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May 2008

LPE Center News, May 2008

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"LPE Center News, May 2008" (2008). *Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Center Newsletters*. 24.
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/lpelcnewsletter/24>

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LPE Center News



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May Webcast
 “Market Based Conservation: Implications for Manure Management”
 May 16, 2008 at 2:30 pm (EDT) [More...](#)

LPELC Home page:
<http://www.extension.org>
 and click on “Animal Manure Management”.

Continuing Education Units:
 are available through the Certified Crop Adviser program and American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists [More...](#)

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LPE Learning Center Webcast Series

“Managing Manure on Small Farms” Will Be Presented In the June Webcast

“Small farm” can mean many different things. Even though these operations look very different, they all share a common challenge: properly managing manure with limited resources. This webcast presentation will discuss the challenges for small farms, information available to help with environmental issues, and how to develop a nutrient management plan for a small farm.



The speakers are Chris Henry, University of Nebraska; Mark Rice, North Carolina State University; Fred Kelly, USDA NRCS; and Mike Westendorf, Rutgers University. For more information, see the flyer at:

<http://cop.extension.org/mediawiki/files/8/82/08junflyer.pdf>

Date/time: Friday, June 20, 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.

What’s Going On In the LPE Learning Center?

Are We Doing Our Job? Tell Us In the Impact Survey

The LPE Learning Center is nearing the end of its grant funding. In order to determine if we have accomplished our goals and to help find additional sources of funding, we are asking you to fill out a ten-question survey. The survey will help us ascertain what, if any, impact our educational products and programs have had on your professional activities. If you have already responded to the survey—Thank you! If not, please go to:

<http://is-nri.com/take?i=129944&h=km60-gdq-cvG6QOWk5kpVQ>

Coming Soon! Air Quality Series of Webcasts

An NRI-funded project, “Air Quality Education for Animal Agriculture” is set to begin a series of webcasts related to air quality. First up will be a presentation on “Ammonia: A Concern for Air and Water Quality” (anticipated in late June) and will be followed by a discussion of air quality regulations on July 18, 2008. For more information see the [2008 Webcast Schedule](#).

Hot Off the Press! Research Information On Pharmaceuticals and Manure

A hot topic in the news lately has been the issue of pharmaceuticals and their detection in drinking water sources. The science related to this issue is ongoing and new findings continue to emerge on a regular basis. These resources highlight some of the newest data available.



1. [Holly Dolliver](#) and [Satish Gupta](#), University of Minnesota authored these articles published in the Journal of Environmental Quality.

- *Antibiotic Losses in Leaching and Surface Runoff from Manure-Amended Agricultural Land* [\[Abstract\]](#)
- *Antibiotic Losses from Unprotected Manure Stockpiles* [\[Abstract\]](#)

- *Antibiotic Degradation during Manure Composting* [\[Abstract\]](#)

2. The US Geological Survey recently published an article on contaminant occurrence in water. The article includes both human and animal sources of chemicals.

- *A national reconnaissance for pharmaceuticals and other organic wastewater contaminants in the United States — II) Untreated drinking water sources* [\[Abstract\]](#)

Related USGS research information can be found at: [Emerging Contaminants Research](#)

3. The recent LPE Learning Center webcasts on "[Antibiotics and Hormones in Animal Manure](#)" include video segments, power point slides, and links to additional information.

Spotlight On...

Report Is Critical of the Impact of Large-Scale Animal Production

A report recently released by the Pew Commission on Industrial Farm Animal Production (PCIFAP) was very critical of the effects of large-scale animal production. The report has added fuel to an ongoing debate between groups opposed to large-scale agriculture and groups who feel that the current system, while not perfect, is essential for a safe, abundant food supply.

The commission, made up of 15 individuals with a wide variety of expertise and allegiances, studied current meat production systems for two and a half years. The commission examined the impacts on public health, the environment, animal welfare, and rural society.

Environmental impacts cited by the report include difficulties associated with properly managing large quantities of manure, including potential for contamination of water by nutrients, pathogens, and pharmaceuticals. Air

quality impacts highlighted include odors, greenhouse gases, particulates, and pathogens. The report recognized that the industry has acknowledged those impacts, but felt that the pace of change was too slow.



Recommendations made in the report include: banning sub-therapeutic antibiotic use, tighter standards for storing and handling manure, implementing a national animal identification system, and improving animal welfare, among others.

The report can be downloaded at: <http://ncifap.org>



This material is based upon work supported by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, under Agreement No. 2005-51130-03315. Any opinions, findings,

conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.