

## RECIPE CORNER

## SUDOKU



We strive to remain a profitable, growing operation that will produce quality crops to fulfill world demand, using environmentally sound practices.

### Pork Tenderloin with Mustard Sauce

Total time: 45 minutes - serves 6

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 pork tenderloins (1 pound each)
- ¼ cup whole-grain mustard
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 2 tablespoons reduced-fat sour cream
- Coarse salt and fresh ground pepper

#### DIRECTIONS

- Heat the olive oil in a large straight-sided skillet over high heat. Season the pork with salt and pepper. Cook until brown on all sides, 5 to 6 minutes.
- Reduce heat to medium-low. Cover; cook, turning the pork occasionally, until an instant-read thermometer inserted into the centers registers 150° F, 20 to 25 minutes. Transfer the pork to a plate (reserve the skillet with juices); cover with foil. Let rest 10 minutes.
- To the skillet, add both mustards, sour cream and any accumulated pork juices from the plate; whisk over medium heat until heated through (do not boil). Add water if sauce is too thick. Slice the pork; serve with the pan sauce.

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		7	6		1		2	5

### PRODUCING FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

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### I-80 Farms Vision Statement

To produce quality crops through a profitable farm operation which will help sustain world demand for environmentally safe food and fuel. This will be accomplished by intelligent risk management, effective marketing strategies and overall great leadership. The foundation supporting our overall vision is formed by our strong family values and reputation for honesty, hard work and integrity.

# The I-80 Informer

Volume 3, Issue 1

Winter

## I-80 Fall/Winter News Report

by William J. Talsma, President

I'm sitting here, today, in my office and looking out the window. It is snowing, lightly, after a week of unseasonably warm weather. As I look out my other window, towards the shop, the guys are busy getting the equipment ready for the upcoming spring. A dozer is being serviced, a planter is being rebuilt, GPS is being installed on a tile plow, and a tanker is being prepped to haul fertilizer and herbicides to the sprayer for the upcoming spring.

The last time I was writing an article for the newsletter, was just before harvest. At that time it was raining and we were wondering what the fall harvest was going to be like. I guess the rainfall always averages out, because it was the nicest fall harvest in my 30 years of farming. Once we began to harvest the crops, it quit raining and we never did stop until the last bushel of grain was hauled in. It was a PERFECT HARVEST!

The yields varied, with very poor yields in the areas that received excessive rainfall. Yields improved as we moved north, where less rainfall was received. We had areas that flooded that were not harvested at all.

We managed to get all our fertilizer applied, this past fall, including NH3. We feel good about having it applied, because of today's price of fertilizer, fuel and other crop inputs.

I am concerned about world stability with what is happening in the Middle East and other parts of the world. I think this is the wildcard as to whether or not the economy will recover in the near future. As I end this article, I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication over this past year. We worked many hours straight without a break. We had a great crew working for us and they all seemed to enjoy being part of the team. To top the year off, we had a very nice Christmas party at A.J.'s Steak House in Altoona. We wish to have the same crew back this coming fall.

I also say "thank you" to all our landowners, suppliers and business partners for the opportunity to work with you. On behalf of I-80 Farms, we look forward to a safe and successful 2011!



A stainless steel tanker is prepared to haul fertilizer and herbicides.



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# Construction Projects for 2010-2011

by David Talsma, Vice President, Operations

The weather of 2010, again, put all of the conservation structures to the test. Everything from tile lines to the main river systems received some kind of damage.

Overall, I-80 Farm's structures held up fairly well. The terraces all held up well. Most of the waterways held up through the rains, though several needed to be repaired or replaced.

We had a lot of tile lines break or blow apart. Most of the lines were old clay lines installed 40 to 50 years ago. With this much age on the lines, potential problems were present; however, the actual evidence did not become apparent until the lines were put under the test and stress of 2010.

Tiling materials have improved in quality. The plastic that is used with new tiling or repairs holds up and seldom needs repairs or replacement.

We lost two river dikes during the 2010 record flood on South Skunk River. This is the same river that flooded Colfax, IA. Several bridges and creek crossings received damage along with some stream banks.

Last fall, before harvest, we repaired the bridges and creek crossings so we could proceed with harvest. After the harvest we started to repair waterways, stream banks and river dikes. We completed the stream banks and river dikes and approximately 70% of the waterways before winter set in. We will finish

the remainder of the waterways this spring. The broken tile lines will also need to be repaired this spring.

This winter, we have been breaking up concrete and hauling to a river dike for rip rap (for erosion control). This has been an ongoing project for several years as we find the available concrete from different sites.

As for new projects for 2011, we are constructing three new wetland projects, totaling 110 acres. We will also be completing some tiling projects and finishing up on repairs from the 2010 flood damage.

# Visit from South African Delegation

by GeorgAnne Talsma, Office Manager



South African delegates meet with I-80 Farms staff.

On November 12, 2010, I-80 Farms had the opportunity to host a group of six delegates from South Africa. Their interest was in observing uses and acceptance of agricultural biotechnology and to understand farming technology practices in the Midwest.

The delegates from South Africa came from various talent pools, including researchers for biotechnology, microbiologists, and agronomists. They were very interested in GPS and the grid soil sampling and mapping for our farms. The maps showed them the various soil types for each farm and the fertilizer and lime requirements. This is used to assist us with using variable rate technology for seeding and fertilizing our

crops (i.e. if there is a sandy area, we can cut back on applying excess fertilizer and seed and in rich soil, fertilizer and seed are increased accordingly).

We showed them around in our shop so they could see some of the equipment we use to plant and harvest with. The tour also included a visit to our grain handling system, which consists of ten grain bins, two grain legs and a conveyor system.

We all enjoyed the question and answer session, as well as comparing and contrasting farming techniques between the Midwest and South Africa.



Maintenance work on grain system.



Harvest 2010.



Tile plow with newly installed GPS.



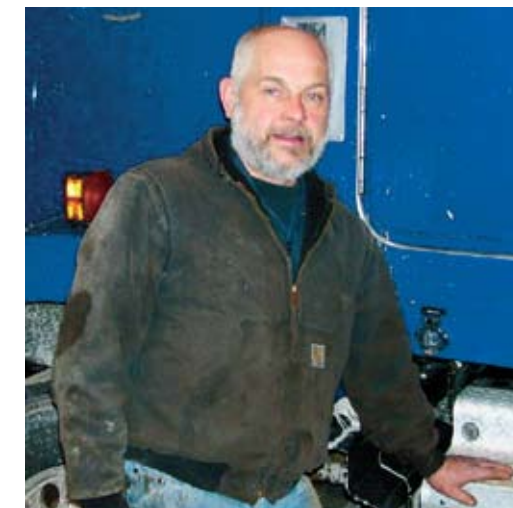
The wetlands project will continue into 2011.

# Todd Gorman, Diesel Mechanic

I am a diesel mechanic in Bondurant, IA. I work for I-80 Farms on a part-time basis, i.e. on my days off, nights and weekends. I have worked for I-80 Farms for approximately five years, maintaining trucks, trailers and other equipment, as needed. It is my job to keep the equipment safe and in good working condition. I spend the majority of my time in I-80's shop, but I am also available via phone, to talk through issues, if possible.

During the fall harvest I help haul grain from the fields to the bin site and other farm storage locations. I really enjoy the harvest. It gives me a chance to operate the trucks and to determine if there are potential problems. I do this to help avoid any potential downtime. I am pretty versatile, always up for a challenge. Everyone at I-80 Farms is very helpful and quick to answer any questions and help out, as needed.

Wendy and I have five children; Dylan, Jessie, Andrew, Jared, and Tanner.



Todd Gorman

MCHUMOR.com by T. McCracken



"So, Jack, did you use compost or chemical fertilizers?"



This waterway was rebuilt in fall 2010.