft. Containment may be a permanent structure or a portable device.

**Records:** The new rules effective April 4, 2008, also require that the application record maintained by the applicator also be maintained by the applicator's broker and pesticide dealer for 3 years.

**Sensitive Crops Registry:** The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship has created a registry for producers to list the locations of their pesticide sensitive crops and for beekeepers to list the locations of their apiaries. This registry will be used to create an on-line directory for use by pesticide applicators to identify the locations of sensitive crops and apiaries and minimize the potential for pesticide drift damage.

### PIONEER HI-BRED NAMED "BEST PLACE TO WORK"



**PIONEER** Seed Association  
A DUPONT COMPANY member Pioneer

Hi-Bred for being named as the best place to work in the large company category by *The Scientist*. Pioneer, located in Johnston, Iowa, was the only Iowa-based company to rank in the top-10 in the large or small company categories.

Survey respondents were asked to assess their working environment on 44 criteria in 11 different categories.

The complete article and a list of all the winners can be found in the June issue of *The Scientist*.

***Save the Date!***

**NOVEMBER 18-19, 2008**

**Iowa Seed Association Annual  
Meeting & Convention**

**Holiday Inn  
Ames, Iowa**

*To make room reservations call  
515.268.8808 or visit*

[www.ichotelsgroup.com](http://www.ichotelsgroup.com)

## LA NINA DIMINISHES

BY ELWYNN TAYLOR, DEPARTMENT OF AGRONOMY

The La Nina of the past several months as determined by the 90-day average Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) has ended. The SOI is a measure of the atmospheric pressure deviation from normal and directly influences meteorological conditions in numerous distant locations. The SOI diminished to 0.8 standard deviations on May 19, 2008.

Although now in "neutral" condition, there is normally a time lag and risk associated with the La Nina though clearly reduced does not fully disappear at least for several weeks (often about 6 weeks). A significant number of (but by no means all) severe droughts in the Midwest are associated with La Nina.

Planting under less-than-favorable conditions tends to exacerbate the impact of subsequent hot and dry weather. Drought in the southeastern U.S. is often a precursor to development of drought in the Corn Belt. The adverse factors do not make widespread drought likely for 2008 but below trend crop yields are and remain likely.

I will make my next computation of "most likely yield" during early June. At this time it appears that the previously estimated most likely yield of 142 bushels per acre for U.S. corn will be increase somewhat.

*Elwynn Taylor is a professor with responsibilities for developing and implementing extension education and information programs in agricultural climatology.*

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## NEW REPORT OUTLINES CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS ON AGRICULTURE

The U.S. Climate Change Science Program (CCSP) has released "Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.3 (SAP 4.3): The Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture, Land Resources, Water Resources, and Biodiversity in the United States." The CCSP integrates the federal research efforts of 13 agencies on climate and global change. Today's report is one of the most extensive examinations of climate impacts on U.S. ecosystems. USDA is the lead agency for this report and coordinated its production as part of its commitment to CCSP.

"The report issued today provides practical information that will help land owners and resource managers make better decisions to address the risks of climate change," said Agriculture Chief Economist Joe Glauber. The National Center for Atmospheric Research also coordinated in the production of the report. It is posted on the CCSP Web site at: <http://www.climate-science.gov/Library/sap/sap4-3/default.php>

The report was written by 38 authors from the universities, national laboratories, non-governmental organizations, and federal service. The report underwent expert peer review by 14 scientists through a Federal Advisory Committee formed by the USDA.

The report finds that climate change is already affecting U.S. water resources, agriculture, land resources, and biodiversity, and will continue to do so. Specific findings include:

- Grain and oilseed crops will mature more rapidly, but increasing temperatures will increase the risk of crop failures, particularly if precipitation decreases or becomes more variable.
- Higher temperatures will negatively affect livestock. Warmer winters will reduce mortality but this will be more than offset by greater mortality in hotter summers. Hotter temperatures will also result in reduced productivity of livestock and dairy animals.
- Much of the United States has experienced higher precipitation and streamflow, with decreased drought severity and duration, over the 20th century. The West and Southwest, however, are notable exceptions, and increased drought conditions have occurred in these regions.
- Weeds grow more rapidly under elevated atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>. Under projections reported in the assessment, weeds migrate northward and are less sensitive to herbicide applications.
- Horticultural crops (such as tomato, onion, and fruit) are more sensitive to climate change than grains and oilseed crops.
- Invasion by exotic grass species into arid lands will result from climate change, causing an increased fire frequency. Rivers and riparian systems in arid lands will be negatively impacted.
- A continuation of the trend toward increased water use efficiency could help mitigate the impacts of climate change on water resources.
- The growing season has increased by 10 to 14 days over the last 19 years across the temperate latitudes. Species' distributions have also shifted.

USDA agencies are responding to the risks of climate change. For example, the Forest Service is incorporating climate change risks into National Forest Management Plans and is providing guidance to forest managers on how to respond and adapt to climate change. The Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Services Agency are encouraging actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration through conservation programs. USDA's Risk Management Agency has prepared tools to manage drought risks and is conducting an assessment of the risks of climate change on the crop insurance program. For more information, please visit: [www.usda.gov/oce/global\\_change/](http://www.usda.gov/oce/global_change/) ;

[www.climate-science.gov/Library/sap/sap4-3/default.php](http://www.climate-science.gov/Library/sap/sap4-3/default.php) ; [www.sap43.ucar.edu/](http://www.sap43.ucar.edu/) .

## IOWA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION OFFERING EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM ABOUT COMMERCIAL VEHICLE

The Iowa Department of Transportation (Iowa DOT) is joining forces with the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Missouri Department of Transportation's Motor Carrier Services to offer an educational program for farmers and ranchers in Missouri and Iowa about commercial vehicle regulations that affect their businesses.

The educational program is intended to provide farmers and ranchers transporting agricultural goods and livestock across state lines with information regarding federal and state commercial vehicle laws and regulations. This includes movements by pickup trucks, stock trailers, straight trucks, and tractor-trailer units.

Four, no-cost programs have been scheduled in Missouri and Iowa. Affected farmers and ranchers and their employees are encouraged to attend one of the three-hour sessions.

Each session will cover the following topics applicable to commercial vehicle operators and owners: motor vehicle registration; commercial driver's license; international Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA); registration under the Unified Carrier Registration Act (UCR); USDOT number; what to expect during an inspection of an operator's credentials and vehicle

A question and answer period will follow each presentation. In addition, there will be forms available to apply for a USDOT number and registration under the UCR.

### Missouri locations

- June 9, 2008, 6:30 p.m., C.A.R.E. Center in Kahoka
- June 16, 2008, 6:30 p.m., Queen City Elementary Multipurpose Building in Queen City

### Iowa locations

- June 10, 2008, 6:30 p.m., Youth Learning Center in Donnellson
- June 17, 2008, 6:30 p.m., Mutchler Community Center in Bloomfield

Please inform any farmers or ranchers you may know about these meetings, because the regulations do affect their businesses. For more information contact Iowa DOT Training Officer Chris Boswell or Major Ned Lewis at 515-237-3247.

## IOWA SEED ASSOCIATION REMINDERS & UP-COMING EVENTS

- ◆ American Seed Trade Association 125th Annual Convention, Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, Orlando, FL - June 21-25, 2008
- ◆ ALMACO Field Planting Demonstration, Nevada, IA - June 24, 2008
- ◆ 2008 ISA Golf Event, Coldwater Golf Links, Ames, IA - June 26, 2008
- ◆ Iowa Seed Association Convention & Annual Meeting, Holiday Inn, Ames, IA - November 18-19, 2008
- ◆ ASTA Conferences, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, IL - December 9-12, 2008
  - 63rd Corn & Sorghum Seed Research Conference,
  - 38th Soybean Seed Research Conferences
  - Seed Expo
- ◆ Independent Professional Seed Association Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN - January 20-22, 2009
- ◆ Iowa State University's Seed Science Center is holding many workshops throughout 2008. Including Conditioning Workshops on: color sorting, commercial seed corn, seed treatment, soybean & small grain seed, commercial popcorn conditioning, gravity separation, research seed corn. Quality workshops including: purity testing, germination testing, and seed corn/soybean quality, will also be held. For more information on these workshops and registration forms please go to:  
<http://www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/seedscience/register.html>.

Find us on the  
web at:

[www.iowaseed.org](http://www.iowaseed.org)



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