

SPEAKER



**Dr. Mary Drewnoski** is a Beef Systems Specialist with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is a beef cattle nutritionist with expertise in forage production systems and is a part of an interdisciplinary team evaluating Economical Systems for Integrated Crop and Livestock Production in Nebraska. Her current research and extension program is focused on the utilization of crop residues and cover crop forage for backgrounding calves and feeding beef cows. Learn more at [beef.unl.edu/cropland](http://beef.unl.edu/cropland). Reach Mary at (402) 472-6289 or email her at [mdrewnoski2@unl.edu](mailto:mdrewnoski2@unl.edu).



**Bill Northey**, Iowa Secretary of Agriculture, is a fourth-generation Iowa farmer who grows corn and soybeans on his farm near Spirit Lake. He started farming with his grandfather, Sid Northey, after graduating from Iowa State University.

On his farm, Northey uses reduced tillage, GPS, grid soil sampling. Besides raising corn and soybeans, he has grown alfalfa and raised hogs and cattle.

Northey was named a “Friend of Agriculture” by the Iowa Farm Bureau Political Action Committee in 2006 and 2010 and has served in a number of Farm Bureau offices at the county and state level, including serving as President, Vice President and committee chairman of the Dickinson County Farm Bureau.

Northey has also served on the Iowa USDA Farm Service Agency State Committee. He was a Dickinson County Soil and Water Conservation District Commissioner and a board member of Ag Ventures Alliance. As a result of his involvement in these organizations, Northey has traveled around the world to view agriculture and promote Iowa’s products.

He graduated from Iowa State University in 1981 with a degree in Agricultural Business and was a member of FarmHouse Fraternity, serving as its President his senior year. Northey received a Masters in Business Administration from Southwest Minnesota State University in 2004.

**Admission: FREE**  
(no preregistration required)

SPONSORS



**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Extension and Outreach  
**IOWA BEEF CENTER**



WELCOME TO THE CORNBELT COW-CALF CONFERENCE!

The Cornbelt Cow-Calf Conference is one of the longest running and most successful conferences of its kind in the Midwest. For over forty years, the conference has provided an opportunity for producers, researchers, and over 100 industry representatives to come together to explore current topics and issues. This concentrated one-day conference focuses on management and production practices that contribute to making the cow-calf business profitable and competitive on a long-term basis.

STEERING COMMITTEE

|                 |                 |                  |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Sara Benson     | Pat Larkin      | Roman Schooley   |
| Charles Brown   | Byron Leu       | Joe Sellers      |
| John Crall      | Mark Moore      | Stephanie Sexton |
| Dan Delaney     | Dan Pidgeon     | Neric Smith      |
| Dave Eberhardt  | Cale Plowman    | Duane Steenhoek  |
| Marlin Korthaus | Corey Rozenboom | Patrick Wall     |

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

|                |                  |              |
|----------------|------------------|--------------|
| Steve Banyas   | Tony Latcham     | Neric Smith  |
| Jeremy Erdmann | Byron Leu        | Don Swanson  |
| Shaun Fritchey | Darrell Limkeman | Dale Uehling |
| Chris Greiner  | Greg Milani      | Patrick Wall |
| Kevin Heffron  | Joe Sellers      | Jon Walraven |

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

For conference information, contact one of the following representatives:

General Information

Marion Co. Extension, 641-842-2014

Exhibit Information

Joe Milledge, 515-822-1894  
KIIC Radio, [www.kiicradio.com](http://www.kiicradio.com)

Program Information

Patrick Wall, 515-450-7665

Hotel/Motel Accommodations

Ottumwa Area Convention & Visitors Bureau  
641-684-4303



**Saturday, January 28, 2017**  
**8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
**Bridge View Center**  
**102 Church St.**  
**Ottumwa, Iowa**

Directions

Exit onto Church St. from Highway 34/63.  
The Bridge View Center is located one block north toward the downtown area.

Financial support for the 2017 Cornbelt Cow-Calf Conference provided in part by:

- John Deere Ottumwa Works
- Iowa Beef Center - Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Al Seim Memorial
- Zoetis

CORNBELT Cow-Calf Conference  
P.O. Box 308, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



PROGRAM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 2017:

**8:00-8:30 am Trade Show Opens!**  
Coffee, juice, and donuts provided

**8:45-9:00 am Welcome and General Comments**  
Introduction of **Jeff Matthias**, NRCS State Grazing Specialist and **Linda Shumate**, Iowa Cattlemen’s Association State Grazing Advisor

General Sessions

Session I

**9:00-9:50 am Kim Vonnahme, PhD**  
Topic: Fetal Programming: What maternal nutrition impacts more than just the dam

Session II

**9:55-10:45 am Anne Burkholder**  
Topic: Feeding feedlot information back to the cow-calf producer

Session III

**10:50-11:40 am A.J. Blair (Producer Speaker)**  
**Rocky Forseth (Producer Speaker)**  
**Amanda Krueder, DVM (Producer Speaker)**  
Panel Discussion: Diversifying the crop and livestock operation as young producers

**11:40-11:50 pm Current Issues in Iowa Agriculture from Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey**

**11:50-12:05 pm Comments from lunch sponsor: Sinclair Tractor**

**12:05-1:20 pm Lunch and Exhibit Viewing**

Session IV

**1:20-2:10 pm Cody Peck, Padlock Ranch**  
Topic: Finding opportunities for profit in a down market

Break-Out Sessions

**Session I – 2:15-3:00 pm, Session II – 3:05-3:55 pm**  
**Ben Eggers, Sydenstricker Genetics (Producer Speaker)**  
Topic: Producing seedstock in fescue country (JDOW Room)

**Mary Drewnowski, University of Nebraska - Lincoln**

Topic 1: Cover crops grazing  
Topic 2: Compaction from cows

**Amanda Krueder, DVM**  
Topic 1: Johnne’s disease and other disasters: keeping infectious diseases out of your herd  
Topic 2: 2XL Grass-fed beef: Using reproductive technology and selection tools to improve herd productivity

**Rocky Forseth, Allied Genetic Resources**

Topic: Bull acquisition

**Patrick Gunn, Danny Beckman**

Topic: Iowa’s NEW bred heifer development program

SPEAKERS



**Kimberly Vonnahme** grew up on a livestock and grain farm near Breda, Iowa. Kim attended Iowa State University majoring in Animal Science, obtained her MS from Oklahoma State University, and PhD from the University of Wyoming. Kim has been on faculty at NDSU since 2004 and was promoted to Full Professor in 2016. Kim is lead instructor for the Physiology of Reproduction course. Kim’s research program focuses on the impacts of maternal nutrition on fetal and placental development in sheep, cattle, and swine. More specifically, Kim is interested in how maternal nutrition impacts uteroplacental blood flow, development of the placenta, growth of the mammary gland, and nutrient transfer to the developing offspring. Her research efforts have resulted in 117 publications, 3 book chapters, and over \$2 million in funding.



A native of urban Palm Beach County, Florida; **Anne Burkholder** graduated cum laude from Dartmouth College with a degree in psychology. Anne met her husband Matt, a native of Cozad, NE while attending Dartmouth and the couple moved back to the Cozad area in June of 1997. Today, Matt owns and manages the farm’s alfalfa dehydration plant and crop enterprises while Anne runs the 3000 head cattle finishing facility. Over the past two decades, Burkholder has worked to improve animal welfare employing low stress cattle handling and holistic care management by tracing animals from birth to harvest. She received the inaugural National Cattlemen’s Beef Association Beef Quality Assurance Producer of the Year award in 2009, the Certified Angus Beef Feed Yard Partner of the year award in 2011, and was Beef Magazine’s Trailblazer of the year in 2014. Outside of the daily management of the feed yard, Anne has a consumer focused blog about her life on a cattle farm in Nebraska at [www.feedyardfoodie.com](http://www.feedyardfoodie.com).



**AJ Blair** lives in Dayton, Iowa with his wife Kellie and two kids, Wyatt and Charlotte. They have a diversified farm raising corn and soybeans along with several hog barns which they custom feed in, a cattle feedlot, and a cow/ calf herd. Blair graduated from Iowa State University in 2003 in Agricultural Business. He served 7 years on the board of directors for the

**Kimberly Vonnahme** grew up on a livestock and grain farm near Breda, Iowa. Kim attended Iowa State University majoring in Animal Science, obtained her MS from Oklahoma State University, and PhD from the University of Wyoming. Kim has been on faculty at NDSU since 2004 and was promoted to

Iowa Soybean Association. Being on the ISA board introduced him to the On-Farm Network and over the past seven or eight years, he has done many on farm trials with their help.

Both Blair and his wife grew up on century farms with conservation playing a big part in how they were operated. Continuous improvement is the goal on their farm. They take care of the land the best they know how today, understanding through research, they will be able to take better care of the land tomorrow.



**Rocky Forseth** works for Allied Genetic Resources. He helps many commercial producers from across the country make better genetic decisions, purchase genetics, and market feeder cattle. Rocky is a third generation cattleman. His grandparents homesteaded in Northern Montana, and for twenty years the family raised registered Polled Hereford cattle. In the early 1990’s they turned the family operation commercial and began producing crossbred cattle. Growing up, Rocky particularly enjoyed evaluating the bulls and genetics used in the operation. This gave rise to his interest in SimAngus cattle, today, he and his family run SimAngus cattle exclusively.

Rocky attended Montana State University where he graduated with a degree in Animal Science and Livestock Management. He had internships at Basin Angus Ranch, Reyher Embryonics, served as a State FFA Officer and, was a member of the 2010 Collegiate Livestock Judging Team. Upon graduation, Rocky went to work for Leachman Cattle of Colorado. There, he was Herdsman for two years and subsequently worked in Sales and Customer Service. Rocky is also a Representative for Superior Livestock Auction. He finds enjoyment working with commercial customers, adding value to their operation by through feeder cattle and genetics. Rocky will share some ideas about the long term effects of genetics and EPDs on a beef cattle enterprise. Email: [Rocky@alliedgeneticresources.com](mailto:Rocky@alliedgeneticresources.com) Phone: (406) 590-7984



**Amanda Kreuder** is currently an Assistant Professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University where she is both a boarded internal medicine specialist in the Food Animal and Camelid Hospital and livestock infectious disease researcher. She graduated from Iowa State University in 2004 with a B.S. degree in Dairy Science and went on to receive her D.V.M. in 2008. Following graduation,

**Rocky Forseth** works for Allied Genetic Resources. He helps many commercial producers from across the country make better genetic decisions, purchase genetics, and market feeder cattle. Rocky is a third generation cattleman. His grandparents homesteaded in

she was a large animal veterinarian in Wisconsin for several years before returning to Iowa State and completing a residency in food animal internal medicine in 2014 and PhD in Veterinary Microbiology in 2016. In addition to her university responsibilities, she also co-owns and assists in the operation of a registered Angus seedstock and grassfed beef operation in Garden Grove, Iowa, with her husband and parents.



**Ben Eggers** has been involved in the management of Sydenstricker Angus Farms, now Sydenstricker Genetics since the mid-‘80’s. The annual SydGen production sale in November has grown to where about 500 head of bulls and females are marketed in one offering, along with another 200 head of commercial bred heifers from customers. A spring sale is held jointly with customers in April of each year, offering about 100 registered Angus bulls and some females. The herd calves about 900 head per year, and utilizes complete herd reporting. Ben is also a co-owner of ORiGen, Inc., a genetic services company near Billings, MT. He is a past President of Missouri Cattleman’s Association, American Angus Association and the Beef Improvement Federation.



**Cody Peck** is currently a senior manager at Padlock Ranch Company where he collects and analyzes performance and financial data from all phases of ranch, feedlot, and farm production. He also manages the 10,000+ head feedlot as well as wildlife operations. He joined the Padlock following the completion of his Master of Science degree from the King Ranch® Institute for Ranch Management.

Prior to KRIRM, Cody worked for Deseret Cattle and Citrus in St. Cloud, FL. He was involved in the Leadership Development Program and worked on the seedstock unit that produces 1,300 bulls annually. Cody also spent five years working for the Rex Ranch in Nebraska. He was involved with cow-calf production, replacement heifer development, stocker management, and management-intensive grazing.

Cody graduated from Chadron State College in Chadron, Nebraska in 2006 with a B.S. in Education and Northeastern Junior College in Sterling, Colorado in 2003. He worked for feedlots, registered producers, commercial producers, horse breeders, agronomists, custom processors and grain elevators.

Cody was born in Scottsbluff, Nebraska and grew up in Julesburg, Colorado. Cody has been married to his wife, Hester since 2007 and has two girls, Riata, and Ava.