

MONTHLY UPDATE

January 2012

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Subscriber Information

This message was sent to you as a benefit of membership in the IBA and/or a subscriber of our monthly newsletter. If you know of a company that would benefit from the Association's advocacy, financial savings and education/workforce focus, please have them contact the Association at 515-327-9156 or email rachelhurley@iowabio.org. Membership details are also available at www.iowabio.org.

If you would like more information on any topic or no longer wish to receive these messages, please email melissa@iowabio.org or call 515-494-9242.

Neighborhood Watch News

News and Events in Iowa
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Partnering for Growth 2012

In 2011, the Iowa Biotech Association (IBA) and the Iowa Innovation Corporation (IICORP) co-hosted the 1st Annual Partnering For Growth Forum, a first-of-its-kind event in the state. This forum demonstrated a successful step in developing an ecosystem tasked with-connecting “problem owners and solution providers”. The IBA, IICORP, Iowa State University, the ag-biosciences business community and the USDA Agricultural Research Services (USDA-ARS) were brought together to connect Iowa businesses & entrepreneurs with commercially-relevant information and technology.

Iowa Biotech Association is excited to announce that it

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IBA Vice Chairman, Tom Swegle, assists with refreshments during the afternoon break at last year's Partnering for Growth Forum.

Neighborhood Watch Cont.

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PFG 2012...

will be hosting a 2nd *annual Partnering for Growth Forum* at the FFA Enrichment Center in Ankeny, Iowa. Last year's event had an impressive turnout and we look forward to seeing many familiar faces this year as well as some new ones.

In order to make this year's event as beneficial as possible, we would like to invite last year's attendees and prospective guests to participate in a brief 10-question survey. Your feedback and comments will help us ensure that the 2nd annual conference accommodates your needs and exceeds your expectations.

-  [Participate in the survey](#)
-  [View the new 2012 Partnering for Growth page on IBA's website](#)
-  [View the 2011 Partnering for Growth page on IBA's website](#)
(includes pictures and presentations)

* * *

i2iowa Investors and Inventors Forum

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The Iowa Economic Development Authority and the Technology Association of Iowa (TAI) are sponsoring the **i2iowa Investors and Innovators Forum**. The forum will match up various stage-entrepreneurs with investors and funding resources.

This forum will connect investors with a portfolio of Iowa companies in four tracks:

- Life and Bio Sciences
- IT and Clean Technology
- Advanced Manufacturing
- General Business

With this track format, investors can focus on the area of

Continued on right

i2iowa...

their primary interest and entrepreneurs will be matched with funders who have an interest in their industry and business stage.

Potential participants take note – **Interested entrepreneurs should apply online by February 7, 2012 via Gust (formerly Angelsoft) at www.i2iowa.com**. TAI is managing the application process and companies will be selected by a panel of expert screeners to make presentations at the Forum.

If you have questions about the Forum, please contact John LaMarche at VentureNet Iowa:

Email: john@venturenetiowa.com

Phone: 515.471.1965 or 515.471.1300

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First Lady Michelle Obama Visits Des Moines – Volunteers Needed

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First Lady Michelle Obama is visiting Des Moines on Thursday, February 9 to commemorate the second anniversary of the "Let's Move" initiative. Mrs. Obama started the program in an effort to improve children's health and reduce obesity. This "high-energy" event celebrates all that Iowa has done to help kids lead healthier lives, advances the greater good of health promotion in youth, and fits nicely with the larger effort to make Iowa the healthiest state in the nation. All of which are consistent with the Triple Solution and our message of Investing in Health to Save on Health Care. Thousands of school children are being invited to celebrate the work of *Let's Move*. Governor Terry Branstad and Former Governor Tom Vilsack also are making plans to participate.



The event is seeking 400 volunteers to assist in the celebration.

Neighborhood Watch Cont.

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Mrs. Obama Visits DSM...

Visit Details:

Day: Thursday, February 9, 2012

Location: Wells Fargo Arena

Anticipated Hours Volunteer Needed: Between 7:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Interested Volunteers Contact: Matt McGarvey at mccgarvey@wellmark.com or 515.376.4819

For more about Mrs. Obama's Des Moines visit <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20120119/NEWS/301190077/Iowa-trips-announced-for-Obama-first-lady>.

To learn more about Let's Move visit <http://www.letsmove.gov/>

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State Science and Technology Fair of Iowa (SSTFI)

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Founded in 1956, the SSTFI is an annual event held in Ames, IA. which showcases the scientific endeavors (and adventures) of Iowa's 6th - 12th Grade students. Last year, IBA supplied a panel of judges and we were enthusiastically welcomed back this year. This event allows IBA and its affiliates to interact with the young biotech community and present a \$2,000 IBA scholarship to the top five entrants of our choosing.

 [Click here to see the IBA webpage from last year's event](#)

 [Click here to go to the SSTFI homepage](#)

This year's event will take place March 30-31. The judging is done during the day on the 30th and the awards ceremony takes place in the evening on the 31st. IBA is reaching out to the community to gather a judging panel of 7-8 members. If you are interested

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SSTFI...

In being on judge on IBA's panel this year, please email Melissa Darling at melissa@iowabio.org. If you are unavailable to assist with this event but know of someone at your company or in the field that would be interested in participating, please feel free to forward Melissa's contact information to them.

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World Food Prize Iowa Youth Institute

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This April, Iowa high school students have a unique opportunity to participate in the first ever World Food Prize Iowa Youth Institute, where they will explore global issues in agriculture and be inspired to pursue educational and career paths in these areas.

On July 17, 2011, Governor Branstad announced in his office, with bipartisan leadership of the Iowa State Legislature present, the creation of a new program to



promote the study of STEM by allowing every high school in Iowa to select its own "Borlaug Scholar" to

attend this all-day Iowa Youth Institute, to be held at Iowa State University on April 30, 2012.

At this inaugural event on April 30, 2012, there are spots for 200 high schools to participate. To immediately involve your school and reserve a spot to participate, contact **Catherine Swoboda**, Director of Iowa Education Programs at the World Food Prize, at cswoboda@worldfoodprize.org or 515-245-3727. Interested students and teachers must register and submit their student's paper by April 1.

For more information, please go to www.worldfoodprize.org/iowayouth.

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Neighborhood Watch Cont.

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Nominations for Entrepreneur of the Year

Over the last 26 years, Ernst & Young has recognized more than 8,000 entrepreneurial leaders in business through the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards. They've also seen the community of entrepreneurs grow. In 1986, they held a single award ceremony in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Today, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Program spans more than 140 cities and 50 countries worldwide, and the US program has grown from one award program to 26 regional programs.

Ernst & Young is now looking for new nominations for the 2012 calendar year. They are looking for men and women who have triumphed over adversity and who will help take the standard of excellence to new heights, transform the face of industry, create jobs, and contribute to the vibrancy of communities.

For more information on the program, nomination eligibility, and the application process, please go to www.ey.com/us/eoy.

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STEM Education

(Science, Technology, Engineering, Math)

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Dr. Jordan Cohen, University of Iowa Vice President for Research and Economic Development is teaming up with Kemin's Alissa Jourdan and IBA's Rachel Hurley to form the Lt. Governor's STEM Subcommittee – Public Private Partnerships. This subcommittee is reaching out to the community for

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STEM Education...

feedback on communication strategies to focus on helping all Iowans to understand the critical importance of a future science and technology workforce and the importance of strong STEM educational programs in our schools. They have set forth the following goals:

- 1) Identify public, non-profit and private sector resources with the potential to augment formal and informal educational programs and enhance Iowa's commitment to education reform.
- 2) Develop an action plan with specific recommendations for leveraging these resources to enhance STEM preparedness in preK-16.
- 3) Clearly define and communicate the important link between enhanced STEM preparedness and success of Iowa's vision for an innovation driven business economy.

As a means of reaching their goals, they will be reaching out to companies to discuss their current STEM involvement, which could include:

- Support of career fairs
- Support of Science competitions
- Support of science museums and other informal science education activity
- Support of school or organizational programs activities – e.g. Iowa Bioscience, Technology Association of Iowa, 4H, etc
- Sponsorship of speakers
- Creation and distribution of educational material related to workforce needs
- Direct participation by your employees in school related activities
- Internship opportunities
- Summer or sabbatical experiences for teachers
- Donation of equipment or access to your facilities and expertise individuals by schools

The subcommittee asks for your assistance to meet their goals by [clicking here](#) and answering five brief questions. By participating in this survey, you will help to encourage the growth and development of STEM education in Iowa.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

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[BioProducts Committee Meeting](#)

FEBRUARY 23, 2012 / DES MOINES, IA

The BioProducts Committee is a consortium of industrial and academic innovators who utilize raw and composite renewable, recyclable, and biodegradable materials in commercial products and energy consumption. Meeting on a quarterly basis, the Committee's mission is to make Iowa a leader in biobased materials and be a leading resource for research, engineering, development, and production of bioproducts



[Iowa 4-H Foundation's 3rd Annual Gala](#)

FEBRUARY 25, 2012 / DES MOINES, IA

This 2012 event will mark the 3rd annual Iowa 4-H Gala. This formal event includes food, entertainment, and a variety of opportunities to support the Iowa 4-H program. There will be a short presentation from the 4-H Program as well as contests and silent and live auctions.

[STEM Day at the Capitol](#)

MARCH 7, 2012 / DES MOINES, IA

(Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Legislators will enjoy a transformation of the Capitol rotunda to a STEM showcase. Both the Governor and Lt. Governor are scheduled to speak, reinforcing their commitments to STEM education. The event is sponsored by the Iowa Mathematics & Science Education Partnership and is [open to the public at no cost.](#)



[ISPE's Midwest Chapter Plant Tour & Dinner Event](#)

MARCH 8, 2012 / AMES, IA

This year's topic: "Understanding AAALAC International's Approach and Future Challenges to Animal Program Accreditation Globally". The USDA National Center for Animal Health is offering a day of presentations and facility tours to the public. Guest speaker Christian E. Newcomer, V.M.D., M.S., DACLAM will provide a presentation on AAALAC and dinner will be served afterward.



[2012 LIFE SCIENCES & HEALTHCARE VENTURE SUMMIT](#)

MARCH 28, 2012 / NEW YORK CITY, NY

This event, hosted by youngStartup Ventures, is the premier industry gathering connecting venture capitalists, corporate VCs, angel investors, technology transfer professionals, senior executives of early stage and emerging growth companies, university researchers, incubators and premier service providers.

UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED

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[World Food Prize Iowa Youth Institute](#)

APRIL 30, 2012 / AMES, IA (ISU)

Iowa high school students have a unique opportunity to participate in this first ever event where they will explore global issues in agriculture and be inspired to pursue educational and career paths in these areas. Selected students will present essays in small discussion groups led by experts in research, industry and policy. Among other activities, students will spend the day interacting with these experts and ISU students pursuing majors in STEM and related fields.



[Bioindustrial Innovation Centre \(BIC\) International Conference](#)

JUNE 18-21, 2012 / SARNIA, ONTARIO

This International Conference provides unique and outstanding opportunities to learn about and discuss the risks to commercialization of bio-chemicals and -products. Share experiences and ideas with industry, government and institutional experts.



[i2iowa Investors and Innovators Forum](#)

APRIL 12, 2012 / DES MOINES, IA

Sponsored by Iowa Economic Development Authority and the Technology Association of Iowa (TAI), the forum will match up various stage-entrepreneurs with investors and funding resources. This forum will connect investors with a portfolio of Iowa companies in four tracks: Life and Bio Sciences, IT and Clean Technology, Advanced Manufacturing, and General Business. With this track format, investors can focus on the area of their primary interest and entrepreneurs will be matched with funders who have an interest in their industry and business stage.



[BIO 2012 Legislative Day Fly-In](#)

APRIL 24-25, 2012 / WASHINGTON D.C.

This event invites biotechnology executives from across the country to go to Washington D.C. for a day and a half of legislative briefings and advocacy. There is **no registration fee for executives** attending the Legislative Day Fly In.

UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED

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[BIO World Congress on Industrial Processing](#)

APRIL 29-MAY 2, 2012 / ORLANDO, FL

The world's largest industrial biotechnology event for business leaders, investors and policy makers in biofuels, biobased products, and renewable chemicals. The event offers unique networking opportunities, an overview of the latest technological developments, and real world scenarios for bringing technological solutions to market.



2012 BIO INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
June 18-21, 2012 • Monday-Thursday
Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, MA

[BIO International Convention](#)

MARCH 26-28, 2012 / BOSTON, MA

This event is the world's largest gathering of industry stakeholders. It offers key networking and partnering opportunities as well as provides insights and inspiration on the major trends affecting the industry.



[2012 NASDA Annual Meeting](#)

SEPTEMBER 12-17, 2012 / DES MOINES, IA

The 2012 NASDA Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardship.



[2012 Partnering for Growth Forum](#)

SEPTEMBER 18-19, 2012 / ANKENY, IA

This event enables Iowa companies to learn about the ARS organization and mission, the research available through the ARS, and the opportunities for commercialization of that research. Through large group presentations, smaller panel discussions and more intimate networking opportunities, companies will learn about particular research assets within each segment of the USDA's ARS as it pertains to their specific industry sector.

Breaking News

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Food & Agriculture



Feed Energy Company Earns **Safe Feed, Safe Food Recertification:**

<http://app.cooleremail.com/v.pl?74043767afd0e6aeedf4af2b2cf787e8bfa46d645a39391>



Fiberight expects **loan guarantee approval** in about six months:

<http://www.ethanolproducer.com/articles/8524/fiberight-expects-loan-guarantee-approval-in-about-six-months>



BIO, ASTA developing guidelines on **biotech trait patent losses:**

http://www.iowafarmertoday.com/news/crop/patent-endings-raise-new-biotech-issues/article_9513fce4-3c92-11e1-b79b-001871e3ce6c.html



Cargill upbeat on 2012 sales of **coconut oil, animal feed:**

<http://www.bworldonline.com/content.php?section=Corporate&title=Cargill-upbeat-on-2012-sales-of-coconut-oil,-animal-feed&id=45727>

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical



Embria Health Sciences wins

Investment in the Future Award

presented by Nutrition Business Journal:

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/nutrition-business-journal-awards-industry-leaders-for-impressive-2011-accomplishments-2012-01-16>



Amgen, Biogen Idec and Momenta Pharmaceuticals get ready to compete in biosimilar markets:

http://articles.boston.com/2012-01-20/business/30644168_1_biosimilars-biotech-drugs-versions-of-conventional-drugs

Amgen **will buy Micromet** for \$1.16 billion:

<http://www.genengnews.com/gen-news-highlights/amgen-ponies-up-1-16b-to-buy-micromet-for-its-mab-technology/81246276/>



Johnson & Johnson launches new **Sundown packaging**, made from **sugarcane ethanol:**

<http://www.packagingtoday.co.uk/story.asp?sectioncode=41&storycode=69140&c=1>

Industrial & Environmental



Iowa Renewable Fuels Association

Demand for E85 in Midwestern states rose in 2011, per Iowa Renewable Fuels & American Lung Association:

<http://www.ethanolproducer.com/articles/8477/e85-on-the-rise>

Thesis Chemistry to build Iowa **biorefinery** using **stover lignin:**
http://www.checkmatepublicaffairs.com/bio-products/bioproductsarticle.php?story_id=3461&mode=simple

Nigerian government has signed a \$2.55 billion development deal with **Global Biofuels:**

<http://biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2012/01/02/profiles-in-scale-up-china-nigeria-ink-deal-to-invest-2-55b-in-15-integrated-biorefinery-projects/>

Joint Bio-Energy Institute streamlines **E. coli** production of **fuel:**

<http://www.wcsh6.com/news/national/article/184339/44/Researchers-develop-bio-fuel-breakthrough?odyssey=mod|newswel|text|FRONTPAGE|t>

Breaking News

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Food & Agriculture



Scientists at Pioneer Hi-Bred, a DuPont Business, are making major breakthroughs in the area of **plant genetics**:

http://www.iowainnovationcouncil.com/en/about_iic/success_stories/

Maine board allows two **new biotech corn products** from Pioneer Hi-Bred International:

http://www.kjonline.com/news/pesticide-board-adds-products-to-list-of-seeds_2012-01-09.html



Monsanto earnings soar on **South American sales**:

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2012/01/05/south-american-sales-boost-monsanto/>

Monsanto's **Roundup Ready alfalfa** satisfies majority of users, survey finds:
<http://www.capitalpress.com/newest/mp-alfalfa-survey-011312>

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical



3-way deal seeks to **develop companion test** for Pfizer's **Xalkori**:

http://www.pmlive.com/pharma_news/pfizer_biomarker_deal_lung_cancer_drug_357067

Pfizer gets FDA approval of **kidney cancer drug Inlyta**:

<http://news.businessweek.com/article.asp?documentKey=1376-LYGWL80D9L3401-56TF060HHV3F99IG2EO6V21U1F>



Bayer Plans 2012 Filing for **Regorafenib** Following **Positive Phase III mCRC Trial Results**:

<http://www.genengnews.com/gen-news-highlights/bayer-plans-2012-filing-for-regorafenib-following-positive-phase-iii-mcrc-trial-results/81246221/>

Ventana, Bayer to collaborate on **companion Dx for cancer**:

<http://www.fiercemedicaldevices.com/story/ventana-bayer-collaborate-companion-dx-cancer/2012-01-17>

Industrial & Environmental

TransBiodiesel enzymes unlock value in **fast-food waste**:

<http://biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2012/01/05/transbiodiesel-enzymes-unlock-value-in-fast-food-waste/>

Mascoma, Codexis Closing in on **Commercialized Cellulosic Biofuels**:

<http://www.checkmatepublicaffairs.com/bio-products/bioproductsarticle.php?storyid=3443&mode=simple>

Renewable Energy Group Tests U.S. **IPO Market** in First Deal of 2012:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-01-18/renewable-energy-tests-u-s-ipo-market-in-first-deal-of-2012.html>

Renewable Energy Group stock to begin trading today:

<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2012/01/19/reg-stock-to-begin-trading-today/>

ZeaChem gets U.S. loan guarantee for **biofuel refinery**:

http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/01/eastern_oregon_biofuel_refiner.html

Breaking News

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Food & Agriculture



Performance Plants Inc. lands deal with Bayer:

<http://www.checkmatepublicaffairs.com/bio-products/bioproducsarticle.php?storyid=3422&mode=simple>

ADM to end production of corn-based plastic in Clinton:
<http://business380.com/2012/01/12/adm-to-end-production-of-corn-based-plastic-in-clinton/>

USDA recommends approval of Dow's herbicide-tolerant corn:
<http://www.capitalpress.com/newest/mp-other-biotech-sidebar-010612>

Krishidhan Seeds working on biotech seeds for dry lands:
<http://www.mydigitalfc.com/news/news-gm-crops-arid-land-252>

Corn and soybean prices continue to rise:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2012/01/03/corn-beans-open-big/>

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Iowa State University Article - From Basic Science to **Combating Hypoxic Tumors:**

<http://www.biotech.iastate.edu/enews/1201.html>

Roche wins landmark FDA approval for drug (vismodegib) targeted at most common skin cancer:
<http://www.fiercebiotech.com/press-releases/fda-approves-new-treatment-most-common-type-skin-cancer>

Roche's \$5.7B Hostile Bid For Illumina Ups Stakes In DNA Tech Race:
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/matthewhepper/2012/01/24/roches-hostile-bid-ups-stakes-in-dna-tech-race/>

Illumina resists Roche bid with shareholder-rights plan:
<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/01/26/us-illumina-pill-idUSTRE80P1S620120126>

Illumina, Life Technologies Add Genome-in-a-Day Machines:
<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-01-11/illumina-life-technologies-add-genome-in-a-day-machines.html>

282 child-specific drugs are in the pipeline:
<http://www.pharmatimes.com/Article/12-01-13/US-pharma-282-meds-for-children-now-in-R-D.aspx>

Industrial & Environmental

Aurora Algae: Making it happen in the Never-Never:
<http://biofuelsdigest.com/bdigest/2012/01/16/aurora-algae-making-it-happen-in-the-never-never/>

Iowa's biodiesel production tripled in 2011:
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20111229/BUSINESS01/111229029/Iowa-s-biodiesel-production-tripled-2011>

Ethanol industry sees a victory in caucus results:
<http://caucuses.desmoinesregister.com/2012/01/04/ethanol-industry-sees-a-victory-in-caucus-results/>

Federal Judge Finds **California's Low Carbon Fuel Standard Unconstitutional:**
<http://www.checkmatepublicaffairs.com/bio-products/bioproducsarticle.php?storyid=3409&mode=simple>

EIA: Ethanol production pushed to new high last week:
<http://domesticfuel.com/2012/01/06/final-weekly-ethanol-production-report-for-2011/>

Breaking News

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Food & Agriculture

Experts say **farming practices** may have **caused biotech corn resistance**:
<http://www.usatoday.com/money/industries/food/story/2012-01-01/corn-crop-problem/52291418/1>

Turkey's OK of corn seen by some as new openness to biotech:
<http://www.todayzaman.com/news-268587-genetically-modified-corn-regulation-sows-seeds-of-discontent.html>

"**Nourishing gene**" discovery could improve **corn yield**:
<http://www.fwi.co.uk/Articles/15/01/2012/130975/Researchers-discover-39nourishing-gene39-in-maize.htm>

England and Japan develop **salt-tolerant rice**, a post-tsunami need:
http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2012/01/23/Genetics-plays-role-in-new-rice-varieties/UPI-48861327364619/

Biotech barley successful in initial year of trials:
<http://sl.farmonline.com.au/news/nationalrural/grains-and-cropping/barley/gm-barley-trial-success/2430826.aspx>

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical

Bristol agrees to **pay \$2.5B** for antiviral maker **Inhibitex**:
<http://dealbook.nytimes.com/2012/01/07/bristol-myers-to-buy-inhibitex-for-2-5-billion/>

Stem cell transplant helps University of Hawaii employee with **3 autoimmune disorders**:
<http://www.kitv.com/r/30189822/detail.html>

Constellation Pharmaceuticals signs \$95M **epigenetic deal**, buyout option with **Genentech**:
http://www.fiercebiotech.com/story/constellation-inks-95m-discovery-deal-buyout-option-genentech/2012-01-16?utm_medium=nl&utm_source=internal

Researchers at **China's Xiamen Innovax Biotech** create world's **first hepatitis E vaccine**:
http://www.innovax.cn/en/news_detail.aspx?newsid=336&CateID=1731

Biomarker test can **measure risk, severity** of heart attack:
<http://www.ibtimes.com/articles/275228/20120102/new-biomarker-blood-detect-extent-heart-attack.htm>

Cellular treatment reverses **aging** in mice:
http://abcnews.go.com/Health/stem-cells-turn-back-clock-aging-mice/story?id=15280185#.TwTW0_LQeJk

Industrial & Environmental

Refiners face up to **\$6.8M** in fines for **failure to use cellulosic fuels**:
http://www.nytimes.com/2012/01/10/business/energy-environment/companies-face-fines-for-not-using-unavailable-biofuel.html?_r=1

Illinois approves **biodiesel blending**:
http://www.checkmatepublicaffairs.com/bio-products/bioproductsarticle.php?story_id=3430&mode=simple

Canadian consul general says **ethanol imports** from **Iowa** rising fast:
http://www.checkmatepublicaffairs.com/bio-products/bioproductsarticle.php?story_id=3446&mode=simple

Half of **incentives** went to **biofuel firms**:
<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20120115/NEWS/301150052/Half-of-incentives-went-to-biofuel-firms>

Vilsack outlines **U.S. plan** to support production of **aviation biofuels**:
<http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/ct-biz-0117-aviation-biofuels-20120117.0.2995108.story>

Breaking News

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Food & Agriculture

U.K. chief scientist supports use of biotech crops:
<http://www.fwi.co.uk/Articles/23/01/2012/131097/Don39t-ignore-benefits-of-GM-says-chief-scientist.htm>

Tories and Labour renew backing for GM food crops:
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/jan/05/gm-food-crops-demand-prices?newsfeed=true>

Corn oil forges a link between ethanol and biodiesel production:
<http://www.ethanolproducer.com/articles/8472/golden-possibilities>

Bill Gates: Countries must embrace high-tech agriculture:
<http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2012/jan/25/gates-defends-focus-on-high-tech-agriculture/?ap>

Healthcare & Pharmaceutical

Maryland stem cell companies advance therapies for diabetes, depression:
<http://www.innovationamerica.us/index.php/innovation-daily/18592-gazettenet-maryland-stem-cell-companies-advance-therapies-for-diabetes-depression>

The Pill That Could Cure Depression
by Growing Your Brain:
<http://gizmodo.com/5874433/the-pill-that-could-cure-depression-by-growing-your-brain>

Report: Stem cell market could reach \$1B this year:
<http://www.healthcarefinancenews.com/news/stem-cell-technologies-market-hit-700m-2012>

Scientists grow Alzheimer's cells for the first time – could lead to treatment breakthrough:
<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/health-news/2012/01/25/scientists-grow-alzheimer-s-cells-for-the-first-time-and-hope-it-will-prove-treatment-breakthrough-115875-23720353/>

UC-Davis uses RNA from stem cells to block Huntington's disease protein:
<http://www.sacbee.com/2012/01/29/4223042/ucd-stem-cell-research-battles.html>

University of Minnesota researchers on the cusp of a diabetes cure:
<http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2012/01/17/diabetes-part2/>

Industrial & Environmental

Bacteria for Biofuel?:
http://www.genomeweb.com/node/1016091?hq_e=el&hq_m=1176116&hq_l=2&hq_v=730ab95e2c

Iowa cellulosic project moves closer to securing \$25M loan guarantee:
<http://blogs.desmoinesregister.com/dmr/index.php/2012/01/20/usda-to-give-25-million-to-wasteethanol-plant/>

GrassRoots Biotechnology seeks to develop hardy switchgrass for biofuels:
<http://www.newsobserver.com/2012/01/23/1798936/making-biofuels-grow-glow.html>

EPA finds palm oil biodiesel doesn't meet minimum GHG reductions:
<http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/articles/8311/epa-finds-palm-oil-biodiesel-doesnt-meet-minimum-ghg-reductions>

In Other News...

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- Iowa State University's 2012 Winter edition of its *Iowa Biotech Educator* newsletter was issued this month, featuring summer workshops, research opportunities, and other biotech news around Iowa. [Click here to view the newsletter.](#)
- The *2012 Welcome Back Legislative Reception* on January 10, 2012 had an impressive turnout with over 300 registered attendees and 100+ elected officials. [See details and pictures of event by clicking here.](#)
- IBA attended the **26th Annual Partnership Meeting** hosted by the **Iowa Business Council**. The Council highlighted key initiatives including the latest results of the Iowa Competitiveness Index. The recipient of the third annual Iowa Partners in Efficiency Award was also announced at the Annual Meeting. Governor Terry E. Branstad and Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds addressed more than 250 business and education leaders, legislators, elected officials, and Iowa Business Council members. Review IBC's presentation from that evening on their website by [clicking here.](#)
- IBA has added a new "*Events Calendar*" to the website. It replaces the previous "Events" page found under the "Resources" tab as well as the "Upcoming Events" banner on the homepage. Please [click here](#) to see the new feature and search for events by each month. You can also see all upcoming events by clicking the "RRS Feed" icon on the Events Calendar page ()

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Speaker Opportunities [\(return to index\)](#)

IBA staff members are available to give 15-60 minute speeches to interested groups, such as Rotary Clubs, trade associations, or civic groups. A broad range of topics could be discussed, included biotechnology, healthcare, food vs. fuel, legislative policy, investment and more. Contact Rachel Hurley at (515) 327-9156 or rachelhurley@iowabio.org.



"Whatever you do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius and power and magic in it." - Johann Wolfgang von Goethe