

Partnership Matters



August 2005

Wintersteen named interim dean

On Aug. 1, Wendy Wintersteen began serving as interim dean of Iowa State University's College of Agriculture, succeeding Catherine Woteki, who resigned to accept a position with the private sector in Washington, D.C.

Wintersteen, who had been the senior associate dean of the college, is a familiar figure among many Iowa farmers, agribusinesses and state leaders.



"In my estimation, Dr. Wintersteen knows production agriculture from top to bottom," says Craig Struve, owner and manager of C-S Agrow Service of Calumet. Struve has worked with Wintersteen on several projects, initiatives and meetings.

Struve added, "She has both feet on the ground and is a great communicator, both with farmers, input suppliers and others directly related to production agriculture as well as to the leaders in the university system. She's fully capable of handling challenges faced by production agriculture."

Jim Penney, general manager for the Heart of Iowa Coop in Roland, said he's worked with Wintersteen since she joined Iowa State in the 1980s. "She helped us start our integrated pest management program and trained our first employees who scouted fields. She's been visionary as far as our business has been concerned. I know she works hard and has done a yeoman's job in every position she's been in."

Wintersteen has extensive experience working with Iowa agricultural associations and commodity boards and will continue to work directly with them as interim dean.

"Supporting the success of Iowa agriculture is a very high priority," Wintersteen says. "The work of the Corn and Soybean Initiative is an excellent example of how we're partnering to make sure Iowa State's science-based information is shared widely to benefit our producers."

Prior to joining the dean's office, Wintersteen served as director of ISU agriculture and natural resources extension. She became a 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.

RESEARCH BRIEF —

Bean leaf beetle and bean pod mottle virus

What's new. Bean leaf beetles are native to Iowa and have been found on soybeans since soybeans were first planted in Iowa. But in the last decade, bean leaf beetle populations have exploded, causing economic damage especially due to late-summer feeding. In addition, bean pod mottle virus (BPMV) has caused yield reductions and stains harvested beans and can be carried from plant to plant by bean leaf beetles.

ISU research. Studies conducted in the Departments of Entomology and Plant Pathology have focused on refining management systems to prevent damage from BPMV by thorough management of bean leaf beetle populations. In 2003, ISU Extension promoted the refined management ideas, and a synopsis is available in the *ICM Newsletter* archived article at <http://www.ipm.iastate.edu/ipm/icm/2003/4-28-2003/blbresearch.html>.

ISU research is currently examining the role of alternative, perennial legume hosts that can aid in BPMV overwintering. Several legume species, both native and introduced, are being tested for both their suitability for bean leaf beetle feeding and their ability to become infected and to maintain that infection.

What's next. As the current studies are wrapped up, further research is planned. As the roles of alternative hosts become clearer, research will expand to include the dynamics of other soybean viruses, like soybean mosaic virus. This research will explore virus issues at the genetic level, and information gained should translate to answering some production-level questions.

Learn more. The *ICM Newsletter* archive mentioned above provides a foundation of information about bean leaf beetle and bean pod mottle virus management in Iowa. A website, www.ent.iastate.edu/soybeaninsects, should be functional in about a month and will focus on insect vectors of soybean diseases, including bean leaf beetle, stink bugs and seedcorn maggot among others. In addition, another currently operating site, www.soybeanaphid.info, gives information on soybean aphids and related issues.

—Marlin Rice, professor of entomology; Jeff Bradshaw, graduate research associate; and John Hill, professor of plant pathology



A schedule of ISU fall field days is set, giving farmers and the public a chance to see research projects in progress and talk with the researchers involved in the experiments. Among the fall field days, two are devoted to crops.

On Sept. 8, the Northeast Research and Demonstration Farm field day will cover crop insects, corn breeding, grain marketing and crop disease topics. The farm is one mile west of the Highway 218 and B-60 intersection in Nashua, one mile south and a quarter mile east.

On Sept. 14, the Southeast Research and Demonstration Farm field day will cover specialty soybeans, soybean fungicides, strip cropping and continuous corn versus corn rotations. The farm is located one and three-quarter miles south, two miles east on G-62 and three-quarters of a mile north of Crawfordsville on the Washington and Louisa county-line road. The farm is located one and three-quarter miles south, two miles east on G-62 and three-quarters of a mile north of Crawfordsville on the Washington and Louisa county-line road.

For more information on all ISU fall field days, see <http://www.ag.iastate.edu/farms/05fieldays.pdf>.

Sept. 6	McNay	4:30 p.m.	Beef Cattle and Pasture Management, <i>D. Strohbehn</i>
Sept. 8	Northeast	1:30 p.m.	Crops
Sept. 12	Armstrong	4:30 p.m.	High Tunnels, <i>L. Naeve</i>
Sept. 13	Muscatine Island	3 p.m.	Horticulture, <i>Vince Lawson</i>
Sept. 14	Southeast	1:30 p.m.	Crops
Sept. 15	Rhodes	6 p.m.	Riparian, <i>J. Russell</i>

Partnership Matters is published electronically once a month for partners of the Corn and Soybean Initiative, with funding from the College of Agriculture and support from Iowa State University Extension. Brian Meyer, College of Agriculture, is executive editor of *Partnership Matters*; Keven Arrowsmith, Continuing Education and Communication Services, is managing editor; and Donna Halloum, Information Technology Services, Iowa State University, is production designer.

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Gene Mohling

County extension education director,
Johnson and Washington counties

Origin

- Northeast Iowa; grew up on a farm near Fredericksburg
- Lived in rural North Liberty for 22 years

Training

- Doctoral study, quantitative genetics, 1983, The Ohio State University
- M.S., animal production, 1982, Iowa State University
- B.S., agricultural education, 1981, Iowa State University
- Associate of Applied Science, animal science, 1978, Hawkeye Institute of Technology

At ISU

- Became multi-county extension director, 2002–present
- Johnson County extension education director, 1995–present
- Teaching associate, Department of Animal Science, 1981–1982

Other Experience

- Agricultural education instructor, Alburnett (IA) School District, 1983–1995
- Teaching associate (assistant livestock evaluation coach), Department of Animal Science, The Ohio State University, 1982–1983
- Researcher, sales and promotion, Iowa Purebred Swine Council, 1982
- Researcher, product development, Farmer's Hybrid Companies, Inc., 1981

Notable Achievement

- County Extension Education Director Excellence Award, 2004
- Numerous professional achievement awards and affiliations

Personal

- Married to Kay
- Children: Katherine, 20; Caroline, 16; Nicholas, 8
- Enjoy family, agriculture, woodworking, fishing

Quotable Quote

“Serving in extension as a county director and having our children involved in 4-H at the same time has truly been an enjoyable experience.”

... and justice for all

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Issued in furtherance of Cooperative Extension work, Acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Stanley R. Johnson, director, Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, Ames, Iowa.