

2005 Manure Applicator Certification Program
July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005
Agreement Number 05-7112-01
Final Report

Introduction

In 1998, the Iowa Legislature passed HF 2494. This bill required certification of commercial manure applicators and confinement site manure applicators with operations of a designated size. Legislative changes (HF 644) again in 2003 required rule changes for the 2004 program. These changes primarily dealt with the administrative changes to the commercial manure applicator program. The new law required manure application businesses to hold business licenses and allowed fees to be set for businesses, managers and employees. The purpose of this project, entered into by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and Iowa State University Extension (ISUE) was to develop manure certification training and testing materials and to conduct certification workshops for commercial manure applicators and confinement site manure applicators. This annual report covers the seventh year of the certification program.

Training Material Development

Confinement Site Manure Applicator Program

Training materials for the Confinement Site programs were developed into individual modules. The goal of the module concept was that the material could be used again in future programs with minimal time used in development of the presentation of the materials but instead, time focused on updating the subject matter of each module for future use. The modules are identified at a yearly planning meeting. An Extension campus and/or field specialist or IDNR staff member then develops and presents each module. For some modules, other speakers are identified and asked to participate in the program. The materials are developed into a PowerPoint presentation and then burned onto a CD for use at the annual workshops. Each module may be modified at the local level by extension field specialists to adapt for regional or county use to meet certain manure application practices, crop, soils or topography requirements.

Materials developed for the 2005 Confinement Site Manure Applicator program focused on 1) Review of Rules, Land Application Separation Distances, Fees, Paperwork and Recordkeeping Requirements; 2) Soil Sampling for Regulatory Requirements; 3) Hydrogen Sulfide Emissions during Pumping and Agitation; and 4) Introduction to RUSLE2 and the Iowa P Index and their use in Manure Management Plans. A complete listing of modules by year, and time allocated is presented in Table 1.

Commercial Manure Applicator Program

Materials developed for the 2005 Commercial Manure Applicator program were also discussed at a yearly planning meeting and with input from commercial manure applicators present at the meeting and with NRCS, IDNR, and ISUE field staff. The program materials were delivered with PowerPoint presentations in live format via the annual satellite downlink held on January 5, 2005

The 2005 Commercial Manure Applicator program included the following modules: 1) A Review of Rules, Land Application Separation Distances, Recordkeeping Requirements, Employee Substitution, Paperwork and Fees; 2) Equipment Weight Restrictions; 3) Resources for Commercial Manure Applicators; 4) Injector Effects on Soil Odor, Residue and Manure Incorporation; and 5) Hydrogen Sulfide Emissions during Pumping and Agitation. Complete listing of modules by year, and time allocated is presented in Table 1 (prior to 2001, program was not developed into modules).

Table 1. Certification modules developed and presented at training meetings by program and year.

Year	Confinement Site Manure Applicator Program	Commercial Manure Applicator Program
2001	Sampling Manure 20 min.	Recordkeeping 20 min
	Manure Nutrient Research 20 min.	Emergency Action Plan 30 min
	Emergency Action Plans 30 min.	Rules 30 min
	Rules 25 min	Manure Application Techniques 45 min
	Recordkeeping 25 min	Case Studies 30 min
		Questions and Answers 25 min
2002	Feeding Strategies for Nutrient Management 30 min	Rules
	Equipment Calibration 20 min	Case Studies
	Dead Animal Disposal 30 min	Pumping, Hauling and Land Application Issues
	Equipment Options and Land Application Concerns 20 min	Interview with County Supervisor – road and bridge damage, weight restrictions (video)
	Dry Manure Issues (optional) 20 min	
2003	Phosphorus and Water Quality 40 min	Land Application Rules; Separation Distances and Review of Matrix Implications 40 min + 10 min Q and A
	Review of Rules 40 min	Manure Application Equipment effects on Odor, Residue Cover and Crop Yields 40 min
	Earthen Basin Inspection (video) 20 min	Case Studies and Manure Spill Responses 15 min
	Recordkeeping 20 min	Pollution Liability Insurance 20 min
		Iowa Commercial Nutrient Applicators Association 10 min

		Phosphorus and Water Quality Issues 30 min + 15 min Q and A
2004	Review of Rules; Land Application Separation Distances; Recordkeeping 50 min	Review of Rules; Land Application and Separation Distances; Recordkeeping 50 min
	Manure Spill Response Kit and Simulated Manure Spill (video) 12 min	Manure Spill Response Kit and Simulated Manure Spill (video) 12 min
	Making your Manure Management Plan work for you 20 min	How to Read Manure Management Plans 30 min + 5 min Q & A
	Biosecurity Issues 20 min	Biosecurity Issues (video) 33 min
		Recommendations for Commercial Applicators during agitation & pumping 22 min
	Manure Pit Storage Safety 20 min	Iowa Commercial Nutrient Applicators Association 10 minutes
		How to complete forms and review of fees. 15 min
		Additional Q & A section 22 min
2005	Review of Rules, Land Application Separation Distances, Fees, Paperwork and Recordkeeping Requirements 25 min	Review of Rules, Land Application Separation Distances, Recordkeeping Requirements, Employee Substitution, Paperwork and Fees 30 min
	Hydrogen Sulfide Emissions during Pumping and Agitation 25 min.	Hydrogen Sulfide Emissions during Pumping and Agitation 35 min
	Soil Sampling for Regulatory Requirements 20 min	Equipment Weight Restrictions for 2005 25 min
	Introduction to RUSLE2 and the P Index and their use in Manure Management Plans 35 min.	Injector effects on soil, odor, residue and manure incorporation 45 min
	Question and Answers 15 minutes	Resources for Commercial Manure Applicators 15 min

Supporting Training Materials

Four fact sheets were distributed to manure applicators via the training workshops in 2005. The first three fact sheets, prepared by IDNR and reviewed by ISUE and were distributed to commercial and confinement site applicators. The fourth fact sheet regarding soil sampling was made available to confinement site applicators.

- DNR 113, Separation Distances for Land Application of Manure (revised January 2003)
- DNR 115 Commercial Manure Applicator Certification (revised November, 2003)
- DNR 116 Manure Applicators Certification (revised November, 2003)
- PM 287 Take a Good Sample to Help Make a Good Decision 2003

These fact sheets were also linked on the Manure Applicators Certification web page- a component of the IMMAG web page, and made available at field days, the Iowa Pork Congress and association meetings. Copies of these fact sheets are available in Appendix 1.

Certification Workshops

Confinement Site Workshops

Training workshops for the 2005 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Certification program began in January 2005 and continued through February 2005. There were 72 training workshops held in 70 county extension offices. In addition to the workshops, confinement site applicators were trained by offering a two-hour videotape which could be watched by producers by scheduling an appointment at their county extension office.

Extension staff reported that 1,330 attended the certification meetings, of that number 1,136 confinement site applicators returned evaluations of the program based on the workshop they attended, 111 confinement site applicators returned evaluations from the training in which they watched two-hour video at a county extension office for a total of 1,247 evaluations. A total of 69 training events were implemented for the 2005 Confinement Site program using staff resources of 17 field specialists in Ag Engineering, and Field Crop Specialist in Extension.

Due to the number of confinement site applicators who are currently certified according to DNR numbers, we anticipate that approximately 300-400 more applicators will attend training throughout 2005 to maintain their certifications.

Commercial Applicator Workshops

The 2005 Commercial Manure Applicator program was delivered via satellite downlink on January 5, 2005. This downlink was broadcast to 79 Iowa county extension offices. Three Iowa Counties; Howard, Dickinson, and Winnebago, offered joint training for Minnesota and Iowa commercial applicators to meet the requirements of both states. This joint program was a 4-hour program that covered all the materials presented in the Iowa program and provided one extra hour of rules to meet the Minnesota requirements. This was the fifth consecutive year for this joint effort. Nebraska also offered joint training for Nebraska and Iowa applicators.

Extension staff reported that 361 attended the certification meetings, but ISUE has collected 691 commercial applicators evaluations. From those evaluations, 278 were from applicators who attended the satellite downlink and 411 evaluations were returned from applicators viewing the videotape and 2 applicators watch via web cast.

Portions of the program delivered via the Commercial satellite downlink program were used to develop the training videotapes for both the Confinement Site Applicator and Commercial Applicator program. The module on rules is taped separately for the confinement site program. The satellite downlink was taped and edited accordingly to provide a two-hour and three-hour program respectively. Each county extension office

received one copy of the two-hour Confinement Site Applicator Tape and one copy of the three-hour Commercial Applicator Tape. The tapes were produced and distributed within 2 weeks of the commercial manure applicator program to ensure that applicators had adequate time to view tapes prior to the annual March 1st uniform certification deadline.

Again, compared to the numbers of commercial manure applicators that have been certified in the past as to the number who have attended training this year, we fully expect an additional 200-300 commercial applicators to attend training yet in 2005.

Specialty Certification Workshops/Training

On December 1, 2004, with the permission of IDNR, an applicator workshop was held in conjunction with the Iowa Turkey Grower's annual association meeting at the Hotel Ft. Des Moines in Des Moines. This workshop was open to all poultry producers. This certification meeting provided the same materials as a regular confinement site applicator meeting, but discussion was geared primarily at dry manure issues. A total of eight confinement site applicators attended this workshop.

On February 25, 2005, a workshop was held specifically for dry manure applicators in Clarion, Iowa. This workshop provided the necessary three hours of training for those who were commercial applicators. The confinement applicators who attended this workshop benefited from the extra hour of information. The workshop topics discussed the current regulatory requirements for manure applicators, equipment weight restrictions, dry manure nutrient management, dry manure sales, P-Index manure plans/RUSLE2, and soil sampling. There were 29 applicators who attended this workshop.

Finally, the Commercial Manure Applicator program was also down linked to one County Extension Office in Nebraska. Due to the high numbers of employees in these counties who apply manure in Iowa, the program was coordinated with Nebraska Extension service to offer this training in Nebraska. Recent legislative changes in Nebraska require applicators to be certified, but a formal training program has not been developed.

Certification Workshop Evaluations

Evaluation forms were created with new questions for the applicators pertaining to the material given during the certification process. At the end of each workshop and at the end of each video, the applicators were asked to fill out an evaluation on the information of the material, an overall evaluation, and any changes in their manure management practices. The applicators were also asked if they had or would be willing to adopt the new practices. Some of the practices evaluated in 2005 were as follows:

- 62% of Confinement site applicators have already recognized pit gas issues and have minimized concerns, where as 21% plan to address this issue.
- 54% of Confinement site applicators have developed soils sampling plans, where 34% plan to adopt soil sampling plans.
- 27% of Confinement site applicators have developed and implemented strategies to prepare for P-Index manure plans, and 60% plan to adopt these strategies.
- 52% of Commercial applicators have changed equipment to better address residue or odor concerns, while 13% have planned to adopt these practices due to current training.
- 56% of Commercial applicators have recognized pit gas issues and work with producers to minimize concerns, while 18% plan to address this issue.
- 21% of Commercial applicators have implemented equipment weight restrictions, while 13% plan to adopt this practice.

Again in this year's evaluation of each program two questions were asked pertaining to last year's program and how it changed the applicators' practices. The goal in asking these questions was to determine if applicators who have attended a meeting in the previous year had made changes to the practices they plan to adopt as a result of the previous year's training.

As a result of last year's program:

- 65% of the Confinement site applicators implemented biosecurity measures to reduce disease transmission as compared to the 27% who said they planned to after the previous year's workshops;
- 56% of the Confinement site applicators developed an emergency action plan compared to the 59% who said they planned to;
- 53% of Commercial applicators developed an emergency action plan or spill kit to prepare for manure spill compared to the 37% who planned to;
- 50% of the Commercial applicators worked with producers to maintain residue requirements to implement the P-Index manure plans.

Complete results of program surveys and included in Appendix 2. These results are continuously updated as we receive evaluations from County Extension offices. For the latest version of these files, please access the files on the web at: <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/maceval.html>. Evaluations from the 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004 MAC program are also available at this site.

Advisory Committee

The 2004 advisory committee was made up ISUE campus and field specialists, DNR and NRCS staff and members of the Iowa Commercial Nutrient Applicator's Association. The group met on August 11, 2004 at ISU to review the 2005 program, and discuss the development of the training materials, updates to certification forms,

attendance forms, and other required paperwork including the development of the evaluation forms for both 2005 programs. The committee set deadlines for program material development and review and additional communication was primarily conducted electronically via email.

Staff In-Service

ISU Extension staff involved in delivery of the MAC program were invited to campus on December 2, 2004 to participate in a two-hour in-service training program to review training materials, review how to complete forms and have regulatory questions answered by staff from DNR who also were invited to participate. In addition to this in-service, a one-hour teleconference was held on December 13, 2004. This annual teleconference provides a means to communicate to all County Extension Education Directors and County Office Assistants regarding program requirements and implementation of the program at the county level. The majority of time during this teleconference is spent reviewing all of the forms used in the program and how to help producers complete the forms.

Promotional Materials

Promotional materials used in the 2005 Manure Applicator Certification programs were similar to that of previous years. Brochures were developed for both programs to be used as an informational and recruitment tool. Copies of the brochures are attached in Appendix 3. Copies of the brochures were mailed to all currently certified confinement site and commercial applicators in December 2004. A press release was prepared and was used by county extension offices for local media. Workshop dates were maintained on the MAC section of the IMMAG web site (<http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag>) and were also linked on the Iowa Pork Industry Center's web page (<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ipic/events.html>). A list of workshop dates was distributed to attendees at the Iowa Pork Congress in January 2005. And, finally a list of confinement site workshops appeared in the January 2005 edition of the *Iowa Pork Producer Magazine* found at: <http://www.iowapork.org/download/IPP-0501.pdf>

All of the certification materials have been distributed electronically through the IMMAG site. The Manure Applicator Certification Program button on the IMMAG site links users to a site solely devoted to the Certification Program (<http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>). The site contains a description of who needs to be certified, how to get certified and a list of questions and answers most commonly received about the program. The site also has a "staff only" link for ISU Extension employees to download program-planning materials. This site serves as the primary location for MAC information in the state of Iowa.

Budget

A copy of the budget expenditures as of June 30, 2005 is attached in Appendix 4.

Appendix 1.

- DNR 113 Separation Distances for Land Application of Manure
<http://www.iowadnr.com/afo/files/sepdstb4.pdf>
- DNR 115 Commercial Manure Applicator Certification
<http://www.iowadnr.com/afo/files/commappcert.pdf>
- DNR 116 Manure Applicators Certification
http://www.iowadnr.com/afo/files/conf_12.pdf
- PM 287 Take a Good Sample to Help Make a Good Decision
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM287.pdf>

**Appendix 2.
Evaluation Summaries**

2005 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Evaluation Summary

2005 Commercial Manure Applicator Evaluation Summary

**2005 Confinement Site Manure Applicator
Certification Evaluation
Iowa State University Extension**

Summary of Data Collected as of 6/30/05

Workshop attendees: 1136 Video attendees: 111

<u>Information presented</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Total Responses: 1247		Total
				Poor	No Response	
1. Rules Update:	543 44%	673 54%	25 2%	0 0%	6 0%	1247
2. Hydrogen sulfide (H2S) during pumping & agitation:	653 52%	543 44%	26 2%	2 0%	23 2%	1247
3. Soil sampling:	561 45%	649 52%	28 2%	2 0%	7 1%	1247
4. P-Index Manure Plans:	556 45%	628 50%	53 4%	4 0%	6 0%	1247
<u>Overall evaluation:</u>	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Does Not Apply	No Response	
1. The information presented today was useful for my farm operation.	1072 86%	114 9%	25 2%	25 2%	11 1%	1247
2. The presenters were prepared and knowledgeable.	1193 96%	34 3%	8 1%	1 0%	11 1%	1247
As a result of today's training workshop will you:	Adopted Prior to Current Training	Plan to Adopt Because of Current training	Choose not to Adopt	Does Not Apply	No Response	
1. Recognize pit gas issues and minimize concerns?	777 62%	268 21%	10 1%	150 12%	42 3%	1247
2. Develop a soil sampling plan in the next 12 months?	670 54%	429 34%	11 1%	102 8%	35 3%	1247
3. Develop and implement strategies to prepare for your P-Index manure plan?	337 27%	749 60%	17 1%	103 8%	41 3%	1247

As a result of last's year's program you:	I Adopted	I did not Adopt	Did not Apply	No Response	
1. Implement biosecurity measures to reduce disease transmission?	812	117	229	89	1247
	65%	9%	18%	7%	
2. Developed an emergency action plan or spill kit?	695	253	206	93	1247
	56%	20%	17%	7%	

**2005 Commercial Manure Applicator
Certification Evaluation
Iowa State University Extension**

Summary of data collected as of 6/30/05

Workshop attendees: 278
Web Cast: 2

Video attendees: 411

Total
Responses:

691

<u>Information that was presented</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Response	Total
1. Rules Update:	183 26%	425 62%	78 11%	4 1%	1 0%	691
2. Equipment weight restrictions for 2005:	233 34%	384 56%	65 9%	7 1%	2 0%	691
3. Hydrogen sulfide (H2S) during pumping & agitation:	205 30%	332 48%	111 16%	36 5%	7 1%	691
4. Injector effects on soil, odor, residue, and incorporation:	185 27%	399 58%	94 14%	8 1%	5 1%	691
<u>Overall Evaluation</u>						
	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Does Not Apply	No Response	
1. The information presented today was useful to me as a commercial manure service representative?	515 75%	118 17%	46 7%	7 1%	5 1%	691
2. The presenters were prepared and knowledgeable?	576 83%	94 14%	17 2%	1 0%	3 0%	691
<u>As a result of today's training workshop, will you:</u>						
	Adopted Prior to Current Training	Plan to Adopt because of Current Training	Choose not to Adopt	Does not Apply	No Response	
1. Change equipment to better address residue or odor concerns?	368 53%	88 13%	69 10%	156 23%	10 1%	691
2. Recognize pit gas issues and work with producers to minimize concerns?	390 56%	127 18%	23 3%	140 3%	11 20%	691

3. Implement equipment weight restriction?	144 21%	87 13%	12 2%	70 10%	378 55%	691
As a result of last year's program you:	I Adopted	I did not Adopt	Did not Apply	No Response		
1. Did you adopt an emergency action plan or spill kit?	364 53%	124 18%	175 25%	28 4%		691
2. Did you work with producers to maintain residue requirements to implement P-Index manure plans?	343 50%	85 12%	231 33%	32 5%		691

**Appendix 3.
Brochures and Press Releases**

2005 Confinement Site Press Release

2005 Commercial Manure Applicator Press Release

2005 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Brochure

2005 Commercial Manure Applicator Brochure

**2005 Iowa Pork Producers Magazine Article for Confinement Site
Applicators**

12/8/04

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Annual Workshops for Confinement Site Manure Applicators Scheduled for 2005

AMES, Iowa -- Confinement site manure applicators should plan to attend a two-hour continuing education workshop offered by Iowa State University (ISU) Extension in January or February 2005 to maintain applicator certification requirements. Contact your local county extension office for a list of workshop dates and locations, or view a list of workshops at:

<http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/certification/05csmacbrochure.pdf>.

"Iowa law requires confinement site manure applicators to attend two hours of continuing education each year of their three-year certification period or take and pass an exam once every three years," said Angela Rieck-Hinz, ISU extension program specialist and coordinator of the manure applicator certification program. If applicators fail to get the two hours of continuing education each year, they will be required to pass a written exam to be eligible to recertify in 2005. After passing the exam, confinement site applicator can become recertified by taking and passing a second exam on different day, or by attending a two hour workshops scheduled for January or February 2005.

During the workshop applicators will learn about manure application rules, new record keeping requirements, new Phosphorus (P) Index manure management plan requirements, hydrogen sulfide concerns during pumping and agitation, and soil sampling requirements for new P Index manure management plans.

The workshop will also serve as initial certification for those applicants who are not currently certified. If a confinement livestock operation has more than 500 animal units the operator must be certified to apply manure unless the manure is applied by a commercial manure applicator. "These workshops provide valuable information to all livestock producers, not just the producers who are required to attend to be certified," say Rieck-Hinz. "Open lot livestock producers who are not currently required to be certified can learn about manure application separation distances which are currently required and phosphorus based nutrient management plans which will be required of open lot producers with more than 1,000 animal units in the future."

The certification fee is \$100 for a three-year certificate. In addition applicators will pay an annual education fee of \$25. Due to uniform certification deadlines, applicators are

encouraged to attend workshops prior to March 1 to avoid being assessed a late fee of \$12.50. Applicators are highly encouraged to attend the workshops due to the uncertainty of when videotapes will be available for training in late January and February.

If you have questions about the Manure Applicator Certification Program contact your local ISU Extension county office or go to <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>.

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12/6/04

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2005 Commercial Manure Applicator Training Scheduled

To help commercial manure applicators receive the three hours of annual continuing instruction required to maintain their manure applicator certification, Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) will conduct a Commercial Manure Applicator Satellite Downlink on Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2005 from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. There is no fee for the workshop but applicators must register with the county extension office where they plan to attend. Currently certified commercial manure applicators should receive a copy of the program registration brochure containing workshop locations in the mail in early December. If you do not receive a copy, please contact your county extension office or download a copy off the Web at: <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/certification/05commmacbrochure.pdf>.

Commercial manure applicators wishing to recertify and those wanting to certify for the first time should attend. The workshop will provide the required three hours of annual training and will cover applicator rules, recordkeeping requirements, new equipment weight restrictions for 2005, hydrogen sulfide emissions during pumping and agitation, and a look at equipment issues for land application.

All currently certified commercial manure applicator licenses will expire on March 1, 2005. Those wanting to renew must complete training requirements and submit forms and fees prior to March 1, 2005 to renew and avoid paying the late fee for certification. If an applicator attended training for the first time in the fall of 2004, they should make plans to attend the training again in January 2005 to meet the annual requirements.

Commercial applicators are highly encouraged to attend the satellite downlink program due to the uncertainty of when videotapes will be available for training in late January and February.

Commercial manure applicators also may contact their local IDNR field office to schedule an appointment to take the certification exam to meet certification requirements. Applicators who want to take the exam may wish to access a copy of the study guide manual to help prepare for the exam. The study guide is available at the following Web address: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pubs/PM1778/homepage.html>.

If you have questions about the satellite downlink program, contact your local ISU Extension county office or on the Web at:
<http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>.

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**Appendix 4.
Budget Summary**

**Budget FY2005 – Manure Applicator Certification
July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005**

Salary and Wages

Program Coordinator(s) 1.2 FTE.....	51,277.64
Confinement Program Staff (Field Specialists).....	16,099.00
Technical writers, editor and video production staff	10,000.00

Fringe Benefits

Program Coordinators @31%	15,371.54
Confinement Program Staff (Field Specialists) @ 31%	4,393.06
Technical writers, editor and video production staff @ 31%	0.00

SUBTOTAL – PERSONNEL 97,141.24

Travel

Field Specialists and Campus Faculty and staff	5,172.06
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Supplies

Postage	186.52
Paper, office supplies, video session supplies	5259.30

Other

County Extension Workshop Support	14,430.00
(meeting rooms, postage, technical support)	
Telecom/Computer	216.00
Satellite Downlink Costs	3,602.62
ICN In-Service Training -Field Specialists (2hrs).....	500.00
Printing/Copying	
(training material production).....	1,453.63
Contracted Services (web page design, closed captioning, (editor, commercial program staff,).....	573.50

Total Project Costs	128,534.87
Allocation	138,967.00
Encumbrance	8,000.00
Balance	2,432.13

(pending expenditures for travel and publications distribution charges)