

Ag Ed Mission

Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber and natural resources systems.

Email Update

Please forward your email address if you have changed your email or you have not been receiving emails from the DE.

We will not email “**Need to Know**” information, but email will be used for “**Nice to Know**” information. As we have special announcements, we will continue to use email for disseminating information in a quick and timely manner.

Email List-Serve Addresses

Ag educators in Iowa have a reputation for “knowing each other.” We need to build upon this strength and increase our level of communication with our colleagues.

The list-serve email addresses which can be utilized for contacting agricultural educators in Iowa. Use these list-serves sparingly.

It is best to enter the address into the BCC (blind carbon copy) or CC (carbon copy). This way if someone replies to your message their reply will not go to everyone in the state.

Reminder: These lists do not include all teachers in the state or districts, because we do not have all email addresses and some addresses are wrong or have changed.

Special thanks to the Ag Ed and Studies Department at Iowa State University for hosting the list-serve.

Important FFA Deadlines !!!

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Jan. 15 | FFA National Chapter Award
Application - <u>Postmarked</u> |
| Feb. 1 | Iowa FFA Degrees
<u>Postmarked</u> (original and <u>2 copies</u> to the DE) |
| Feb. 1 | FFA Performance Beef
Nominations - <u>Postmarked</u> |
| March 12 | Derby Pork Tattoo Order
Form - <u>Postmarked</u> |

Email List-Serve Addresses

All post-secondary and secondary
agteach@pc24387.brenton.iastate.edu

By district: Post-secondary and secondary
nwdist@pc24387.brenton.iastate.edu
ncdist@pc24387.brenton.iastate.edu
nedist@pc24387.brenton.iastate.edu
swdist@pc24387.brenton.iastate.edu
scdist@pc24387.brenton.iastate.edu
sedist@pc24387.brenton.iastate.edu

Ag Ed Standards & Benchmarks

located at:
www.state.ia.us/educate/programs/tech_voc/standards.html

Minimum Competencies

located at:
www.state.ia.us/educate/programs/tech_voc/competencies.html

Vocational Education Standards

Is Agricultural Education considered one of your school's four service areas in meeting the standard for accreditation, as legislated by the Iowa Vocational Education Standards?

To meet the standard for accreditation as legislated by the Iowa Vocational Education Standards, you must have the following:

- made the transition to competency-based education
- a program consisting of three sequential units
- articulation agreements with one or more post-secondary institutes

Professional Development Series

AEPD has scheduled the following programs.

For more details contact:

Eldon Weber

eweber@iastate.edu or 515-294-0893

Tony Brockshus

abrock@iastate.edu or 515-291-3419

Jan. 10 - ICN

greenhouse Management

March Workshops

Turfgrass Mgmt., Landscaping, and Hydroponics

April 20-22

AgriEducator Financial Mgmt., NIACC

Ag Mechanics Workshop- Welding, Small Eng.

April 25 - ICN

Spring Wrap-up

June 11-13

Meat and Muscle Quality Workshops

Iowa FFA Association Website

<http://www.agnet.iastate.edu>

This website is still under development, but we hope to have more information on-line over the next several months.

The Leadership and Ag Skills Contest Rules are currently available on this website, however, the 2001 revisions not yet included.

Fall DE In-Service 2000

Included in this mailing you will find a summary of the survey which was given at the district in-services.

This year we were able to provide 150 "Free" sets of CD-ROM based curriculum. The funding for these CD's was provided by the Department of Education via the Governor's Enterprise Planning Budget priorities. (In other words, the timing was right to take advantage of getting free materials for biotechnology.)

If you received the CD please send a "Thank You" to the director of the Department of Education for making the biotechnology curriculum CD's possible:

Mr. Ted Stilwill

Office of the Director

Iowa Department of Education

Grimes State Office Building

Des Moines, IA 50319-0146

FFA

National Chapter Award Application

Form I and II are due **January 15, 2001**.

The application will cover from January 1, 2000 to December 31, 2000.

Legislative Symposium

We will no longer be able to serve food in the Historical Building. Therefore we will most likely have a different format for this year. We will send more details as we know them.

The date is **February 20, 2001**.

Agriscience Fair

Will be held **March 10** at Southridge Mall in Des Moines.

Savings bonds will be awarded as follows: \$100 first place, \$75 second place, and \$50 third place.

Creed and Conduct of Meetings

The 2000 FFA Manual will be the official source for subdistrict, district and state CDE's.

District Officer Applicants

If elected, each new district officer must plan to attend SLCDO (State Leadership Conference for District Officers). SLCDO will be held **April 22-24, 2001**.

Chaperones Needed for WLC

WLC (Washington Leadership Conference) One male and one female chaperone needed for each bus. First come, first served. Contact Scott Johnson, Iowa FFA Administrative Assistant for details. sjohnson@iastate.edu or phone 515-292-9670.

Advisor Survey Results

Nearly 73 % of chapter advisors returned this survey. Included in this mailing you will find a summary of the results of this survey.

This survey was designed to give the FFA Board of Directors direction for making decisions to improve the organization. If you have comments or suggestions, for the December 29, 2000 FFA Board of Directors meeting, please contact your district advisor.

CDE Rule Book Revisions

Please submit suggestions to your district advisor by **February 15**.

Chapter Resources Guide 2000-2001 CD

In this mailing you will find a list of the items which are on this CD-ROM. You will also find directions on how to install and run this CD.

Iowa FFA Degree has not changed since last year. Applications are due to the DE postmarked as of **February 1, 2001**.

American Degree Application is on the Chapter Resource CD that you received from National FFA earlier this fall. (Instructions for downloading are included in a separate instructions list, in this mailing.)

Proficiency Award Application is also on the Chapter Resource CD. (Instructions for downloading are included in a separate instructions list, in this mailing.)

Purdue University compares agricultural education students with the "typical high school student" and offers valuable information about the attitudes, behaviors and experiences of FFA members.

Using the Horatio Alger Association's "State of Our Nation's Youth" report for comparison, the Purdue study found differences between the two groups that are highly favorable to FFA members and which reinforce the importance of FFA and agricultural education.

PowerPoint presentations highlighting the key findings can be downloaded at: www.ffa.org/news/alger.html

The Agronomy and Job Interview Career Development Events will be a full competitive events this year and will allow one team per state to participate.

The winning state Crops team will represent Iowa in the Agronomy CDE at the National FFA Convention.

Iowa Agricultural Youth Institute (IAYI)

July 5-8, 2001 at Iowa State University. This event focuses on agricultural issues and leadership and targeted at high school sophomores and juniors. Contact Nancy Hamilton, IAYI Coordinator, for more details. iada@max.state.ia.us or phone: 515-281-6444. Cost is \$25.

Note: This is a change of dates.

Iowa FFA Alumni Convention

The annual FFA Alumni Convention will be held January 27, 2001 at the Best Western Starlite in Ames.

Ag Issues and Perceptions

We will send information when we know this year's topic.

DE Staff

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“...what really matters is what teachers do in the classroom. The largest effects on student achievement come from classroom practices. Teachers should be provided more opportunities to receive professional development, that training should occur over an extended period of time, and topics should be closely tied to effective classroom practice.”

from **“How Teaching Matters: Bringing the Classroom Back Into Discussions of Teacher Quality”**

(supported by the Milken Family Foundation) Policy Information Center, Educational Testing Service, Princeton, NJ 08541.