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U.S. PORK CENTER OF EXCELLENCE ANNOUNCES RELEASE DATE FOR NATIONAL SWINE NUTRITION GUIDE

AMES, Iowa – The United Soybean Board funded National Swine Nutrition Guide—a collaborative project by the U.S. Pork Center of Excellence, several land grant universities, and the commercial feed industry— will be completed this fall. The guide includes nutrition fact sheets, diet evaluation software and educational training sessions.

The National Swine Nutrition Guide will include 35 fact sheets written collaboratively by university swine nutritionists and industry specialists. The fact sheets will be available electronically on the Pork Information Gateway at <http://www.porkgateway.org> and in print from the U.S. Pork Center of Excellence, Extension Service and in the Pork Industry Handbook.

Diet formulation and evaluation software is also being developed for inclusion with the guide. The software was developed by Garland Dahlke of Iowa State University. Duane Reese, extension swine nutritionist from the University of Nebraska, said, “The intent was to develop a very functional and user-friendly tool that producers and extension consultants could use to develop and evaluate diets. This tool uses a feed library with all the current nutrient requirements and bases the diets on the productivity of the herd.”

After the guide is complete, members of the steering committee will begin regional training sessions on the use and application of the guide and the software. Training sessions will begin in January and will be held in Indianapolis, Ind.; Pullman, Wash.; Kansas City, Mo.; North Carolina; Sioux City, Iowa and Owatonna, Minn. More information about the sessions will be sent out as it becomes available and posted at <http://www.usporkcenter.org>.

The U.S. Pork Center of Excellence was established in 2005 as a public/private partnership to bring together academic expertise in research, teaching and extension related to pork production. The center is housed at the National Swine Research and Information Center on the Iowa State University campus. It includes two governmental agencies, the national pork industry associations, 17 state pork producer associations and 28 land-grant universities.