

NewsWatch

Key Points

- The Farm Progress Hay Expo will be held near Boone, Iowa, this year.
- A large educational component has been added to the exhibits and field demos.
- The show site offers amenities such as electricity and permanent restrooms.

By DENA MORGAN

THE 2012 Farm Progress Hay Expo will take place June 20 and 21 at the Central Iowa Expo grounds near Boone. The facility is where the Farm Progress Show is held in Iowa.

Farm Progress has joined forces with Iowa State University to offer an educational component to this year's Hay Expo. Elwynn Taylor, Iowa State Extension climatologist, will be speaking both days at 12:30 p.m. on the topic "Weather: What Next?"

"We are very pleased that Iowa State Extension has decided to offer a program each day of the show, as well as to staff educational displays concerning topics that are relevant in the forage industry," says Matt Jungmann, Farm Progress national events manager.

In addition to the educational program, Iowa State University Extension will have displays about various forage topics. Several of those displays will focus on the cellulosic industry, addressing topics such as growing miscanthus, what is considered clean biomass, strategic placement of perennial grasses for biofuel production, and how removing corn stover influences future fertility management. The educational displays will also cover alfalfa topics, including recommendations for alfalfa fertilizer, alfalfa insect pests, best alfalfa production practices, and alfalfa diseases and fungicide options.

A highlight of the Hay Expo is the working field demonstrations. Demos cover the process of harvesting forages from beginning to end.

"Demonstrations begin in the morning with mowing, conditioning and chopping, and then continue in the afternoon with



Hay Expo heads to central Iowa

raking, baling and hay handling. Watching the machines operate side by side under actual field conditions is an excellent opportunity for producers," Jungmann says.

A 10-acre exhibit field will feature displays from major and short-line specialty equipment manufacturers; seed, building and storage-facility suppliers; and a range of hay-related product suppliers. Exhibitors plan to showcase a host of new products aimed at boosting the efficiency and profitability of hay and forage production.

"The exhibit field is the place to discuss

seed, hay marketing, crop production, conservation and more. There will be educational and commercial exhibits, and harvesting demonstrations," says Jungmann.

Ideal location

"The Central Iowa Expo facility is a great location to host Hay Expo," Jungmann adds. "The site is readily accessible for forage producers driving to the event, and the close proximity to a major metropolitan area makes it easy for those flying in. The Central Iowa Expo facility also offers more

amenities than we usually have, including electricity and permanent restrooms."

The Boone County Cattlemen will serve food and drink on-site. Trams will be available from the exhibit field to the different demonstration locations.

The Hay Expo is sponsored by Farm Progress publications *Wisconsin Agriculturist*, *Wallaces Farmer* and *The Farmer*. It will be open June 20 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The show site is located on Highway 30, where it intersects Highway 17, east of Boone, Iowa. Admission is free; parking is \$10 per vehicle. The public is welcome.

For more information, visit www.HayExpo.com, or call 866-264-7469.

Morgan is Farm Progress national events marketing specialist.

Directions to Hay Expo

THE show site is located at the intersection of Highway 30 and Highway 17, east of Boone, Iowa.

From the north: Take Interstate 35 south to Exit 111. Take Highway 30 west to Highway 17.

From the west: Take Interstate 80 east to Interstate 35. Take Interstate 35 north to Exit 111. Take Highway 30 west to Highway 17. Locally, take Highway 30 east to Highway 17.

From the south: Take Interstate 35 north to Exit 111. Take Highway 30 west to Highway 17.

From the east: Take Highway 30 west to Highway 17.

From Highway 17: Head north. Turn right onto 217th Street, and follow the signs into the show grounds.

GPS coordinates: 42.041439, -93.811435

FORAGE HARVESTING: A variety of machines will be demonstrated at 11 a.m. both days.

