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July 2007

LPE Center News, July 2007

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"LPE Center News, July 2007" (2007). *Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Center Newsletters*. 14.
<http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/lpelcnewsletter/14>

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Webcast Archive

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

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LPE Learning Center Webcast Series

Webcast Planning Survey Complete-Your Top Picks Are...

Thanks to everyone who took time to complete our webcast planning survey. We were very pleased with the number of responses as well as the comments and suggestions that were received. Twenty-six topics were listed, with each person being asked to vote for the ten they would most like to see presented in a webcast. These results of this survey will be used to plan the 2008 webcast series.

Five topics were rated in the top ten by half or more of the survey respondents. They included:

- Alternative technologies for improving water quality (rated in the top 10 by 59% of those taking the survey)
- Air and water implications of ammonia (57%)
- The physical, chemical and biological impact of manure on soil (54%)
- Concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) regulations, specifically the proposed 2007 changes to the rules (53%)
- Pharmaceuticals and water quality (50%)

The webcast series is currently on "summer vacation" and will return on September 14, 2007 with "The Value of Manure in Energy Production". This presentation will be given by Kelly Zering of North Carolina State University and Bill Boyd, USDA NRCS. The rest of the 2007 schedule can be found at <http://lpe.unl.edu/webcast.html>.

What's Going On in the LPE Learning Center?

LPE Learning Center to be Part of eXtension

Cooperative extension is moving into the 21st century, and the LPE Learning Center is going to be a part of it. eXtension (pronounced e-extension) is a new initiative that seeks to link extension professionals from across the nation with clientele interested in learning more about a particular topic.

Professionals within an area of expertise work together to develop and deliver content. These teams go through an application process to become part of eXtension. The LPE Learning Center has been approved as one of the approximately twenty teams that are currently part of eXtension.

The current content and resources provided through the LPE Learning Center will be greatly expanded over the next few months and released in January, 2008 at its new location and in a new format.

Several teams have already released content at <http://www.extension.org>. These include: horses, personal finance, wildlife damage management and imported fire ants.

Feed Management Fact Sheets Now Available

Thirty fact sheets have been released by the “[National Feed Management Education Project](#)”. This multi-disciplinary, multi-institutional effort, funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is led by Joe Harrison, Washington State University.

Feed management is one of the six core elements of an NRCS Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP). It recognizes the relationship between the amount of nutrients fed to an animal and the amount of nutrients (typically, nitrogen and phosphorus) excreted in manure. This can significantly affect an operation’s nutrient management plan, especially in relation to the number of acres needed to appropriately utilize the manure.

The current release includes general and dairy-related fact sheets. Future series will focus on other species. The fact sheets can be found online at: <http://www.puyallup.wsu.edu/dairy/joeharrison/publications.asp>

EPA Develops A Matrix of Agriculture-Related Regulations

Which federal regulations apply to agriculture? Until now, the answer to that question involved utilizing multiple sources of information and navigating the often-confusing jargon associated with regulations.

A new tool, located within the EPA’s [Agriculture Compliance Assistance Center](#), aims to provide an easy and concise reference to federal environmental regulations that could that may apply to agriculture.

The document “Major Existing EPA Laws and Programs That Could Affect Agriculture Producers” includes information on ten federal laws, from the Safe Drinking Water Act, to the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. The summary of each law explains situations where it could apply to farms or ranches and provides links to additional information.

The document can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/agriculture/law.html>

Spotlight On...

Upcoming EPA Workshop to Focus on Hormones; ASABE Hosts Symposium on Air Quality and Waste Management

Fate and Effects of Hormones in Waste from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations

Hormones are becoming an increasing concern as an animal waste management issue. One reason for this is because their effects are noticeable even when present at very low concentrations.

To stimulate discussions on this issue, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting a workshop on August 20-22, 2007 in Chicago, Illinois.

Registration information is available at <http://es.epa.gov/ncer/events/#aug07>. If you cannot attend the conference in person, arrangements can be made to participate by conference call.

International Symposium on Air Quality and Waste Management for Agriculture

September 15-19, 2007 is the date for a new symposium. It is the result of combining two historic programs, the “International Symposium for Animal, Agricultural and Food Processing Wastes” with “Air

Pollution from Agricultural Operations”.

Air quality topics include dispersion and models, instrumentation advances, monitoring techniques, abatement, atmospheric chemistry, and regulatory factors and standards.

The waste management presentations include nutritional impacts on manure, land application and nutrient management, innovative and alternative manure collection, treatment and utilization strategies, policy and socio-economic implications, and residuals management and recycling from food processing and bio-based industries.

In addition to the presentations, attendees will be able to participate in several tours. For more information: <http://www.asabe.org/meetings/airwaste2007/index.htm>



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.