

Conference Announcement: Pork Industry Professionals Meeting to Discuss Sow Productive Lifetime

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SAVOY, IL – Pork producers and other swine industry professionals will be meeting in September to discuss ways to improve the productivity of sows. The 13th Discover Conference on Food Animal Agriculture, “Sow Productive Lifetime,” is being presented in cooperation with the U.S. Pork Center of Excellence with major funding provided by the National Pork Board. The program will provide timely discussion of current knowledge related to all the many factors that impact productivity of the sow. It will combine in-depth discussion with exploration of factors that all play a role in the lifetime performance of the sow, including sow well-being, genetics, environment, health, reproductive performance, stockmanship, nutrition and more. This program will also explore gaps in research and education in the topic area.

The outcome of this conference will be used in the development of a sow management guide to be developed by the U.S. Pork Center of Excellence for the National Pork Board.

The conference will be held in Nashville, Indiana at the Brown County Inn September 9-12, 2007. Conference registration is open to all professionals with a vested interest in future of the swine industry, including members of both the industry and academic research community, members of regulatory and governmental agencies, as well as producers and breed associations. Students and early career professionals are especially encouraged to attend. However, to optimize interaction among participants, registration is limited to the first 120 applications received.

A complete program as well as registration information is available on the Discover Web site at www.adsa.org/discover.

Sow Productive Lifetime Program Committee: David J. Meisinger, U.S. Pork Center of Excellence, Committee Chair; Mark Boggess, National Pork Board; Stanley E. Curtis, University of Illinois; Anna Kerr Johnson, Iowa State University; Locke Karriker, Iowa State University; Donald C. Lay, Jr., USDA-ARS; Mark A. Mirando, USDA-CSREES-NRI; Don Orr, JBS United, Inc.; D. Steven Pollmann, Murphy Brown LLC; and Ken Stalder, Iowa State University.