



# The Farm Link

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Publication of the AgEdS 450 Class and the Ag 450 Farm – An ISU Student Managed Farm

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### 450 Class Officers

#### Chairman

Andrew Knaack

#### Vice Chairman

Ryan Adkins

#### Secretary

Louise Knop

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## Fall 2006 AgEdS 450 Class

Fall 2006 has been a busy semester for the AgEdS 450 class. This semester took action on several major changes. The biggest decision the class made was to depopulate its swine herd and to switch to a contract finish operation. A new feature to the farm is a new agriculture mechanic shop. Also, the class created a new promotional video.

## And the Answer is Contract...

After a long process, the Swine Committee has come to a conclusion; no matter what, the hogs need to be depopulated. With the PRRS virus in our herd, the Swine Committee decided that we should depopulate and clean out the whole herd. The committee decided to keep all the sows that had been bred and would farrow by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006. All the other sows and boars would be depleted. There were two reasons why we decided to do this, the first being to get rid of the hogs that we weren't utilizing. Second was to receive the added income that depleting these hogs would give us. We will be cleaning and disinfecting the buildings and then letting them sit empty for six months. The only thing that was in question was do we want to start next year with farrow to finish or contract feeding? The Swine Committee put our class to a vote. Fifteen voted farrow to finish, while sixteen voted contract feeding. We will start repopulating in June when the buildings have been cleaned and sanitized. The next Swine Committee will work with a contractor and feed hogs through them.



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# Spring 2006 Class

## Buildings and Grounds

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Drew Triplett

## Crops

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Rory Degen  
Drew Davison  
Adam Rowe  
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Jake Stein  
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Philip Brown

## Machinery

Ryan Adkins  
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## Public Relations

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**AG 450 Web site**  
www.ag450farm.  
iastate.edu

# Wish Comes True at the Ag 450 Farm

Thirteen year old Sean Dyson was born premature, which caused some physical and mental disabilities, but this hasn't taken away from his captivation with large machinery and farming. When it came to making a decision on where his Wish should be granted through the Make-A-Wish foundation, it was an easy fit for Dyson to travel from his home outside Algona, to Cyclone country and the Ag 450 Farm.



Dyson's Wish Trip started by a two hour drive of anticipation and excitement from his home to the Ag 450 Farm. His mom, Ann Strayer, said he was concerned when he saw so many fields already harvested on the drive south, but he was happy to see fields still to be harvested and the combine ready to go when they arrived at the Ag 450 farm.



Dyson's day at the farm started by deep ripping a field in the farm's new John Deere 8430 tractor with Isaiah Shnurman, senior in agricultural studies. Shnurman said he personally enjoyed the experience and that it was nice to see people appreciate agriculture the way Dyson and his family did. While in the new tractor, Dyson was able to drive some and experiment with all the functions of the tractor including the radio, lights, and turn signals.

The second half of Dyson's farm experience was combining a soybean field with Roger Leininger, Ag 450 laborer and Greg Vogel, Ag 450 operator. Vogel said this was a great opportunity for the Ag 450 farm. He commented that people get busy in the fall with harvest, and it was good for him and everyone at the farm to step back and take care of those less fortunate. Throughout the day, Dyson had a smile on his face stretching for ear to ear. The Ag 450 Farm was grateful to take time to give him a hands on experience.

## ISU Ag 450 Farm 2006 Corn Test Plot Results

Company	Variety	Bu/Acre Yld.	% Moisture	# Test Wt.
Pioneer	33H26	258.23	16.1	5045
Garst	8482	245.71	17.3	4870
Mycogen	2M746	238.33	15.9	4645
Garst	8248	238.08	18.7	4800
DKC	62-31	236.14	16.4	4630