

SPREADING LOG

The Professional Nutrient Applicators Association of Wisconsin Newsletter

February 2010

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President

Dana Cook
(608) 963-5447

President-Elect

Abe Lemmenes
(920) 375-0137

Secretary

Mike Schmidt
(920) 382-0629

Treasurer

Matt Thompson
(414) 349-1597

Board Members:

Dustin Ransom
(262) 949-1827

Ernie Sundstrom
(715) 556-8014

Donnie Wohlk, Jr.
(715) 357-3904

Chad Tasch
(920) 375-0900

Kurt Mann
(715) 569-3868

New Officers Elected

The Association welcomes four new board members for 2010. Newly elected are:

3-Year At Large Terms

Mike Schmidt—Schmidt's Pumping, Fox Lake
Matt Thompson—PLUS Solutions, Greenfield



2-Year Terms

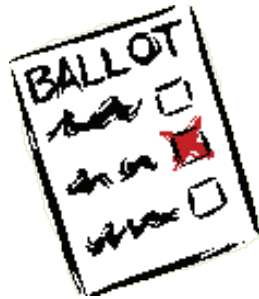
Kurt Mann—After All, Aprin, Central Region Representative
Chad Tasch—Tasch's Custom, Malone, Northeast Region Representative

A big thank you to outgoing board members Travis Bestul, Ryan DeBroux, Dave Eisentraut, and Gary Halopka for their years of service on the board.

Immediately after the annual business meeting, the board selected officers for the coming year.

2010 Officers

President - Dana Cook
President-Elect - Abe Lemmenes*
Secretary - Mike Schmidt
Treasurer - Matt Thompson



Board Members

Dustin Ransom
Ernie Sundstrom
Donnie Wohlk, Jr.
Chad Tasch
Kurt Mann

* Appointed

Swine Manure Safety

The National Pork Board recently released a new fact sheet entitled, "Safe Manure Removal Policies." Copies can be downloaded from the link below or contact Kevin Erb at 920-391-4652 for a paper copy.

<http://www.pork.org/Documents/ManureFactSheet%20112009.pdf>

Level 2 Certification

The goal of PNAAW Level 2 certification is to provide business owners, crew supervisors, and key personnel advanced technical training. Employees who meet the requirements help insure safe and efficient operation of your business, increasing not only profitability, but your ability to meet customer needs as well.

To become Level 2 certified, the following requirements must be met: 1) The firm must be an paid (active member) of PNAAW for each year of certification, 2) The employee must complete 6 hours of Level 2 courses over a two year period, 3) One of the Level 2 Courses must include a Regulatory Update.

Once certified, the employee must maintain the three requirements to retain their certification. Ideally, at least one Level 2 certified person should be on each job site at all times.

Individuals who met Level 2 requirements for 2008-2009 are listed below, and will be receiving recognition in the near future. Another 40+ people have met the training requirements for 2009-2010, and that list will be published in the newsletter after membership renewal notices are mailed.

After All, Inc.

Kurt Mann

Apple Valley Agri.

Charlie Rihn

Brandon's Farm Services, LLC

Brandon Schilling

Braun Electric, Inc.

Rick Braun

Broughton Trucking

Brent Broughton

Cauffman's Slurry Transfer

David Cauffman, Jr.

Cook's Countryside Trucking

Brent Cook

Michael Husom Cook

Monte Cook

Tom Baars

Ron Richards

George Straubhaar

Jeffrey Imhoff

DeBroux Custom Work, LLC

Ryan DeBroux

Delmec Farm Custom Slurry Hauling

David Delp

Eisentraut Ag. Services

Robert Jennerman

Scott TeBeest

Halopka Pumping

Casey Halopka

L&M Industries

Noel Marcks

George Lorenz

Lundeen Farm Automation

Steve Lundeen

Neumann Agriprises

Bill Neumann

Paul Londo

PLUS Material Solutions, LLC

Matt Thompson

Practical Applications

James Bignell

Right Way Application

Brandon Vogel

April Vogel

Russell Robaidek, Inc.

Tim Frisch

Robert Kruschke

Eric Vanderwalker

T-K Ag Works, LLC

Tim Ransom

Triple C Pumping

Craig Edler

Waste Control Services

Dale Maass

Ron Tauscher



Highlights From the Annual Meeting

- Tim Harrigan presented a summary of his research looking at nitrogen (ammonia) losses from surface, injected and incorporated manure applications--and many were surprised to see how much is lost in just the first 24 hours. Weather conditions (temperature) play a significant role in nitrogen losses.
- WPDES (CAFO) permits now require an in-field determination of the water table level in the soil prior to manure application on fields containing soils that have a high seasonal water table (W soils). Applicators should work with the farmer and nutrient management plan writer to determine who is responsible for making the required checks. The farm has flexibility in determining how this check will be made.
- Kevin Erb presented a summary of the PNAAW statewide assessment of manure spills and incidents. ~30% of incidents are transportation related, ~30% are land application related and the remaining 40% occur at the farmstead. April and August are the two highest months for manure storage overtopping.
- Representatives from the MN Association discussed the new regulations requiring advance permits for laying dragline in road ditches (rights of way) and culverts, and the post-application inspection.
- The association voted to bring the Manure Expo back to Wisconsin for 2012.
- Kevan Klingberg from Discovery Farms showed the results of their edge of field monitoring of nutrient and sediment losses from fields that received manure and commercial fertilizer. The greatest percentage of losses can be pinpointed on just a few very heavy runoff events.



Level 1 Training Scheduled

PNAAW and UW-Extension will be offering Level 1 training and the exam at several locations around the state in the next few weeks. Pre-registration is requested at least four business days in advance to insure enough manuals and handouts are available. The fee is \$5 per person by the deadline, \$10/person after and at the door. Training is open to any commercial applicator, however you must be a paid active member of the association to become certified. Dates, locations and registration information is as follows:

Abbotsford: March 31, 2010 from 1—3:30 pm at the City Hall. Contact Jerry Clark at 715-726-7950.

Belmont: March 2, 2010 from 10 am—3 pm at the Baymont Conference Center (lunch on your own). Pre-registration deadline is Feb. 25, 2010. Contact Ted Bay at 608-723-2125.

Chilton: March 3, 2010 from 6—9 pm in Room 025 at the Courthouse, 206 Court Street. Pre-registration deadline is Feb. 26, 2010 (limited to first 50 registrants). Contact Kevin Erb at 920-391-4652.

Green Bay: February 24, 2010 from 1—4 pm at the Extension Office, 1150 Bellevue Street. Pre-registration deadline is Feb. 22, 2010. Contact Kevin Erb at 920-391-4652.

Chippewa Falls/Rice Lake: To be scheduled. Contact Jerry Clark at 715-726-7950.

Level 2 Training

The Level 2 Regulations/W Soils training will be offered as part of the March 2, 2010 training in Belmont. If interested in attending just this session, please contact Ted Bay at 608-723-2125.

Air Regulations for Your Customers

On December 29, 2009, a new EPA federal requirement for reporting Greenhouse Gases (GHG) went into effect. The rule requires reporting greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from large sources and suppliers in the United States, and is intended to collect accurate and timely emissions data to inform future policy decisions. However, EPA has halted implementation of these reporting requirements for manure management due to Congressional budget restrictions. The simple way to state this is that the law is effective, but there is no money for implementation of reporting requirements during this fiscal year (October 1, 2009 through September 30, 2010).

So far, only the largest farms are affected--In Wisconsin, it will be less than 10. How does this affect you? If a client has a facility over the size listed in the following table, they should begin keeping records to determine if they meet the emissions reporting threshold.

Table JJ-1 of Subpart JJ--Animal Population Threshold Level Below which Facilities are not required to report Emissions under Subpart JJ^{1,2}

Animal Group	Average Annual Animal Population (Head) ³	
Beef	29,300	
Dairy	3,200	
Swine	34,100	
Poultry	Layers	723,600
	Broilers	38,160,000
	Turkeys	7,710,000

Facilities that emit 25,000 metric tons or more per year of GHG emissions are required to submit annual reports to EPA. Manure Management sources are required to report under Subpart JJ.

The law requires emissions calculations begin January 1 with the first reports due March 2010. It is unclear at this time if: 1) reporting requirements would begin if budget constraints are lifted at the beginning of the next fiscal year, (October 1, 2011), 2) the reporting deadline will be extended if budget restraints are lifted, 3) if you need to be doing calculations now for reporting in the future, and 4) how EPA will address these issues. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Additional Resources:

Livestock and Poultry Environmental Learning Center webcast "Greenhouse Gas Emissions Estimation and Reporting" at:

http://www.extension.org/pages/Greenhouse_Gas_Emissions_Estimation_and_Reporting

EPA's Greenhouse Gases Rule Web Page:

<http://www.epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ghgrulemaking.html>

Does a Custom Manure Hauler Need to Be a Certified Pesticide Applicator to Apply Instinct?

Roger Flashinski, Pesticide Applicator Training Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Kevin Erb, UW-Extension Environmental Resources Center

A limited number of PNAAW members have been looking at or using Dow's Instinct on a trial basis. Instinct is a manure additive that reduces nitrogen losses, reducing environmental losses that cut corn yields and potentially impact groundwater. Different agencies within Wisconsin have given different interpretations as to whether a commercial pesticide applicator license is needed by a professional manure applicator (or farmer) when using this product. The information below should help clarify the situation.

The Question

Instinct, like N-Serve, is a nitrogen stabilizer to inhibit the bacteria that naturally convert N from the ammonium form to the mobile nitrate form. Unlike N-Serve, however, Instinct is a microencapsulated formulation that remains stable on the soil surface for up to 10 days, allowing growers flexibility in fertilizer application and incorporation and, thus, making it an ideal choice when applying liquid manure. But, like N-Serve, it too is registered by EPA as a pesticide so the question came up whether a custom manure hauler applying manure containing Instinct needs to be a certified and licensed pesticide applicator.

The N-Serve Example

Not too long ago, a similar question was asked whether a co-op employee needs to be a certified and licensed pesticide applicator when applying N-Serve and the answer to that question is 'no'. The reason for this is two-pronged: first, the application of N-Serve, a pesticide, is to the fertilizer itself with the purpose of protecting the fertilizer and, as such, the fertilizer with N-Serve is considered a "treated article," exempt from further EPA regulation. Second, the untreated fertilizer in most cases is owned by the co-op, and being N-Serve is a non restricted-use pesticide, a co-op employee may mix (add) N-Serve to the nitrogen fertilizer without being certified or licensed. And being the co-op applicator is applying a treated article, even if the article was previously treated with a restricted-use pesticide, that person too is not legally required to be certified and licensed (A detailed discussion on N-Serve and pesticide certification requirements may be searched in the Wisconsin Crop Manager newsletter archives (ipcm.wisc.edu)).

So, if a co-op employee does not need to be a certified and licensed pesticide applicator to mix and/or apply N-Serve, and because Instinct is protecting the nitrogen in manure making it a treated article as it is with ammoniacal fertilizers protected by N-Serve, it would seem logical that a custom manure hauler also would not need to be a certified and licensed pesticide applicator when mixing and/or applying manure treated with Instinct. To answer this question, we have to separately discuss the handling task of mixing and the handling task of applying. The reason why the handling tasks of mixing and applying becomes important boils down to who owns the fertilizer product at the time Instinct is mixed or applied. When dealing with N-Serve, we indicated that in most cases the co-op owns the fertilizer. But when dealing with Instinct, it is typically the farmer who owns the manure, not the manure hauler.

The Answer to Different Scenarios

Mixing (adding) Instinct with manure. Farmers may mix Instinct with manure, and load and apply this manure to property in their control, without becoming certified pesticide applicators because Instinct is not a restricted-use pesticide. Uncertified farmers also are allowed to mix, load, and apply Instinct for up to three different producers not to exceed 500 total acres in any one calendar year. However, any farmer exceeding these allowable limits would require certification and licensing as a commercial pesticide applicator in the Field & Vegetable Crops category. Likewise, an uncertified farmer may mix Instinct to manure they own prior to application by a custom manure hauler.

If a custom hauler mixes Instinct to manure owned by the farmer, then he/she would need to be certified and licensed as a commercial pesticide applicator in either the Mixer/Loader category (mix and load pesticides) or the Field & Vegetable Crops category (mix, load, or apply pesticides). Wisconsin law requires that commercial applicators for hire must be certified and licensed to mix, load, or apply any pesticide, whether or not the pesticide is restricted-use.

Applying manure pre-mixed with Instinct. If the farmer premixes Instinct with manure before application by a custom hauler, the hauler would not require pesticide applicator certification and licensing to apply the manure because it is considered a treated article (the very same reason why a co-op employee is exempt from pesticide applicator certification and licensing when applying a fertilizer already treated with N-Serve).

Applying manure and Instinct simultaneously. If the farmer-owned manure and Instinct are applied or injected simultaneously by a custom hauler/applicator, the person performing this operation must be certified and licensed as a commercial pesticide applicator in the Field & Vegetable Crops category because this is considered a for hire pesticide application (also true of a co-op employee injecting N-Serve to farmer-owned nitrogen fertilizer). This would include situations where the custom manure applicator's pumping equipment has been modified to add the product as the manure is pumped from the manure storage.

The Bottom Line

Any custom manure applicator employee who mixes or applies manure containing Instinct needs to be licensed as a Commercial Pesticide Applicator in the Field & Vegetable Crops category. You may take the exam (by appointment) at DATCP regional offices around the state. The UW Pesticide Applicator Training Program offers four training sessions each year--employees may attend the training and take the exam the same day. More information and dates can be found online at <http://ipcm.wisc.edu/pat> (note no WWW in the address). You must pre-register for the courses at least 14 days in advance. It is important to note that the private pesticide applicator training offered at Extension offices around the state is ***not*** the same as the Commercial training and exam.

Tip of the Month: What to do When Employees Resist Change?

Change is never easy--whether it is big (adding a dragline to a tanker operation) or small (daily equipment inspections). Some thoughts on making it easier for your employees and crew chiefs.

UNFREEZING

Share reasons: Share the reasons for change with employees.

Empathize: Be empathetic to the difficulties that change will create for managers and employees.

Communicate: Communicate the details simply, clearly, extensively, verbally, and in writing.

CHANGE

Explain: Explain the benefit, "what's in it for them."

Champion: Identify a highly respected manager to manage the change effort.

Create opportunities for feedback: Allow the people who will be affected by change to express their needs and offer their input.

Time it right: Don't begin change at a bad time, for example, during the busiest part of the season.

Offer security: If possible, maintain employees' job security to minimize the fear of change.

Educate: Offer training to ensure that employees are both confident and competent to handle new requirements.

Don't rush: Change at a manageable pace.

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What to Do When Employees Resist Change—Chuck Williams: Page 127

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