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11-30-2012

Agronomy & Horticulture Newsletter, November 30, 2012

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Schindler, Kathy, "Agronomy & Horticulture Newsletter, November 30, 2012" (2012). *Agronomy and Horticulture Department Monthly Newsletters*. 17.
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University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Department of Agronomy and Horticulture

Agronomy and Horticulture Newsletter November 30, 2012

Horticulture students learn the trade



Above: Graduate teaching assistant Ben Loseke (left) and the Horticulture 355 class evaluate their pot plants in the greenhouse. **Left:** Student Chris Behrens (left), Professor Ellen Paporozzi (middle), student Angela Price (right) and the Horticulture 355 class have learned to produce perennial bedding and pot plants for commercial production. Many in the Agronomy and Horticulture department annually enjoy the fruits of their labor as they distribute pot mums and cut mums before the Thanksgiving break.

In the news

UNL offers online horticulture certificate program

Dr. Ellen Paporozzi and Cathy Dickinson were quoted in a Daily Nebraskan article recently about a new online graduate certificate program in horticulture available to graduate students at UNL beginning spring semester 2013. See www.dailynebraskan.com/news/article_ddb881ee-2d51-11e2-a394-0019bb30f31a.html.

Mark Your Calendars

- Nov 30:** Department Seminar– Gene Flow, Herbicide Resistant Weeds and Much More, Amit Jhala, 3:30 p.m., 150 Keim.
- Nov 30:** Big Idea Seminar– Scenic Manifesto for Communities, Ronald Lee Fleming, FAICP, Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center, 4:30 p.m.
- Dec. 1:** Pi Alpha Xi Wreath-making Workshop, 9 a.m., 274 & 275 PLSH.
- Dec. 3:** Grassland Seminar Series–Potential Effects of Corn Stover Grazing on Soil Properties, Brian Wienhold, USDA Agricultural Research Service, 3 p.m., NEU, 4:30 p.m.
- Dec. 5 & 6:** Horticulture Club Poinsettia Sale, Nebraska Union (NU) and Nebraska East Union (NEU), 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
- Dec 7:** Department Seminar– The Metabolism of Terpenoid Quinones through the Lens of Comparative Genetics, Gilles Basset, 3:30 p.m., 150 Keim.
- Dec. 10:** Agronomy & Horticulture Staff Appreciation Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., NEU.
- Dec 14:** Department Seminar– Corn Production in China, Shaokun Li, Principal Scientist, Institute of Crop Science, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, 3:30 p.m., 150 Keim.

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Bauer receives Extension award



Chuck Hibberd, UNL Extension Dean & Director (left) and Ann Fenton, NCEA President (right), present Erin Bauer (center) with the Extension's Distinguished Managerial Professional Award.

Erin has been an Extension Assistant, then an Extension Associate with UNL Extension for almost eight years. She splits her time between the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) and the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in Schools Program. She is also nearing completion of a distance Master's degree in Entomology, including serving as a TA for the "Insects in the Classroom" course.

She has made more than 15 invited presentations at National and Regional Conferences, authored, co-authored, or edited seven training manuals (including an EPA-sponsored regional project), 10 NebGuides, a first-person role-playing video game, Pest Private Eye (about pests and IPM), 15 web-based learning modules and websites, and 20 videotape programs for use in the PSEP and IPM in Schools.

The educational materials that Erin contributes, influences about 10,000 Nebraska pesticide applicators each year. A recent PSEP survey indicated that over 90 percent of participants reported reinforced or new knowledge about the use of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and 98 percent use multiple IPM approaches to manage pests.

Erin has developed a national reputation among her peers for both her quality of educational materials and for her work to "dramatize" video programs. She received a professional development grant in 2012 from the American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE) and provided the first in a series of professional development webinars for AAPSE members about using the dramatization video method in PSEP.

She also co-lead the creation, expansion and conduct of the Nebraska Statewide IPM Coalition. The coalition has grown to about 40 members including representatives from schools and child care facilities, tribes, state and federal agencies, parent-teacher organizations, and the pest management industry.

According to her nomination materials, Erin takes pride in what she does and works hard every day to make sure that pesticide applicators and IPM learners receive the very best education possible.

Congratulations to Erin Bauer who recently received the Extension's Distinguished Managerial Professional Award. This award recognizes imaginative and sustained leadership and cooperation by an Extension Managerial-Professional in carrying out Extension programs. She was nominated by Clyde Ogg and Bob Wright.

Erin has been an Extension Assistant, then an Extension Associate with UNL Extension for almost eight years. She splits her

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Dec. 14–15: UNL Graduation.

Dec. 17: IANR Staff Holiday Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m., NEU.

Dec. 24, 2012–Jan. 2, 2013: UNL Holiday closedown.

Jan. 8–10, 2013: Nebraska Turf Conference, LaVista Conference Center.

Feb. 18–19, 2013: Nebraska Great Plains Conference, Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln.

Feb. 28–March 2, 2013: Nebraska Winery and Grape Growers Forum and Trade Show, Holiday Inn, Kearney.

2012 NAIPSC Webinar Series Schedule

The schedule of speakers has been posted on the NAIPSC website at ipscourse.unl.edu. Find out how to join the NAIPSC Online Community. All webinars begin at noon (Central Standard Time.)

Dec. 4: Leafy Spurge: A Model Perennial Invasive Weed for Examining the Genomics of Invasiveness, Dr. David Horvath, USDA-ARS, North Dakota.

Dec. 12: Involving Stakeholders in the Art and Science of Invasive Plant Management, Dr. Jane Mangold, Montana State University.

Dec. 12: Hybridization of *Phragmites australis* in North America, Dr. Laura Meyerson, University of Rhode Island, *Rescheduled from Nov. 7.*

Urrea presented achievement award



Carlos Urrea

Carlos Urrea, Dry Bean Breeding Specialist at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center, was presented the Joe Franks Memorial Achievement Award by the Stateline Bean Producers Cooperative at an annual meeting on Nov. 13. This award recognizes significant contributions to the dry edible bean industry in Western Nebraska in areas such as breeding, production, harvesting, and handling of dry edible beans. Congratulations Carlos!

CASNR taking nominations for Distinguished Teaching Award

Each year, CASNR nominates an individual from the college for the UNL Distinguished Teaching Award. This award comes with a \$1,000 cash award with funds provided through the Nebraska Legislature.

Last year, Professor Charles Francis with the Department of Agronomy and Horticulture was the recipient of one of the Distinguished Teaching Awards. Congratulations Chuck!

The process has been streamlined, allowing information/data within an individual's Activity Insight to be used for the nomination development. Once the dean's office receives the names, a committee comprised of past recipients and the CASNR Associate Deans will prepare the formal nomination and submit it to the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

To nominate a colleague for this teaching award, please send their name to Billie Lefholtz, CASNR Dean's Office Manager, at 2-7909 or email blefholtz1@unl.edu. The deadline to submit is Friday, Jan. 4, 2013.

Francis receives ASA Organic award

Recently the American Society of Agronomy (ASA), Organic Management Systems Community presented Professor Charles (Chuck) Francis with the 2012 Organic Management Systems Award. This award is only two years old, and last year it was presented to Dr. John Doran of ARS/USDA.

Chuck was a contributor in the ASA monograph "Organic Farming: the Ecological System," published in 2009 and now in its second printing. He has taught courses in Organic Farming and Agroecology for 12 years, conducted long-term research in organic farming systems comparisons, and has edited the European Network of Organic Agriculture and Agroecology Teachers annual meeting proceedings for the past five years. Congratulations!

Poinsettia Sale



The Horticulture Club will be holding a Poinsettia Sale **Dec. 5 & 6**, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Nebraska City Campus and East Campus Unions. For questions, email the club at unhortclub@yahoo.com.

Holiday Staff Appreciation Luncheon to be held Dec. 10



The 2012 Agronomy and Horticulture Staff Appreciation Luncheon will be held **Monday, Dec. 10** from **11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.**, in the Great Plains Room, Nebraska East Union. Food will be served at 11:40 a.m. **Please visit the following URL to RSVP** agronomy.unl.edu/holidaylunch and pick your meal option (Hot Beef, Chicken Marinara, or Rolatini Pasta) by **Friday, Nov. 30**. Hope to see everyone there!

Staff Advisory Committee news

It's a Photo Op

The Staff Advisory Committee (SAC) is updating the staff directory on the website with a few new bells and whistles, compliments of Aaron Franco, Multimedia Designer. One addition is inclusion of a small photo for each staff member. SAC could use the pictures from the old kiosk, but those are five plus years old, so they would prefer to have more up-to-date photos. Employees can

- drop by the Goodding Learning Center (PLSH 280) and have Diane take a quick picture (between now and Winter Break),
- send a current digital picture that you like (head shot) to Aaron at afranco2@unl.edu, or
- opt to use the old picture.

New intradepartmental awards available

SAC would like to announce two new intradepartmental awards that have been authorized by the department head. The first award is an annual Career Development Award of up to \$500 to attend a workshop, develop a specific expertise, or similar purpose. Employees will need to apply for this award.

The second is an Employee Recognition Award for specific contributions beyond normal work assignments. The winner will receive \$250. The award could be made twice annually. Employees will be nominated for this award.

Watch future newsletters for more information.

SAC held meeting Nov. 7

The following minutes were taken at the Nov. 7 SAC meeting:

- New departmental awards, approved by Roch Gaussoin, were announced via a note from Richard Ferguson and a subcommittee was established to work on promoting the awards and judging applicants.
- Diane Nolan was chosen to represent SAC to the Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC) on awards.
- Aaron Franco is continuing to upgrade the department's directory web pages and design and implement a SAC web page. Aaron will also be providing updated building maps for Keim and Plant Sciences, both on the web and on paper.
- Further discussion was held on the staff evaluation process. Committee members are to continue to review forms that have been provided and come to the next meeting with specific recommendations.

Full minutes (including the June, August, and November minutes) will soon be available on the SAC web page.

Kelly Fund opportunity for research to improve teaching and learning

The University of Nebraska, under the will of Mabel Elizabeth Kelly, holds funds to be used "at the discretion of [the] Board of Regents to foster research looking to the improvement of teaching in the University."

This year's Kelly Funds will go to research proposals which emphasize interdisciplinary, intercampus, or international approaches in subject matter or audience. Grants range from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

CASNR is particularly interested in stimulating the submission of proposals that will involve research related to Capstone courses and how we may progressively improve the undergraduate experience and outcomes. Proposals should be approved by the Unit Administrator and submitted to Carol Wusk in the CASNR Dean's Office by **Monday, Jan. 14**. Proposals will be ranked and then forwarded to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for consideration at the UNL-level.

Faculty should reference the Nov. 16 email from Carol Wusk, or contact her office at 2-7913 or email cwusk1@unl.edu for an application.

News from the HAPPI Business Center

Time to update NUFlex Benefits and information

Benefit Open Enrollment began on Monday Nov. 19 and runs through Friday, Dec. 7. Benefit eligible employees will use their Firefly accounts to access the open enrollment screens. If you have questions concerning benefits options, contact John Dillingham at 2-1548 or Campus Benefits Office at 2-2600.

Employees can update their address/W-2 information through ESS. Address, banking information, and tax withholding information may be changed. Employees have until Dec. 1, 2012, to obtain a copy of their 2011 W-2. The 2012 W-2 should be available via ESS by mid-Jan. 2013.

UNL closed over the holidays

UNL will be closed Monday, Dec. 24, 2012 through Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2013, except for essential designated operations. The scheduled holiday closing dates and posting determinations are as follows:

Holiday Closing Date	Posting Determination
Dec. 24	Floating Holiday, Vacation or Leave w/o Pay
Dec. 25	Holiday
Dec. 26, 27 and 28	Floating Holiday, Vacation or Leave w/o Pay
Dec. 31	Vacation or Leave w/o Pay
Jan. 1	Holiday (New Year's Day)
Jan. 2	Return to work

Leave will be posted over the holidays

If employees have taken leave this year, but have not submitted the required leave requests, please do so now. This year, the system will automatically post leave over the Holiday Closing. Floating Holiday balances will be used first, then vacation, then unpaid leave.

Direct Deposits credited to Employees over break

Biweekly direct deposits will be credited to employees' accounts on Dec. 27, 2012. Monthly direct deposits will be credited to employees' accounts on Dec. 31, 2012. A copy of your pay advice can be obtained through ESS in Firefly.



IANR Holiday Luncheon Dec. 17

The Leadership Team of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources is pleased to invite you to a Holiday Luncheon to say thank you to all of the staff of IANR and Nebraska East Union (NEU) for your outstanding support to students, faculty, and the people of Nebraska.

Please join us for a Holiday Luncheon **Monday, Dec. 17** from **11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**, **NEU, Great Plains Room.**

RSVP before Monday, **Dec. 10.** Please complete the registration form at: go.unl.edu/ianrstaff.

Windows 8 not compatible with Firefly or SAP

Microsoft has released the Windows 8 operating system and the Internet Explorer (IE10) browser. This operating system and browser will not work with Firefly or the SAP GUI. In addition, Mozilla has not yet announced support for the Firefox browser with the Windows 8 operating system.

Benefits Open Enrollment began Nov. 19 and runs through Dec. 7. Please be aware of the Windows 8/Firefly issue and be prepared to use an alternate Operating System and browser if you have upgraded.

2013 Crop Production Clinic scheduled

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension will be presenting Crop Production Clinics at nine locations across Nebraska in January 2013. Cost of the clinic is \$50.00 (\$60.00 if recertifying for either commercial/noncommercial (Ag Plant) or private pesticide applicator licenses). This includes a noon meal and refreshments, 2013 *Guide for Weed Management in Nebraska*, and printed 2013 proceedings.

Pre-registration is available online at cpc.unl.edu. Pre-registration for a location closes 24 hours before the clinic begins. On-site registration begins at 8 a.m. local time and only cash or check will be accepted. Please make checks payable to University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Certified Crop Advisors can earn a maximum of six CEUs. CEUs in the following categories will be offered: six in Pest Management, one in Nutrient Management, two in Soil & Water Management, and three in Crop Production. An advisor's CCA number will be required. Programs begin at 8:45 a.m. and end at 3:35 p.m. local time.

Tuesday, Jan. 8	Hastings: Adams County Fairgrounds
Wednesday, Jan. 9	North Platte: Sandhills Convention Center
Thursday, Jan. 10	Gering: Gering Civic Center
Tuesday, Jan. 15	Atkinson: Atkinson Community Center
Wednesday, Jan. 16	York: The Auditorium
Thursday, Jan. 17	Beatrice: Armed Forces Reserve Center
Tuesday, Jan. 22	Kearney: Younes Conference Center
Wednesday, Jan. 23	Norfolk : Northeast Community College Lifelong Learning Center
Thursday, Jan. 24	Fremont: Midland University Event Center

News for and about Graduate Students

Pederson wins first place in poster competition

At the recent ASA, CSSA, ASSSA Annual Meetings in Cincinnati, Matt Pederson was awarded first place in the Graduate Student Poster Competition in the Crop Physiology and Metabolism Division of Crop Science for his paper entitled "Comparison of FTIR and NADH Dependent Oxygen Uptake Analysis as Metabolic Evaluation Methods." Co-authors were Piyaporn Phansak, Casey Wegner, Vicki Schlegel and Roch Gaussoin. Congratulations Matt!

In the news

Rangeland ecology Professor **Walt Schacht** was recently quoted in an article in the Lincoln Journal-Star about the research he, Professor Larkin Powell of the School of Natural Resources, and graduate student Lars Anderson are doing to better manage prairie chickens in Nebraska's sandhills grasslands. See journalstar.com/news/local/education/unl-research-helps-keep-prairie-chickens-thriving-in-sandhills/article_c6d22ca4-cfac-505a-add9-69eb2f105870.html.

Pesticide Safety Education Extension Assistant **Pierce Hansen** and his band, Fraternal Durango, were recently quoted in the Daily Nebraskan about their music, how diverse their sound is, playing live shows, and how they hope to release an EP (extended play) soon. See www.dailynebraskan.com/arts_and_entertainment/article_8051e2cc-384e-11e2-acfa-001a4bcf6878.html.

Flu shots offered

The University Health Center (UHC) is offering a walk-in flu shot clinic at the Nebraska East Union on Dec. 5 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. as part of National Influenza Vaccination Week, Dec. 2-8.

Flu shots are \$30 for faculty and staff. The UHC will file Blue Cross Blue Shield claims. Insurance cards must be presented at the time of the vaccination to allow a claim to be filed. The UHC will issue a bill to those who have used all wellness benefits for 2012.

Rajput awarded fellowship

Congratulations to Santosh Rajput who was awarded the distinguished Henry M. Beachell Fellowship. Dr. Beachell was a native Nebraskan who graduated from our department in 1930. He received the World Food Prize in honor of his contributions to the alleviation of world hunger.

Rajput's research project is in the area of genetic improvement of proso millet with these objectives: developing of genomics resources (DNA markers), genetic diversity in available germplasm based on morpho-agronomic traits and DNA markers, and developing genetic linkage map and mapping the genes of important traits on it. Rajput is advised by Dr. Dipak Santra.

The department ate, drank, and looked a little scary at the 2012 Halloween Potluck



This year's costume participants included front row (left to right): Ben Lennander, Erin Bauer, and Wendy Morrissey. Back row (left to right): Diane Nolan, Charlene Wendt, Fran Benne, Diane Sullivan, Susan Thomas, Joan Frederick, Sue Walker, and Nancy Shoemaker.

More than 40 people attended the department's Halloween Potluck on Oct. 31. The event was held to welcome new employees and graduate students, enjoy some great food, and have a little Halloween fun. A costume contest was held and contest winners were 1st Place: pirate (Ben Lennander), 2nd Place: queen (Charlene Wendt), and 3rd Place: Amelia Earhart (Fran Benne).

Nebraska Corn Board accepting proposals

The Nebraska Corn Board is now accepting research and extension proposals for the 2013–2014 fiscal year. An application packet is available for assistance by emailing Nelvie Lienemann at Agricultural Research Division (ARD), nlienemann1@unl.edu. This packet includes the Board's 2013–2014 research priorities, a timetable, guidelines for submitting proposals, and the format for providing annual summaries.

The deadline for submitting proposals through NUgrant is Jan. 22, 2013, by 5 p.m. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the ARD office, or Kelly Brunkhorst at the Nebraska Corn Board at 402-471-2676 or email kelly.brunkhorst@nebraska.gov.

Happy Holidays to the department

The department Administrative Team, Roch, Richard, Charlene, John, Sue, and T.J., will be providing special cookies/treats, coffee and cider for all to enjoy. Please stop by the 202 Keim kitchen area on **Friday, Dec. 14**, 8:30 a.m. until the goodies are gone!

