

**2008 Manure Applicator Certification Program
July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008
Agreement Number 08-7112-01
Final Report**

The attached report contains links to documents used in the FY08 Manure Applicator Certification Program. Not all materials were made available electronically. Some materials are not made available due to on-going certification training. If you would like a copy of the full report, including all attachments and materials found in the links, please contact

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This document prepared by Iowa State University in cooperation with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources through cooperative agreement number 08-7112-01.

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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 tenth 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 were identified from email discussion and idea submitted by Extension Field Specialists. 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 2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator program focused on 1) Review of Rules, Land Application Separation Distances, Fees, Paperwork and Recordkeeping Requirements; 2) Emergency Mortality Management; and 3) Confinement Site Investigation Scenarios.

In the confinement site program this year, extension specialists included a new technique for training that was not completely lecture based. The module, "Confinement Site Investigations" was presented as an interactive and hands on module that required confinement site applicators to make calculations and rank priority

response based on how they would handle situations on their farms. The goal was two-fold, 1) to get better interaction, discussion and feedback from the applicators; and 2) to pull together training materials that had been used the past year into a broader picture for comprehension and implementation on farms. The response to this type of training was very positive. Many applicators commented they liked the hands-on training. They appreciated the calculations as reminders in calculating application rates and assigning a value to their manure as a fertilizer source and also the opportunity to walk away with additional resources they could investigate on their own.

A complete listing of modules by year, and time allocated is presented in Table 1.

Commercial Manure Applicator Program

Materials developed for the 2008 Commercial Manure Applicator program were via email and offers suggested by Extension Field Specialists and IDNR staff. The program materials were delivered with PowerPoint presentations in live format via the annual satellite downlink held on January 4, 2008.

The 2008 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) Iowa Department of Transportation Regulations/Weight Restrictions; 3) Review of Land Application Issues from the Past 10 Years from the IDNR; 4) IDNR Case Studies on Manure Spills and Spill Response; 5) Injector Effects on Soil, Odor, Residue and Manure. A 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
		Question and Answers 30 min
2006	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 40 min
	Manure Sampling Strategies 25 min	Soil Infiltration Issues 35 min
	Best Management Practices—Feed Management 30 min	Biosecurity, Your Health, and Manure 50 min
	Best Management Practices—Biofilters 25 min	Economics of Manure Transportation and Utilization 35 min
	Question and Answers 15 min	How to complete forms and review fees 5 min
		Additional Q & A section 15 min
2007	Review of Rules, Land Application Separation Distances, Fees, Paperwork and Recordkeeping Requirements 40 min	Review of Rules, Land Application Separation Distances, Fees, Paperwork and Recordkeeping Requirements 35 min
	Manure and Crop Production Issues including; K levels, soils sampling requirements and how to soil sample, P Index implementation schedule	Manure Application and Fuel Savings 37 min

	and other 20 Agronomic Issues 40 min	
	Soil Compaction Issues 30 min	Soil Compaction Issues 35 min
		Drag Hose Application Video 15 min
		Manure Spills 35 min
		Question and Answers 15 min
		Overhead Camera Form Demo 5 min
2008	DNR Land Application Rules, Separation Distances and Manure Management Plans 25 Minutes	DNR Land Application Rules, Separation Distances, Spill Training 30 Minutes
	Emergency Mortality Management 27 minutes (Glandville DVD)	DOT Regulations/Weight Restrictions 30 minutes Chris Boswell
	Confinement Site Investigation Scenarios 50 minutes	Review of Land Application Issues from past 10 years 20 minutes Karen Grimes
		DNR Case Studies on Manure Spills and Spill Response 25 minutes Ted Peterson
		Injector effects on soil, odor, residue and manure 35 minutes, (Hanna Video)

Supporting Training Materials

There were three fact sheets distributed to manure applicators via the training workshops in 2008. The three fact sheets, prepared by IDNR and reviewed by ISUE, were distributed to the commercial and confinement site applicators. In the Confinement Site program, two handouts were prepared by ISUE. The Confinement Site Investigations Scenarios were developed to help applicators identify what they would do in certain situations on their farm. A list of ten scenarios with possible answers was given to the applicators when they first arrived. Then when the applicators got to the CSI training section, they discussed the possible answers. The answer sheets were then handed out during the workshops. The answer sheet had the best possible answer to each question, calculations, and identified resources the applicators could use to find additional information.

- DNR 113, Separation Distances for Land Application of Manure (revised January 2003)
- DNR 115 Commercial Manure Applicator Certification (revised October, 2004)
- DNR 116 Manure Applicators Certification (revised October, 2004)
- Confinement Site Investigations Scenarios
- Confinement Site Investigations Answers, Calculations and Resources

The three fact sheets were also linked on the Manure Applicators Certification web page- a component of the IMMAG web page, and were made available at field days, the Iowa Pork Congress and association meetings. The CSI handouts were made available to ISU staff under the “staff only” page of IMMAG. Copies of the fact sheets and scenarios are available in Appendix 1.

Certification Workshops

Confinement Site Workshops

Training workshops for the 2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Certification program began in January 2008 and continued through February 2008. There were 80 training workshops held in 73 county extension offices. In addition to the workshops, confinement site applicators could also meet training requirements by watching a two-hour videotape at their County Extension office.

ISU Extension staff has reported 1,872 confinement site applicators attended the certification workshops. Of those applicators, there were 1,346 who returned the evaluations to ISUE for the workshop they attended. There were 132 confinement site applicators who returned evaluations from watching a two-hour video at a county extension office for a total of 1,478 evaluations sent to Iowa State University Extension. The 2008 Confinement Site program was presented by 17 field specialists including: 4 Agricultural and Biosystem Engineers, 11 Livestock Specialists, one Campus Specialist, and one County Extension Director.

Commercial Applicator Workshops

The 2008 Commercial Manure Applicator program was delivered via satellite downlink on January 4, 2008. This downlink was broadcasted to 78 Iowa county Extension offices, one Nebraska County Extension office, and two Wisconsin County offices. There was not a joint manure applicator certification training between Iowa and Minnesota this year.

Portions of the program, which were delivered via the Commercial satellite downlink program, were also used to develop the training videotapes for both the Confinement Site Applicator and Commercial Applicator programs. The module on rules was 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. County Extension offices who responded to a request to receive video tapes, 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 the applicators had adequate time to view tapes prior to the annual March 1st uniform certification deadline. In addition, both Confinement Site and the Commercial Applicator programs are available to applicators via an archived webcast program at all County Extension Offices.

The ISU Extension staff reported 837 commercial applicators attended the certification meetings, while ISUE has collected 962 commercial applicators evaluations. Please note the discrepancy in numbers reported for attendance as compared to the number of evaluations collected is due to the fact that not all county offices report attendance.

Dry Manure Workshops for Commercial and Confinement Site Applicators

In February, there were five dry manure applicator workshops held in the state of Iowa. On February 11, 2008, a workshop was held in Thompson, Iowa; February 14, 2008, in Storm Lake, Iowa; February 19, 2008, in Washington, Iowa; February 20, 2008, in Greenfield, Iowa and February 22, 2008, in Clarion, Iowa. These workshops provided the necessary three hours of training for those who were commercial applicators. The confinement applicators who attended these workshops benefited from the extra hour of information. The workshop topics discussed the current regulatory requirements for manure applicators; stock piling poultry manure; review of manure spills and releases; and poultry manure research looking at phosphorus in poultry manure. There were a total of 176 applicators in attendance; 25 applicators who attended the Thompson workshop, 54 applicators who attended the Storm Lake workshop, 9 applicators attended the Washington workshop, 45 applicators attended the workshop in Greenfield, and 43 applicators who attended the workshop in Clarion.

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 complete an evaluation on the information presented, overall evaluation of the program, 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 2008 Confinement site program were as follows:

- 37% of Confinement site applicators reported they plan to develop and implement a plan for emergency mortality management; where as 40% reported they have already developed a plan.
- From the Confinement site applicators who reported they had developed and implemented an emergency mortality management plan:
 - 38% reported they compost
 - 5% reported they incinerate
 - 38% reported they render
 - 6% reported they use burial for their emergency mortality management.

From the Confinement Site Investigation exercises, the applicators were asked which actions they would implement on their farm operation. The confinement site applicators identified the following changes:

- 41% may change their manure application rate due to changes in the manure nutrient analysis
- 12% may employ different feeding strategies to address odor concerns
- 23% may develop a neighbor relations plant to address neighbor's concerns
- 32% may calibrate manure application equipment
- 41% had no response to the question.

Again in the commercial program, we asked two questions which pertained to the previous year's program to determine what changes had been made in practices in the past year. The goal in asking these questions was to determine if the applicators, who attended a meeting in the previous year, made changes to their management practices.

As a result of last year's program:

- 41% of Commercial applicators reported they had implemented practices such as ballasting the tractor or adjusting tire pressure to address fuel savings, while 18% did not adopt any practices.
- 49% of Commercial applicators have reported they have taken steps to minimize compaction as a result of last year's program, while 13% did not adopt the practice.

In addition, the managers/owners were asked if they provided additional training beyond their certification requirements mandated by the Iowa DNR to their employees and if so, what kinds of training they provide. Of those who answered:

- 35% of managers/owners said they provide additional training
- 65% said they do not.

The managers/owners who answered yes:

- 22% reported additional training in Spill Response
- 22% reported additional training in implementing separation distances
- 30% reported additional training in road safety
- 31% reported additional training in equipment safety
- 16% reported additional training to employees on how to read a manure management plan for application rates
- 26% reported additional training on how to adjust application rates if something in the plan had changed
- 16% reported additional training on confined space entry.

Complete results of program surveys are 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://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/maceval.html>. Evaluations from previous years are also available at this site.

Advisory Committee

The 2008 MAC advisory committee met on July 25, 2007, at Hawthorne Court. Member in attendance at the meeting included ISUE Campus and Field Specialists, DNR staff, NRCS staff, and a representative of the Iowa State Dairy Association staff. Program ideas were suggested, a review of forms was completed, and deadlines were set. This also included the development of the evaluation forms for both 2008 programs.

Promotional Materials

Promotional materials used in the 2008 Manure Applicator Certification programs were similar to that of previous years (Appendix 3). 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 2007.

New this year, two postcard templates were developed to be used by the County Extension offices to remind the Confinement Site Applicators of the upcoming workshops in their area. A list of instructions on how to use the templates was also developed. All three pieces of information was placed on the “staff only” page on IMMAG.

A total of seven press releases were prepared and were used by County Extension offices for local media. Workshop dates were maintained on the MAC section of the IMMAG web site (<http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>) and were also linked on the Iowa Pork Industry Center’s web page <http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/pastevents08.html> (<http://www.ipic.iastate.edu/events.html>). A list of workshop dates was distributed to attendees at the Iowa Pork Congress in January 2008. In addition, an article was prepared and distributed through the *Iowa Pork Producer Magazine* found at: <http://www.iowapork.org/download/IPP-0711.pdf>. Another article was also prepared for the Iowa Commercial Nutrient Applicators Association newsletter. A copy of this article is included in Appendix 3. In addition, livestock commodity groups are provided with information regarding training opportunities that they use in their monthly email newsletters to their members.

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://www.agronext.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.

Reporting Requirements

This contract requires quarterly reports and a final project report. This document serves as the final project report. The quarterly reports were submitted to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources point of contact, Jeff Prier, via email on January 7, 2008; April 25, 2008 and July 3, 2008.

Future Needs

Fiscal year 08 has seen a dramatic increase in the number of both confinement site and commercial manure applicators. This is reflected by attendance at our workshops, video showings and by the number of applicators who have met training requirements by the end of the fiscal year. This increase in numbers may warrant exploring new or additional means of providing certification training. As a result, this year ISU Extension will offer a statewide re-show of the commercial manure applicator training program on August 20, 2008. While technically this event happens in FY09, it will meet the 2008 training requirements for commercial applicators who still need to meet training requirements. This event will be offered in 40 county extension offices by showing the archived webcast or the video tape of the January 2008 training.

Other future needs may include offering more dry manure certification opportunities that focus on confined bedded beef operations. These types of operations are gaining in popularity in Iowa and due to size of operation, will require owners/manager to meet manure applicator certification requirements.

Budget

A copy of the budget expenditures as of June 30, 2008, is attached in Appendix 4 per article 5.12 of the contract.

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
- Confinement Site Investigations Scenarios
- Confinement Site Investigations Answers, Calculations and Resources

**Appendix 2.
Evaluation Summaries**

2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Evaluation Summary

2008 Commercial Manure Applicator Evaluation Summary

2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Certification Evaluation

Iowa State University Extension

Iowa Summary of Data Collected as of 6/30/08

Workshop attendees: 1346

Video: 132

Total Responses: 1478

Please rate today's information	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Response		
1. Rules update	703 48%	733 50%	21 1%	2 0%	19 1%		1478
2. Confinement Site Investigation Scenarios	685 46%	739 50%	29 2%	1 0%	24 2%		1478
3. Mortality Management	713 48%	701 47%	45 3%	1 0%	18 1%		1478
Overall evaluation:	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Does Not Apply	No Response		
4. The information presented today was useful for my farm operation.	1327 90%	94 6%	10 1%	44 3%	3 0%		1478
5. The presenters were prepared and knowledgeable.	1417 96%	35 2%	3 0%	13 1%	10 1%		1478
As a result of today's training workshop will you:	Plan to Adopt	Adopted Prior	Choose not to Adopt	Does Not Apply	No Response		
6. Will you develop and implement a plan for mortality management?	546 37%	584 40%	65 4%	192 13%	91 6%		1478
7. If you already adopted a mortality management plan, please choose which best fits your farm operation:	Composting 567 38%	Incineration 78 5%	Rendering 569 38%	Burial 96 6%	No Response 336 23%		
8. From the CSI exercises, are there actions you will implement on your farm operation? Please check all that you may consider on your farm operation.	Change manure application rate due to change in manure nutrient analysis 599 41%	Employ different feeding strategies to address odor concern 178 12%	Develop a neighbor relations plan to address neighbor's concerns 346 23%	Calibrate manure application equipment 480 32%	No Response 608 41%		

2008 Commercial Applicator Certification Evaluation

Iowa State University Extension

Summary of data collected as of 6/30/08

Total Responses: 962

Information that was presented	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	No Response	Total
1. Rules Update:	234 24%	629 65%	89 9%	5 1%	5 1%	962
2. DOT Issues:	271 28%	591 61%	91 9%	8 1%	1 0%	962
3. Manure Spill Review:	274 28%	589 61%	89 9%	4 0%	6 1%	962
Overall Evaluation	Agree	Undecided	Disagree	Does Not Apply	No Response	
1. The information presented today was useful to me as a commercial manure service representative?	778 81%	142 15%	26 3%	10 1%	6 1%	962
2. The presenters were prepared and knowledgeable?	795 83%	135 14%	22 2%	2 0%	8 1%	962
As a result of last year's program:	I Adopted	I did not Adopt	Did not Apply	No Response		
1. Did you implement any practices such as ballasting the tractor or adjusting tire pressure to address fuel savings?	398 41%	174 18%	178 19%	212 22%		962
2. Did you take steps to minimize compaction?	470 49%	126 13%	154 16%	212 22%		962
For completion by managers/owners only:	Yes	No				
1. Do you provide training to your employees beyond the annual manure applicator certification requirements mandated by the State of Iowa/DNR?	341 35%	621 65%				962

If so, what kinds of training do you provide? Please check all that apply:					
Spill Response Training	Implementation of Separation Distances	Road Safety	Equipment Safety	How to read a MMP for application rates	How to adjust application rates if something in the plan has changed
213	211	290	296	157	247
22%	22%	30%	31%	16%	26%

**Appendix 3
Brochures and Press Releases**

Annual Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshops Scheduled for 2008

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2007/nov/072801.htm>

2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Training Scheduled in -- County

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/forstaff/2007/nov/072802.htm>

Commercial Manure Applicator Training Scheduled for Jan. 4, 2008

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2007/nov/072802.htm>

Commercial Manure Applicator Training Scheduled for --County

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/forstaff/2007/nov/072801.htm>

2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshop Schedule- - Iowa Pork Producer Magazine, November 2007

<http://www.iowapork.org/download/IPP-0711.pdf>

Manure Management Workshops Make a Difference in Iowa

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2008/feb/070103.htm>

Dry Manure Applicator Certification Offered

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2008/jan/072801.htm>

Certification Reminders for Commercial Manure Applicators (article for ICNAA newsletter)

Instructions for the New Confinement Site Manure Applicator Reminder Postcards

2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshop Reminder Postcards Templates (2)

2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Brochure

<http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/imag/certification/08csmacbrochure.pdf>

2008 Commercial Manure Applicator Brochure

<http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/imag/certification/08commmacbrochure.pdf>

Annual Confinement Site Manure Applicator Workshops Scheduled for 2008

11/30/2007

AMES, Iowa -- Confinement site manure applicators and anyone interested in learning about applying manure should plan to attend a two-hour workshop offered by Iowa State University (ISU) Extension in January or February 2008. There is no fee to attend the workshop, but certified applicators fulfilling continuing education requirements will pay an annual education fee of \$25.

"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.

A total of 85 workshops will be held in 73 counties. A series of five dry poultry manure certification meetings will be held in February. ISU Extension County Offices have a complete list of workshop dates and locations, or view a list at: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/08confdates.html>

Workshop participants will learn about land application rules, mortality management and investigate confinement site issues. This is the tenth year that ISU Extension has offered the training in cooperation with Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

"By investing two hours of time each year, producers are much more aware and better educated about the way their actions affect not only their land and animals but how it affects worker safety, their neighbors and Iowa in general," said Jeff Prier, DNR environmental specialist. "The workshop is a great way for anyone to learn about regulations and how we can work together."

The workshop also serves 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. The certification fee is \$100 for a three-year certificate.

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. Training video tapes are available for viewing by contacting the local ISU County Extension Office and scheduling a viewing time. Applicators renewing their license cannot apply manure until they have met the certification requirements and submitted the correct forms and fees to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Contact your local ISU Extension County Office for more information about the Manure Applicator Certification Program or visit: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>

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2008 Confinement Site Manure Applicator Training Scheduled in _____ County

11/28/2007

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 2008 to maintain applicator certification requirements. The _____(county)_____ workshop will be offered on _____(date)_____ at _____(time)_____ in _____(location)_____.

“Iowa law requires confinement site manure applicators to obtain two hours of continuing education each year of their three-year certification period or take and pass the 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.”

Workshop participants will learn about land application rules, mortality management and confinement site issues. The workshop serves as initial certification for those applicators who are not currently certified, and offers information for interested people who do not need certification.

Operators must be certified to apply manure if the confinement livestock operation has more than a 500-animal unit capacity, unless the manure is applied by a commercial manure applicator. The certification fee is \$100 for a three-year certificate. This fee is paid when applicators initially get certified and then every three years when they re-certify to apply manure. Confinement site applicators also are required to pay an annual education fee of \$25. All fees and application forms must be sent to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to complete certification requirements. For those attending but not needing certification, the workshop is free.

Applicators are encouraged to attend workshops prior to March 1 to meet certification deadlines and avoid being assessed a \$12.50 late fee for re-certification. Training video tapes will be available for viewing sometime in February by contacting the local ISU Extension county office and scheduling a viewing time.

If you have questions about meeting dates and locations, contact the _____ County ISU Extension Office at _____(phone)_____ or visit <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html> to see the 2008 workshop schedule.

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Commercial Manure Applicator Training Scheduled For Jan. 4, 2008

11/28/2007

AMES, Iowa -- Commercial manure applicators can receive the three hours of annual continuing instruction required to maintain their manure applicator certification on Friday, Jan. 4, 2008. Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will conduct a Commercial Manure Applicator Satellite Downlink from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. There is no fee for the workshop but applicators must register with the county ISU 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 local ISU Extension County Office or download a copy off the Web at: <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/08commmacbrochure.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 and road and transportation issues by the Iowa Department of Transportation, and a review of manure spills and prevention and mitigation strategies.

All currently certified commercial manure applicator licenses will expire on March 1, 2008. Those wanting to renew must complete training requirements and submit forms and fees to the DNR prior to March 1, 2008, to avoid paying late fees. If an applicator attended training for the first time in the fall of 2007, he or she should make plans to attend the training again in January 2008 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.

Those unable to attend the program on Jan. 4 need to schedule time with their local ISU Extension county office to watch the training videotape. Please note that training videotapes may not be available until mid February so applicators should make every effort to attend the satellite program on Jan. 4.

Due to scheduling conflicts, many ISU Extension offices will no longer accept walk-in appointments to watch these tapes. If attending the satellite program or watching the three-hour tape is not convenient, commercial applicators may contact their local DNR 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: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/ListItems.aspx?Keyword=PM%201778>

If you have questions about the satellite downlink program, contact [your local ISU Extension county office](#) or check the Iowa Manure Management Action Group Web site at: <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>.

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Commercial Manure Applicator Training Scheduled for County

11/28/2007

Commercial manure applicators can receive the three hours of annual continuing instruction required to maintain their manure applicator certification on Friday, Jan. 4, 2008, from 9 a.m. to noon. Iowa State University (ISU) Extension and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will conduct a Commercial Manure Applicator Satellite Downlink at that time. There is no fee to attend the workshop, but commercial applicators must register in advance by contacting the _____ County ISU Extension Office at _____(phone number).

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, road and transportation issues by the Iowa Department of Transportation, and a review of manure spills, prevention and mitigation strategies.

All currently certified commercial manure applicator licenses will expire on March 1, 2008. Those wanting to renew must complete training requirements and submit forms and fees to the DNR prior to March 1, 2008, to avoid paying late fees. If an applicator attended training for the first time in the fall of 2007, he or she should make plans to attend the training again in January 2008 to meet the annual requirements.

Applicators unable to attend the program on Jan. 4 need to schedule time at their local ISU Extension county office to watch the training videotape. Please note that training videotapes may not be available until mid February so applicators should make every effort to attend the satellite program on Jan. 4. Due to scheduling conflicts, many ISU Extension offices will no longer accept walk-in appointments to watch these tapes. If attending the satellite program or watching the three-hour tape is not convenient, commercial applicators may contact their local DNR field office to schedule an appointment to take the certification exam to meet certification requirements.

If you have questions about the commercial applicator satellite downlink contact the _____ County ISU Extension office or go to <http://extension.agron.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html>

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Manure Management Workshops Make a Difference in Iowa

2/1/2008

AMES, Iowa -- During January and February, more than 2,000 Iowans attend local workshops for manure applicator continuing education. They are livestock and crop producers, and people wanting to know more about the rules, regulations and issues related to manure management and good stewardship.

Many come because it is required – two hours of annual continuing education, or pass a written exam every three years, for those applying manure from confinement livestock operations of more than 500 animal units. Last year, 2,125 confinement site applicators attended the workshops to maintain certification. They come to hear the latest rules and regulations, better understand how to be in compliance, and when to contact the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) about issues related to handling and applying manure from confinements.

But what they take away from the workshop is more than rules and regulations. For the last 10 years, Iowa State University (ISU) Extension has provided the workshops in partnership with the DNR. Program content varies each year and is determined with assistance from DNR and ISU Extension crops, livestock and agricultural engineer field specialists.

“That first year they told us about manure nutrient research and sampling manure,” said a Kossuth County producer at a recent workshop. “At that time proper application was a new concept. But we did it, and after a couple of years we saw that our yields stayed up and we realized the benefits. Last year they talked about phosphorous-based manure management plans. There’s always new research, more to know.”

At a time when the value of manure is increasing, crop producers as well as livestock producers are interested in workshop information.

“I come to the trainings so I can understand my manure plan better,” said another Kossuth County attendee. “These workshops keep good information in the forefront of my mind and help me understand the regulations even though I’m not a certified manure applicator.”

Topics covered at 2008 training sessions include land application rules, mortality management and investigating confinement site issues. Confinement site applicators are required to pay an annual education fee of \$25 -- the workshop is free to all others.

“By investing two hours of time each year, producers are much more aware and better educated about the way their actions affect not only their land and animals, but how it affects worker safety, their neighbors and Iowa in general,” said Jeff Prier, DNR environmental specialist. “The workshop is a great way for anyone to learn about regulations and how neighbors can work together.”

Learn more about the location, date and time of remaining 2008 workshops by contacting your local extension office or going to <http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/08confdates.html>

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Certification Workshops Offered for Dry Manure Applicators

1/28/2008

AMES, Iowa -- Iowa State University Extension will offer a three-hour manure applicator certification workshop for dry manure operators on five different dates and locations in February 2008.

This certification meeting is for both confinement site and commercial manure applicators who primarily apply dry manure. Although confinement site manure applicators are only required to attend two hours of annual training, this meeting will be three hours in length to provide training to commercial applicators and all attendees will be required to stay for the three-hour workshop. Workshop topics will include current regulatory requirements for manure applicators, stockpiling regulations and a review of manure spills and releases.

In addition, Mazhar UI-Haq and Antonio Mallarino, soil fertility specialists in the ISU Department of Agronomy, will be presenting agronomic and environmental research results looking at phosphorus in poultry manure, including loss of P to tile lines and looking at various sources of manure and their impacts on runoff P losses.

The workshops are free and open to all; however, applicators will be required to submit certification forms and fees to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to meet manure applicator certification requirements.

"This set of workshops not only helps meet certification requirement for manure applicators, anyone who uses poultry manure as a fertilizer source will benefit from attending by keeping current on recent research results looking at poultry manure nutrients," said Angie Rieck-Hinz, coordinator of the Manure Applicator Certification Program.

Each workshop will begin at 9 a.m. and end at noon. Please register for one of the workshops by calling the site where you plan to attend. Workshop locations and dates include:

Feb. 11, Branding Iron Restaurant, Thompson, (641) 584-2261
Feb. 14, Buena Vista County Extension Office, Storm Lake, (712) 732-5056
Feb. 19, Washington County Extension Office, Washington, (319) 653-4811
Feb. 20, Adair County Extension Office, Greenfield, (641) 743-8412
Feb. 22, Heartland Museum, Clarion, (515) 532-3453

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Article prepared for ICNAA Newsletter

Certification Reminders for Commercial Manure Applicators
Angela Rieck-Hinz, Department of Agronomy, ISU

Anyone operating as a commercial manure applicator in Iowa, regardless of the type of manure hauled or applied or the type of facility the manure comes from, is required to be certified to transport, handle, store or land apply manure. Commercial applicators are required by law to attend 3 hours of annual training or to take and pass an annual exam. Certificates expire on March 1 annually. Anyone who is currently certified and does not meet the March 1 deadline for completion of training in 2008 will be required to pay a late fee in addition to the regular certification fees. Only new applicators that have not been previously certified are exempt from the late fee.

The commercial manure applicator satellite uplink is scheduled for **January 4, 2008** from 9 a.m. to noon. Each currently certified commercial manure applicator will receive a brochure in the mail in December that lists the program locations. I encourage all commercial applicators to attend this satellite program. The program is a live show and you will have the opportunity to call or fax questions to the speakers. The training videos that are used for training throughout the rest of the year are edited versions of the live program. If you have any question about the manure applicator certification program please feel free to call me at 515-294-9590.

If you still need to meet your 2007 certification requirements prior to land application this fall, you can 1) contact your local county extension office to watch the video tape, or 2) contact your local DNR field office to take the exam. In either case, it is necessary to make an appointment to complete the requirements, so please call ahead and schedule accordingly. Don't have time to watch the three-hour video? Then you should plan to take the exam. The exam is 50 questions. The questions are either multiple choice or true/false questions. You only need to have 35 correct questions to pass the exam.

Finally, a note regarding a programming change for 2008. In the past Iowa State University has offered joint commercial manure applicator training with the state of Minnesota so applicators needing certification in each state could attend just one workshop. Beginning in 2008, if you need certification in Iowa, you must attend an Iowa workshop and if you need certification in the state of Minnesota, you will have to attend a workshop offered in Minnesota. Information regarding the Minnesota program and certification opportunities can be found at:

<http://www.mda.state.mn.us/licensing/pestfert/cawt.htm>

Instructions for the NEW Confinement Site Manure Applicator Reminder Postcards

New this year, Confinement Site Manure Applicator Reminder Postcards! These postcards replace the Confinement Site Manure Applicator Certification Brochure Template we have used in the past. So instead of a brochure, you will have a postcard to send to the applicators in your county. This is just a reminder for the applicators in your county. The applicators who are currently certified with the DNR will receive the state-wide brochure listing all of the counties having a workshop.

The templates are for **either** the:

[2-Up Post Cards](#) on 8-1/2" x 11" sheets or

[3-Up Post Cards](#) on 8-1/2" x 11" sheets (formerly EDC 31)

They are on the County Extension Office Envelope Order Forms page

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/forms/envelopes/county.html>

The postcards are ready for you to:

- Type in your Confinement Site Workshop Date
- Type in your Confinement Site Workshop Time
- Type in your Confinement Site Workshop Location
- Type in your Confinement Site Workshop Telephone Number
- You can adjust the text boxes as necessary to fill in the appropriate information.
- Then print off the number of postcards needed in your county
- Address to the Confinement Site Applicators in your County
- CNS list is on IMMAG MAC "For Staff" page
 - Confinement Site Column
 - The list is sorted by counties

**Appendix 4.
Budget Summary**

MANURE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION EXPENSES

July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008

Salary.....	74,608.64
Benefits (Salary & Hourly).....	19,486.53
Subtotal Personnel	94,095.17
Travel.....	7,142.23
Supplies	1,474.73
Printing/copying	396.85
Other	
Contracted services	564.50
County extension workshops, meeting rooms and office asst.	14,080.00
Phone and computer.....	686.35
Satellite downlink expenses.....	2,685.00
ICN in-service	0.00
Postage.....	1729.99
Subtotal (other)	28,759.65
Total Spent to Date.....	122,854.82
Encumbrances (field specialists' salaries, benefits and travel)	
.....	37,800.00
Total Spent	160,654.82
Balance	3,477.18