

LPE Center News



November, 2007

Connecting Experts With Those Advising Producers

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November Webcast
 "Vegetative Treatment Systems for Barnyard and Open Lot Runoff"
 November 16, 2007 at 2:30 pm (EDT) [More...](#)

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LPE Learning Center Webcast Series

December Webcast Showcases Innovative Manure Treatment Technologies from the SBIR Program

NOTE: The date for this webcast has changed from previous announcements!

Each federal agency has a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program which is intended to encourage small businesses to develop new technologies or practices that will become commercially viable. The December webcast will introduce the animal manure management focus area of the USDA Cooperative State Research Education and Extension (CSREES) SBIR program as well as two projects, currently in Phase II. One project has developed methods for the production and marketing of vermicomposted dairy manure. The other project focuses on processing of poultry manure for production of combustible gases.



Richard Hegg



Tom Herlihy



Mike Serio

The speakers are Dr. Richard Hegg, manager of the SBIR animal manure management program, Tom Herlihy, RT Solutions, Inc., and Mike Serio, Advanced Fuel Research, Inc. For more information about this webcast: <http://lpe.unl.edu/pdfs/07decflyer.pdf>.

Date/time: Friday, December 14, 2007 at 2:30 pm (eastern); 1:30 pm (central); 12:30 pm (mountain) and 11:30 am (pacific). Note the change in date!

How to participate: See the steps at <http://lpe.unl.edu/webcast5.html>.

What's Going On in the LPE Learning Center?

New and Improved LPE Learning Center Website Set for a March, 2008 Launch

The new content-rich LPE Learning Center website will be launched in March, 2008 through the national eXtension initiative (<http://about.extension.org>). Over 100 volunteers from land grant universities, NRCS, USGS, EPA, ARS, environmental organizations, private consultants, and additional agencies, have been contributing information and reviews to the new site.

The central mission of the LPE Learning Center has always been to better connect those who advise livestock and poultry producers with research information. The new website will provide the same reliable, science based, peer reviewed information but will have access to the cutting-edge tools provided by eXtension.

Anyone interested in getting a "sneak peek" at the new website and providing feedback on the content and ease-of-use should contact the LPE Coordinator, Jill Heemstra jheemstra@unl.edu. This "beta-testing" will be conducted in February, 2008.

EPA Ag Star Program Encourages Use of Anaerobic Digesters

The AgSTAR Program is an outreach effort supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Department of Energy. It is a voluntary program that provides information and tools to assist livestock producers that are interested in biogas recovery systems for their liquid manure.

Since the establishment of the program in 1994, the number of operational digester systems has grown to more than 125 across the United States. This has produced methane emission reductions of approximately 80,000 metric tons and energy generation of about 275 million kWh in 2007.



The Ag STAR website includes tools such as comprehensive “how-to” manuals, potential funding sources, market opportunities, technical articles, and a directory of professionals that can assist a producer in designing and implementing a digester, the Ag Star Digest (newsletter), and media articles about digester systems.

<http://www.epa.gov/agstar/resources.html>

The program is hosting a National AgSTAR Conference on November 27-28 in Sacramento, California. More information on the conference, including a list of presentations is available at: <http://www.epa.gov/agstar/conference07.html>

The home page for the Ag STAR program is: <http://www.epa.gov/agstar/>. Questions can be directed to Chris Voell (202) 343-9406 or Kurt Roos, (202) 343-9041.

Spotlight On...

National Air Mitigation Conference Call for Papers Closes December 1

Iowa State University is hosting a national conference, “Mitigating Air Emissions from Animal Feeding Operations: Exploring the Advantages, Limitations, and Economics of Mitigation Technologies”. The program focus is to provide practical information on the use and economics of mitigation technologies for livestock producers and advisers.

The program will take place in Des Moines, Iowa on May 19-21, 2008. Topics will include technical sessions on different mitigation technologies, as well as general sessions on the U.S. regulatory climate, state of the science, and European mitigation efforts.

Currently, the planning committee is soliciting abstracts for consideration. Interested researchers, technology providers, or others are invited to submit a 300 (or less) word abstract



at the [conference website](#) before December 1, 2007. Exhibitor spaces are also available.

“Our goal is for consultants and producers to use the proceedings from the conference as a reference that identifies available tools when considering air emissions mitigation strategies for animal feeding operation.”

Robert Burns, Iowa State University

The conference website is <http://www.abe.iastate.edu/wastemgmt/mitigation.html>. For more information, contact either Dr. Robert Burns, rburns@iastate.edu, 515-294-4203 or Lara Moody, lmood@iastate.edu, 515-294-7355.



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.