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LPE Center News, March 2008

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LPE Learning Center Webcast Series

Managing Potential Risks from Antibiotics and Hormones in Animal Manure Is the April Webcast Topic

Part two of our series on antibiotics and hormones in animal manure will include a discussion on what we can do to manage risks from these compounds.

Note: This webcast date has changed from previous announcements!!

The speakers are Linda Lee, Purdue University; Keith Loftin U.S. Geological Survey; and Jessica Davis, Colorado State University. For more information view the flyer at: http://pubwiki.extension.org/mediawiki/files/dd/08aprflyer.pdf.

Date/time: Friday, April 25, 2008 at 2:30 pm (eastern); 1:30 pm (central); 12:30 pm (mountain) and 11:30 am (pacific).

How to participate: See the steps at http://www.extension.org/pages/How_Do_I_Participate_in_a_Webcast%3F.

The New LPE Learning Center Website Is Now Live

A comprehensive new web resource on animal manure management is now live. The new and improved LPE Learning Center website is available at http://www.extension.org/animal+manure+management. This web resource represents a year-long effort by over 100 individuals from land grant universities, federal agencies, and agriculture and environmental organizations.

The website includes nine topic areas: environmental planning, feed management, manure nutrient management, manure treatment technologies, pathogens, regulations, small farms, manure storage handling and mortalities, and value of manure. Future plans are to add information about pharmaceuticals in manure, pastured livestock, and air quality issues. Information on the new CAFO regulations will also be added when it becomes available.

If you have a suggestion for topics that should be covered on the website or would like to volunteer to develop information about a topic (webmaster skills not required), please contact LPE Coordinator, Jill Heemstra at jheemstra@unl.edu.

March Webcast
“Antibiotics and Hormones in Animal Manure—Potential Water Quality Impacts”
March 28, 2008 at 2:30 pm (EST)

LPELC Home page: http://www.extension.org and click on “Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Center”.

Continuing Education Units: More...

LPE Coordinator: Jill Heemstra jheemstra@unl.edu

Subscribe to the newsletter or view past issues at: http://www.extension.org/pages/Livestock_and_Poultry_Environmental_Learning_Center_Newsletter
California Panel to Evaluate Manure Treatment Technologies for Dairies

Information about technologies to treat manure from dairy farms will be reviewed by the California Dairy Manure Technology Feasibility Assessment Panel. Data, submitted by companies, will be reviewed by experts from government, academia, industry and environmental groups.

The purpose is to identify feasible and effective technologies to mitigate the environmental impact from the state’s 2000+ dairy farms. A wide variety of technologies will be evaluated and the findings will be posted to an online clearinghouse.

Forms must be submitted by March 27, 2008. To access the review request form, learn more about the panel, read about the 2005 evaluations, or learn about California’s regulatory issues visit: http://www.manureproducts.info.

University of Missouri Professor Remembered as a Mentor

Charles D. Fulhage, professor at the University of Missouri, spent his career helping farmers with manure issues. Extension professionals around the US, found Charlie to be a source of practical information, collaborator and a friend. Dr. Fulhage died February 26, 2008, as the result of a car crash. He was 61.

Dr. Fulhage worked with many producers as well as the Missouri DNR and the US EPA to develop regulations and standards. He led the development of the manure storage section of the national Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship curriculum and contributed to the new LPELC site: http://www.extension.org/pages/Liquid_Manure_Collection_and_Handling_Systems. Dr. Fulhage is survived by his wife, Jane; and a son, Eric.

Impact on Manure Management From Feeding Ethanol Co-products

John D. Lawrence, Iowa State University

The rapid increase in ethanol production has significant impacts on agriculture. One impact is the availability of distillers grains with solubles (DGS) for livestock feed. Inclusion rates will differ with the animal type, but is expected to be relatively low for swine and poultry (15% or less) and higher for beef and dairy cattle (20-40%).

DGS are higher in N and P than corn. Nutrients excreted in the manure are affected, and nutrient management plans for land application should be revisited. While swine and poultry manure nutrients will change little, beef and dairy manure will be significantly higher in P.

A nutrient planning process based on manure samples or excretion models need not change when DGS are fed. However, nutrient plans based on book values will likely underestimate nutrient levels in the manure and underestimate land access needs of a livestock operation. Because of the higher concentration of P in cattle manure, applying manure at levels to provide a single year’s P needs for the crop may not be practical. Less frequent applications containing P for multiple years should be considered.

Ammonia emissions from cattle feedlots utilizing DGS will be higher than feedlots without. This may accelerate discussions on air regulations.

For more information, see the webcast archive at http://www.extension.org/pages/Ethanol_Co-Products_Impact_on_Manure_Nutrient_Management_Webcast

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