

# **Crop Adviser Institute - A new path for Continuing Education. (A09-brueland130659-Oral)**

## **Authors:**

- B.A.BrueLand\* - *Iowa State University*
- K.J.Moore - *Iowa State University*
- R.I.Carter - *Iowa State University*
- D.R.Dobill - *Iowa State University*

## **Abstract:**

Advanced training and continuing education are necessary for agricultural professionals as they strive to advance their profession as a whole and maintain their personal certification status in today's dynamic world of crop production. Limited course availability, time constraints, and other factors affect the ability of agricultural professionals to complete continuing education courses. These factors encouraged Iowa State University to develop the Crop Adviser Institute (CAI) whose goal is to provide high-quality, interactive, computer-assisted learning modules to Certified Crop Advisers (CCAs) and other agricultural professionals. These modules help to eliminate many of the temporal, logistical, financial, and other constraints commonly associated with traditional continuing education courses, while at the same time raising the educational bar for distance education materials currently available to CCAs. In addition to providing continuing education courses, the CAI provides links to relevant agricultural information such as news, weather, and market updates as well as many other resources valuable to the ag-community. An overview of the CAI program will be presented.

## **Corresponding Author Information:**

Brent BrueLand	phone: 515-294-7546
Iowa State University	fax: 515-294-1924
4 Curtiss Hall	e-mail: bbruelan@iastate.edu
Ames, IA 50011-1050	

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