



Partnership Matters

December 2005

ANNOUNCEMENT —

Wintersteen named dean of the College of Agriculture

Wendy Wintersteen will become dean of the College of Agriculture and director of the Iowa Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station at Iowa State University, effective January 1, 2006.



Wintersteen has been serving as interim dean and interim director since August, succeeding Catherine Woteki, who left ISU to work in the private sector in Washington, D.C.

Wintersteen has been a key supporter of ISU's Corn and Soybean Initiative and often highlights the initiative as an innovative and novel partnership in building responsiveness to client needs and increasing the benefit to Iowa agricultural producers.

"This is a dynamic time for agriculture," Wintersteen said. "It's exciting because agriculture drives much of Iowa's economy and can do even more because of the vast potential of future food and energy needs.

"The College of Agriculture is blessed with many great faculty and staff who are outstanding teachers, researchers and extension specialists," she added. "Because of them, we will continue to attract outstanding students and meet the needs of Iowans."

ISU President Gregory Geoffroy said, "Dr. Wintersteen has been an exceptional faculty member and administrator in our College of Agriculture, and she will make an outstanding dean. She is very knowledgeable about agriculture, and she has excellent relationships with people throughout the agricultural community. We're extremely pleased that she has accepted this very important position for Iowa State University and for agriculture nationally."

Wintersteen is well known by producers and agricultural leaders around Iowa. She had been the senior associate dean of the College from 2000 to 2005. She has served as director of ISU Agriculture and

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RESEARCH BRIEF —

Western bean cutworm

What's new. Western bean cutworm is an insect that infests corn and dry beans. Economically damaging populations historically have occurred in western states, especially Colorado and Nebraska.

During 2000, producers in western Iowa, most notably Woodbury, Plymouth and Ida counties, observed corn fields with reduced yields and damage consistent with western bean cutworm feeding on ears; large western bean cutworm populations were confirmed with pheromone trap captures in succeeding years.



ISU research. Recent trapping has determined the presence of populations across Iowa and the first reports in Illinois and Missouri. In 2005, cooperators from three states managed pheromone traps. Pheromones were supplied by the Iowa State University IPM Program. Cooperators were recruited by Iowa State, University of Illinois and Pioneer Hi-Bred International in Illinois, Iowa and northern Missouri. Cooperators used an interactive website to post data so that the information was accessible on a real-time basis. A post-season survey of cooperators determined that:

- Forty-six percent (18 of 39) reported they scouted corn fields based on trap data.
- Twelve of the 18 respondents who scouted found larvae and/or egg masses; eight found larvae or eggs that exceeded the economic threshold of 8 percent of plants.
- Reporting cooperators projected corn yield losses from western bean cutworm damage at 125,000 bushels. An additional five cooperators reported western bean cutworm feeding but couldn't estimate losses.

What's next. Western bean cutworm remains a pest we need to learn more about. In 2006, we will again employ the cooperator network for pheromone trapping to provide information to crop managers. Key questions about western bean cutworm management in Iowa remain.

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Wintersteen named dean, *continued*—

Natural Resources Extension. She became an ISU faculty member in entomology in 1988 and was promoted to full professor in 1996. Her extension and research focuses on development and assessment of pest management practices.

Wintersteen was one of five candidates who interviewed for the dean's position in late November and early December.

ISU BY THE NUMBERS —



The area served by our retail partners covers much of the state.

ISU Corn and Soybean Initiative

Number of years operating _____	1
Number of organizational partners _____	10
Number of retail partners _____	26
Number of retail partner locations _____	236
Number of counties served by retail partners _____	84
Number of ISU partnership managers _____	15
Number of years of production agriculture experience among ISU partnership managers _____	342
Number of other programs like the initiative in the United States _____	0

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... and justice for all

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Western bean cutworm, *continued*—

Understanding the timing of adult emergence and egg laying and finding ways to facilitate effective scouting are needed.

Learn more. Western bean cutworm information at ISU is posted at www.ent.iastate.edu/trap/westernbeancutworm. The site highlights the biology of western bean cutworm that is keyed to how our trapping procedure is designed. Data from the previous two years are archived on the site. For more specific information, contact Rich Pope (ropope@iastate.edu), Marlin Rice (merice@iastate.edu) or Joel DeJong (jdejong@iastate.edu).

PARTNER PROFILE —

Rich Pope

Extension program specialist

Origin

Sloan, Iowa; grew up on 350-acre corn and soybean farm in the Missouri River Valley

Training

- M.S., soil management, 1989, Iowa State University
- B.S., agricultural education, 1974, Iowa State University



At ISU

- Have served the university for 22 years
- Work in the Pest Management and the Environment program on Corn and Soybean Initiative activities with pest management, especially marshaling campus resources in support of the initiative
- Coordinate pest monitoring efforts including black cutworm, western bean cutworm and invasive species in Iowa
- Prepared educational materials for pesticide applicator training, 2005
- Former Woodbury County extension agriculturalist
- Served as the Iowa State University representative to the Iowa Certified Crop Advisers' Board since its inception in 1993

Notable achievements

- Recognized for service to the Iowa Certified Crop Advisers' Board, December 2005
- Serve as the land-grant representative to an Environmental Protection Agency water quality and pesticide disposal working group

Personal

- Statistician for Iowa State football and men's and women's basketball programs since the founding of the Big 12 Conference in 1996
- Held the office of Presidential Elector
- Founding member of the Iowa Prairie Network, 1990

Quotable quote

“One of my biggest concerns for Iowa agriculture is the potential loss of knowledge infrastructure in the next decade or so. We seem to be squeezing information vendors out of the system, and though technology will carry us for a while, I fear there will be a future situation where we need trained agronomists, and they will largely be gone. That is why I enjoy my vocation—I see it as important.”