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August 2007

LPE Center News, August 2007

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National Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Center

LPE Center News



August, 2007

Connecting Experts With Those Advising Producers

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Webcast Series Resumes With the "Value of Manure in **Energy Production**"

Note: The incorrect date for this webcast was given in the last newsletter. The correct date for this presentation is September 21, 2007.

LPE Learning Center Webcast Series

From campfires in the old west, to the highly engineered systems of today, animal



Bill Boyd

manure has long been recognized as a viable source of energy. What types of technologies are being developed to capture the energy value of manure? What situations are good candidates for these technologies? Bill Boyd, engineer and leader of the NRCS National Manure Management Team will discuss experimental

technologies as well as those that are already being demonstrated and situations for which these technologies are best suited.



Kelly Zering

Webcast Archive

All past LPE Learning Center webcasts can be viewed on-demand.

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LPE Coordinator: Jill Heemstra iheemstra@unl.edu No discussion on this topic is complete without an overview of the economic considerations. Kelly Zering, an economist with North Carolina State University will discuss factors that can affect the economic feasibility of using manure for generating

energy on the farm. More information about this webcast can be found at http://lpe.unl.edu/pdfs/07septflyer.pdf.

Date/time: Friday, September 21, 2007 at 2:30 pm (eastern); 1:30 pm (central); 12:30 pm (mountain) and 11:30 am (pacific).

How to participate: Software requirements and instructions for participating in the live webcast can be found at http://lpe.unl.edu/webcast2.html.

What's Going On in the LPE Learning Center?

Webcast Schedule Coming Soon

The 2008 webcast series is being finalized and will be released in early September. The topics anticipated to be scheduled include pharmaceuticals, market based conservation, dry manure housing systems, innovative manure treatment technologies being explored for commercial application, horse manure management, barriers to implementing nutrient management plans, manure effects on soil, and ethanol co-products and the effects of their feeding on manure management.

The schedule will be linked from the LPE Learning Center home page and will also be posted at http://lpe.unl.edu/webcast.html.

Web Soil Survey 2.0 Is a Comprehensive and Useful Resource

What is the largest natural resource information system in the world? That distinction belongs to the NRCS <u>Web Soil Survey</u> (WSS). This online resource provides soil data and information from the National Cooperative Soil Survey. It includes soil maps and data for more than 95 percent of the nation's counties and NRCS anticipates having 100 percent in the near future.

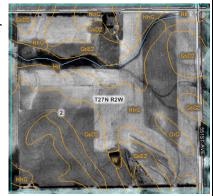
The WSS does not require special software to operate; it is available through your web browser. If it has been a while since you used this resource, you may want to check out the new features in the recently released version 2 such as improved precision in drawing boundaries and custom maps.

The program has several ways to find the area

for which you wish to obtain data including: latitude and longitude, range and township and others. Once you have located the area of

interest, it can be selected and other layers of data added. When finished, you can create and print a custom map.

Future plans for the web soil survey include



the ability to save an area of interest for future sessions, and to search by rural 911 addresses.

The web soil survey can be accessed at http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/.

Spotlight On...

EPA Funded Research Will Examine Hormones in Manure

There is a great deal of research information available about the effects of hormones on the growth rate and feed efficiency of animals, but little is known about the amount and fate of these hormones once excreted in the manure.



This knowledge gap is significant because <u>US</u> <u>Geological Survey</u> and other research has found steroid

hormones in water bodies downstream from intensive animal agriculture production areas.

What happens to these compounds after being excreted by the animal? Are there differences between manure storage, handling, or application practices in the risk of hormones reaching water? If they do reach water, what are the effects on aquatic ecosystems?

To answer those questions, EPA has assembled a multi-disciplinary team from several of its

laboratories. In addition, several other research projects are being funded by grants through the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) STAR program. These projects will begin work in 2007. Information about the projects that were funded can be found at:

http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncer_abstracts/index.cfm/fuseaction/recipients.display/rfa_id/435/records_per_page/ALL

A workshop on the "Fate and Effects of Hormones in Waste from CAFOs" will be held August 20-22. More information is available at: http://www.scgcorp.com/starawards07/index.html.

The LPE Learning Center will also be hosting two webcasts on this topic during 2008.



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