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Crop Adviser Institute is online

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Crop Adviser Institute is online

Abstract

The Crop Adviser Institute (CAI), a new distance education institute at Iowa State University, is now online and delivering continuing education courses to ag professionals in Iowa and throughout North America. Ag professionals are interested in advanced and continuing education, whether it is to fulfill a requirement for certification or solely as a supplemental educational opportunity. Agricultural continuing education has traditionally been delivered on-site, but temporal, geographical, and other constraints often prevent individuals from attending these courses.

Keywords

Agronomy

Disciplines

Agricultural Education | Agricultural Science | Agriculture | Agronomy and Crop Sciences

INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT

The image shows a person in a field, possibly a farmer or agronomist, with large, stylized text overlaid. The text reads "INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT". The background is a photograph of a field with tall grasses and a person in the distance.

Crop Adviser Institute is online

The Crop Adviser Institute (CAI), a new distance education institute at Iowa State University, is now online and delivering continuing education courses to ag professionals in Iowa and throughout North America.

Ag professionals are interested in advanced and continuing education, whether it is to fulfill a requirement for certification or solely as a supplemental educational opportunity. Agricultural continuing education has traditionally been delivered on-site, but temporal, geographical, and other constraints often prevent individuals from attending these courses. The CAI has been established to provide an alternative method of delivering continuing education by focusing on creation of high-quality, interactive learning modules designed to be delivered at a distance via computer.

Computer delivery of continuing education units (CEUs) is not meant to replace face-to-face courses such as those provided by the Iowa State University Agribusiness Education Program, but rather to supplement traditional CEU offerings. Users that access course modules such as those developed by the CAI have a broad range of course topics to choose from and may choose *when* and *where* to complete courses. Courses have been developed in four areas: nutrient management, crop management, soil and water management, and integrated pest management. The CAI and contributing faculty were recently awarded three Educational Excellence awards by the American Society of Agronomy for these new course modules.

CAI courses are delivered to the user via CD-ROM and consist of text, photos, graphics, interactive activities, and sample questions. Once a user completes the course, he or she has the option of taking a short on-line exam to receive CEUs from the American Society of Agronomy Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) or American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops and Soils (ARCPACS) programs. CEUs are also available from other organizations such as the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants and the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers. CAI course modules average 2 to 3 CEUs each, which equates to approximately 2 to 3 hours of time required for completion of the course, including the exam.

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New Course Modules
 Crop Water Use in Corn
 Windbreaks & Shelterbelts
 Water Storage in Soil
 Diseases of Crops - Foliar Diseases of Corn
 Diseases of Crops - Basis and Definitions
 Growing Degree Days
 Soil Test Results - What do they really mean?
 Temperature Stress Indexes of Corn
 Click here for a demo slideshow (Flash format)

View and order CEU modules by topic. Click below
 CM NM S&W IPM
 View all modules

News & Information
 Introductory 1/2 price sale on now!
 All modules are priced at \$25 until December 31, 2002 (normally \$50).
 That's only \$12.50 per CEU. [buy now and complete them when you need the credits!](#)

Featured Module
 Crop Water Use
 Today's Poll
 Do you feel distance education courses can be educationally equivalent to on-site courses?
 VOTE

Our Mission
 The mission of the Crop Adviser Institute is to provide high quality, interactive, computer-based, learning modules designed for the continuing education of agricultural professionals. This mission is being fulfilled through an Iowa State University partnership between the Iowa State University College of Agriculture and Iowa State University Extension.
 Click here for additional partnership information.

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[1]

A full list of courses is available on the CAI Web site at <http://www.cai.iastate.edu> [2]. Courses are available for purchase online 24 hours a day by using a secure credit card entry, or by check. For more information, please call the Crop Adviser Institute at (515) 294-7546 or e-mail cai@iastate.edu [3].

The CAI is a partnership developed between Iowa State University, departments within the Iowa State University College of Agriculture, and Iowa State University Extension. Faculty and staff throughout the Iowa State University community are the primary content providers for course modules developed by the CAI. If you are interested in collaborating with the CAI on course development please contact me at (515) 294-7546 or e-mail: cai@iastate.edu [4].

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Links:

[1] <http://www.cai.iastate.edu/>

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