

LPE Center News



July 2009

<http://www.extension.org/animal+manure+management>

LPE Learning Center Webcast Series

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Looking Forward to the August Webcast:

Evaluating Innovative Technologies Through Farm Pilot Project Coordination

Farm Pilot Project Coordination, Inc. (FPPC) has been involved in 37 demonstrations of innovative manure treatment technologies in 17 states. Throughout the process of selecting, implementing, maintaining, and evaluating technologies, those involved have learned many lessons about making these technologies feasible at a farm scale.



Speakers will include: Bill Boyd of the USDA NRCS and Bob Monley, FPPC, Inc.

Date/Time: Friday, August 21, 2009, at 2:30 pm (EST)/1:30 pm (CST)/12:30 pm (MST)/11:30 am (PST).

How to Participate: On the day of the webcast, go to http://www.extension.org/pages/Live_Webcast_Information. First-time viewers should follow the steps at http://www.extension.org/pages/How_Do_I_Participate_in_a_Webcast? a few days before the webcast to ensure access to the virtual meeting room.

What's Going On In the LPE Learning Center?

July Webcast
 "Carbon Footprint of Animal Agriculture"
 July 31, 2009, at 2:30 pm (EDT) [More...](#)

Archived Webcasts Available 24/7

One of the most common questions we get is "Will this webcast be recorded?" The answer is "Yes!". All of the live LPE webcast presentations are recorded and archived (<http://www.extension.org/animal+manure+management> and click on "Archived Webcasts"). The archive links to 28 webcasts dating back to October, 2006 and includes the presentation, speaker's slides, links to additional information, and more. You can browse the archive by topic or by searching the chronological list.

The presentations include such topics as pathogens, nutrient planning, innovative manure treatment, pharmaceuticals, and more. The national experts presenting on each represent land grant universities, state and federal agencies, private business, and ag and environmental organizations. Certified Crop Advisers and members of the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists (ARPAS) can receive continuing education for viewing the archived webcasts.

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...](#)

Follow the LPELC On Twitter

In addition to the email listserv, you can receive newsletter and webcast postings through Twitter. Go to <http://twitter.com/LPELC> and click on "Follow".

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USDA Economic Research Service Releases Report on Manure for Fertilizer and Energy

Manure is first, and foremost, thought of as a crop fertilizer. Almost 16 million acres receive manure each year. Manure is also receiving greater attention for its potential role in energy production. Will these two uses compete? If more manure is directed toward energy production, how will that impact its use, or value, as a fertilizer? In a recent report to Congress, the USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) answers these questions.

Currently, most manure-to-energy uses are not economically feasible, unless subsidized or incentivized. The societal benefits of using manure as an energy source are causing policy makers to consider implementing incentives or subsidies. One concern about this approach is the potential for

competition with the fertilizer use of manure. The report concludes that this competition is unlikely for two main reasons:

- 1) Most of the energy production technologies do not consume the manure nutrients. The material left after energy production contains much of the original nutrient value and is often in a form that is easier to transport.
- 2) Manure-to-energy projects will be most feasible in areas with large supplies of manure. In these areas, manure nutrients are present in excess, meaning they already have little value as a fertilizer.

The report can be downloaded at:

<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Publications/AP/AP037/>

Spotlight On...

SARE Offers Continuing Education Program

The USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) continuing education program emphasizes core concepts and a basic understanding of sustainable agriculture, its goals, and its relevance to both large and small farming and ranching operations.

The program is designed primarily for Cooperative Extension and NRCS personnel, particularly new staff members, but is also appropriate for other agricultural, natural resource, and community development professionals.

The program includes five courses, two of which are now available, each offered free of charge.

Available courses include:

1. Sustainable Agriculture: Basic Principles and Concept Overview
2. Strategic Farm/Ranch Planning and Marketing.

Courses still in development include:

1. Agroecology
2. Participatory Research and Education Skills
3. Program Planning Skills and Professional Development.

Courses are presented online in an interactive format

and include a variety of activities, real-life examples, and links to other websites that offer information, resources, and assistance to help you in your work. Courses are self-guided and self-paced, so you can complete them on your own schedule.

For more information, go to

<http://sare.org/coreinfo/ceprogram.htm>.

New Climate Change Glossary Available

The Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture has released a new glossary of terms related to climate change, such as “milankovitch cycles” and “eutrophication.” Download “Understanding Common Terms Used in Discussions about Climate Change and Agriculture” at www.leopold.iastate.edu/research/marketing_files/glossary.pdf.



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