

Iowa Corn Growers' weekly Corn Update is provided below and will also be posted on the Iowa Corn website in the [Publications Library](#).

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### ***Corn Update***

***News of importance to producers, from the Iowa Corn Growers Association***

***March 3, 2010***

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#### **NCGA Asks Agriculture to Help Set the Record Straight on Food Inc.**

Before this Sunday's Oscars, the National Corn Growers Association is calling on its grower members and industry friends to get the truth about the documentary film Food Inc. The movie, which NCGA says is filled with lies, factual inaccuracies and misrepresentations about America's farmers and food suppliers, is nominated for Best Documentary. NCGA developed a fact sheet to arm those in agriculture with credible and truthful information to combat the film's arguments. You can find the fact sheet online at [www.ncga.com/files/pdf/FoodIncInformation.pdf](http://www.ncga.com/files/pdf/FoodIncInformation.pdf). NCGA encourages everyone to review the facts before the Oscars are televised this Sunday night and then help spread the information. The suggest e-mail your contacts, pen a letter to the editor, send it to local press people or write about it on Facebook - just get the word out. *Source: Farm Futures, March 3, 2010.*

#### **ISU Extension Leader to Florida; Miller Named Interim Vice President**

Jack Payne, vice president for extension and outreach at Iowa State University since 2006, has accepted a position at the University of Florida, Gainesville. His last day at Iowa State will be May 31. Executive Vice President and Provost Elizabeth Hoffman has appointed Gerald "Jerry" Miller, longtime faculty member and administrator at Iowa State, as interim vice president for extension and outreach, effective June 1. Miller will serve as interim head of ISU Extension until July 1, 2011, or until the arrival of the new vice president, whichever comes first. *Source: Iowa Ag Connection, March 3, 2010.*

#### **Iowa Receives Second Presidential Disaster Declaration**

Governor Chet Culver Tuesday received confirmation that Iowa has received a Presidential Disaster Declaration authorized by President Obama for 12 counties impacted by a severe winter storm beginning Jan. 19, 2010. This declaration provides assistance to state and local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations (including rural electric cooperatives and municipal utilities) for emergency work and the repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities. Counties included in the declaration are: Adair, Audubon, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Crawford, Guthrie, Harrison, Madison, Pottawattamie, Sac and Shelby. *Source: Iowa Ag Connection, March 3, 2010.*

#### **Cold Winter Continues Across Iowa**

The above average snowfall and below average temperatures continue to cause Iowans concern about possible spring flooding, reports the Iowa field office of USDA's National Ag Statistics

Service. With spring fast approaching, row crop producers are trying to finalize planting intentions. While temperatures remain low, frost penetration is below normal in areas where heavy snow has covered and insulated the ground. The average depth of snow cover for the month of February was 14 inches, well above last year's average of 1 inch. Frost penetration averaged 8 inches compared to last year's 15 inches. *Source: Iowa Ag Connection, March 2, 2010.*

### **Syngenta: Weight of Evidence Supports Safety and Economic Benefits of Atrazine**

Based on the weight of evidence of more than 6,000 studies, scientists around the world have shown that atrazine is safe to use -- providing farmers an important tool to bring us safe, abundant and nutritious food. The EPA, the Australian government, and the World Health Organization have all looked at atrazine's effects on endocrine systems and given atrazine a clean bill of health. Most recently, the State of Minnesota conducted a thorough review of atrazine, and in a January announcement said, "The review finds that atrazine regulations protect human health and the environment in Minnesota." *Source: Agrimarketing.com, March 3, 2010*

### **Economy Recovery Takes Patience**

An economist says there are signs of economic recovery, but he says patience is needed. Bob Dieli, president of Lombard, Illinois-based RDLB, says positive signs include gross domestic product expansion along with industrial production increases. Each indicates recovery, but he says agriculture remains tied to that recovery. "Ultimately trends in interest rates and also trends in consumer income will affect the demand for food and as a consequence, how much farm prices go up or down or farm incomes go up and down," Dieli said. *Source: Brownfield Network, March 2, 2010.*

### **Pilot Travel Centers Pulls Support HSUS**

Thanks to an outcry from those in the ag community, Pilot Travel Centers has suspended all future donations to the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). In a statement issued Friday, Pilot said it fully supports the interests of the agricultural community and "will not support any organization that has an agenda that works against agricultural interests." Pilot Travel Centers has over 300 locations in more than 40 states. *Source: Brownfield Network, March 1, 2010.*

### **USGC Sponsoring DDG Trial**

Five thousand Canadian cattle will be fed distiller's dried grains with solubles as part of a U.S. Grains Council sponsored test in Alberta, Canada. In an effort to validate the quality of DDGS, the Council has joined forces with several industry parties to facilitate a DDGS demonstration at a commercial feedlot. It will include inclusion rates of 20%, 30% and 40%. The Canadian feedlot industry currently utilizes inclusion rates of 15% to 20% U.S. DDGS. Canada is the number two market for U.S. DDGS exports, importing 803,674 metric tons in 2009. The successful demonstration of these higher inclusion rates is expected to increase the demand for U.S. DDGS by 200,000 to 300,000 tons. *Source: Farm Futures, March 1, 2010.*

***Corn Update is distributed each week to members of the Iowa Corn Growers Association who have provided e-mail addresses. If you have questions about this newsletter, please contact Mindy Williamson at 515-225-9242 or [mwilliamson@iowacorn.org](mailto:mwilliamson@iowacorn.org).***