Crop Advantage Series Provides Latest Crop Production Information

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Abstract
Anyone involved in Iowa crop production should plan to attend a 2011 Crop Advantage Series meeting. The meetings provide information to help producers make profitable decisions for the upcoming growing season. Sponsored by Iowa State University Extension, the meetings will be held at 14 locations across Iowa in January.

Keywords
Agronomy

Disciplines
Agricultural Science | Agriculture | Agronomy and Crop Sciences
Crop Advantage Series Provides Latest Crop Production Information

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Each location of the Crop Advantage Series has a variety of topics, including crops, pests, soil fertility and farm management. This year’s keynote address focuses on understanding sudden death syndrome (SDS) in soybeans, a widespread problem for growers in 2010.

ISU Extension crop plant pathologists will be discussing the latest research with producers at each meeting. In addition, attendees can select from a full agenda of topics at each location to develop a personalized meeting agenda. Agenda topics that relate to local needs and production issues are selected by the ISU Extension field agronomists for each area meeting.

The Crop Advantage Series provides a statewide message on important issues yet retains local input on topics for that specific area. Because crop and pest management issues are different for each area of the state, the meetings are tailored to fit the needs of producers in that area.

In addition to receiving the latest research information from the university, the meetings have been a valuable way for producers to provide input back to ISU researchers and specialists on what their needs are.

Each of the meetings is approved for continuing education credits. Iowa Certified Crop Advisers can obtain up to seven CCA credits, depending on the location attended. Each location also offers the opportunity for private pesticide applicators to receive continuing education credits.

Advance registration for each location is $35 and includes workshop materials, lunch, and refreshments. An additional fee is charged for CCA credits and private pesticide applicator recertification. Registration less than one week prior to the meeting or at the door is $45. Registration materials are available at www.cropadvantage.org or from your local ISU Extension office.

2011 Crop Advantage schedule
Sheldon – Jan. 4
Osceola – Jan. 5
Ottumwa – Jan. 6
Burlington – Jan. 7
Ames – Jan. 11
Mason City – Jan. 12
Spirit Lake – Jan. 13
Storm Lake – Jan. 18
Cedar Rapids – Jan. 19
Fort Dodge – Jan. 20
LeMars – Jan. 24
Carroll – Jan. 25
Waterloo – Jan. 26
Atlantic – Jan. 27

Brent Pringnitz is an extension program specialist with ISU’s Corn and Soybean Initiative.

This article was published originally on 12/15/2010. The information contained within the article may or may not be up to date depending on when you are accessing the information.

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