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Grazing research highlighted in Extension evening session

Ames, Iowa, 5/21/09 – One-of-a-kind grazing research is the focus of an upcoming Iowa State Extension evening meeting, held June 18, 2009.

The meeting, held 5:15-8 p.m., will be located at the former ISU Rhodes research farm located north of Baxter, east of Collins, and southwest of Rhodes. The farm pasture is located north of Highway 330 near the Harvester Golf Course - signs will be posted to help attendees find the location.

Those attending will see and learn about stream crossings, alternative grazing management, and effects on stream banks and water quality and cattle behavior in alternative grazing.

Dr. James Russell, a professor with the Iowa State University Department of Animal Science, has led a multi-year one-of-a-kind research project at the farm that will be the focus of the evening session. The research was conducted in collaboration with the Leopold Center at Iowa State, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, and is part of the USDA water quality initiative. Dr. Russell, other researchers and graduate students will discuss the results of the research and its applications for producers.

In addition to the updates on Dr. Russell's research, a question-and-answer session will be conducted on grazing and pasture management during the evening. A free hamburger meal, prepared and served by the Marshall County Cattlemen, will be offered at the conclusion of the evening.

The field day is sponsored by Iowa State University Extension and the Iowa Beef Center. For further information, contact Iowa State Extension employees Dan Morrical at 515-294-2904 or morrical@iastate.edu, or Russ Euken at 641-923-2856 or reuken@iastate.edu.

The Iowa Beef Center at Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa, was established in 1996 with the goal of supporting the growth and vitality of the state's beef cattle industry. It serves as the university's extension program to cattle producers and is comprised of faculty and staff from ISU Extension and the colleges of agriculture and life sciences and veterinary medicine. Together, the Iowa Beef Center's members work to develop and deliver the latest in research-based information regarding the beef cattle industry. For more information about the Iowa Beef Center, visit www.iowabeefcenter.org.

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