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LPE Center News, February 2007

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Nitrogen Availability from Organic Sources is the Topic of March Webcast

Manure and compost do not come with a ‘guaranteed analysis’ label. Nor do they release their nutrients at the same rate as commercial fertilizers. Despite this, there are very compelling reasons for producers to use organic nutrient sources in their cropping systems. The March LPE Learning Center webcast will cover some of the management issues associated with these nutrient sources including:

- Are we able to confidently predict the availability of nitrogen from manure, compost, and other organic sources?
- How do we place an economic value on these sources?

The speakers for this webcast are Dr. Dan Sullivan, associate professor in the Department of Crop and Soil Science at Oregon State University and Dr. Ray Massey, associate professor of agricultural economics at the University of Missouri.

Date/Time: Friday, March 16, 2007 at 2:30 pm Eastern, 1:30 pm Central, 12:30 pm Mountain, and 11:30 am Pacific.

How to Attend: Go to http://lpe.unl.edu/webcast2.html for directions.

LPE Webcasts Approved for Continuing Education Units

Certified Crop Advisor CEUs Approved - The “Pathogens in Animal Manure - Should We Be Concerned?” (Parts 1 & 2) webcasts were approved for one continuing education unit (CEU) each in Soil and Water Management through the American Society of Agronomy Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) program. The “Integrated Nutrient Management and Limits of the Phosphorus Index” webcast was approved for one CEU in nutrient management. Instructions on how to obtain these credits will be posted on the LPE Learning Center home page http://lpe.unl.edu when the quizzes are made available from the CCA program. Future webcasts are being considered for CEUs and information will be posted as each application is approved.

ARPAS CEUs Approved - The American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists (ARPAS) has approved CEUs for three LPE Learning Center webcasts. Future webcasts are being considered for additional CEU opportunities. Instructions for ARPAS members wishing to receive CEUs will be posted to the webcast archive at http://lpe.unl.edu/archive2.html early in February.
Ag Research Service (ARS) Website Offers Many Resources

Have you ever wondered... how rising carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere could impact agriculture? ...if you can build a better compost pile? ...if there are better ways to control pathogens that can contaminate food? If so, access to information about research programs in these and many more areas can be had with a few clicks of a mouse.

The Agricultural Research Service (ARS) website contains a searchable database on the 1200+ research projects conducted by 2000 ARS scientists throughout the United States and overseas. The direct link to the search page is: http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects.htm.

Entering a keyword or topic is an excellent place to start. For example, a search for “phosphorus” yielded links to 69 projects. Clicking on a link brings up an interpretive summary, links to contact information for personnel involved, annual reports, and publications associated with that project.

Additional resources available on the ARS website include:

- Newsroom, with links to Agricultural Research magazine, an image gallery (searchable by keyword), news archives, and a briefing room: http://www.ars.usda.gov/News/News.htm
- Members of the public can subscribe to several Email news lists: http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/lists.htm
- ARS Publications: http://www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=1279
- Ask the Expert: http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/!ut/p/__7_0_A/7_0_1OB?navid=ASK_EXPERT

LPE Learning Center Website Adds Nutrient Resources, Expands the Pathogen Section, and Offers an Archive of Past Webcasts

--Integrated Nutrient Management Resources Released. The Integrated Nutrient Management team has put together a set of resources now available on the LPE Learning website. These resources include:
- A three-part webcast series on nutrient related issues. The January 19, 2007 webcast "Integrated Nutrient Management and Limits of the P-Index" was the first of that series which will continue in February and March.
- “Recommended Reading”, a listing of electronically-available resources targeted for livestock producers and their advisors.
- An invitation to submit questions for a frequently asked questions (FAQs) section that will be made available this spring.

To access these resources go to the LPE Learning Center home page http://lpe.unl.edu and click on the “Nutrients” topic in the lefthand column.

--Pathogen Section Expanded. The Pathogen team has added new frequently asked questions (FAQs) and Recommended Reading Resources to the LPE Learning Center website. To access these resources, go to the LPE Learning Center home page http://lpe.unl.edu and click on the “Pathogens” topic in the lefthand column. Recent additions will be marked with “New!” and their date of release. The team plans to release a third group of FAQs in the near future.

--Webcast Archive a Popular Resource. If you missed a past LPE Learning Center webcast or want to review one, visit the webcast archive page at http://lpe.unl.edu/archive2.html. Webcasts can be viewed in their entirety, or as selected segments. The speaker’s power point presentations, recommendations for additional resources, and summary of the question & answer section are also available for most webcasts.

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