Iowa Manure Management Action Group (IMMAG) and Iowa Manure Matters-Odor and Nutrient Management Newsletter Agreement No. 68-6114-5-238 Quarterly Report July 1, 2009 to September 30, 2009

Iowa Manure Matters-Odor and Nutrient Management Newsletter

Articles for the summer edition were due by June 19. The July edition was published and posted to the Web on July 2.

The table below shows numbers of hits and visitors to the ONM web version for the third quarter. The numbers in ( ) indicate the numbers for the same time period one year ago. The number of Web page hits for the third quarter of 2009 increased by 7.6% over the same period one year ago. The number of visits increased 7.5% from the same period one year ago. Copies of the newsletters are available on the web at: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/communications/EPC/.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>July 2009</th>
<th>August 2009</th>
<th>September 2009</th>
<th>Year to Date</th>
</tr>
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<td>Hits</td>
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<td>18,422 (16,726)</td>
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<td>13 minutes, 47 seconds</td>
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The publication and distribution of the ONM newsletter ceased in September of 2009. On behalf of Iowa State University I would like to thank and recognize the Iowa USDA-NRCS and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for funding this newsletter over the course of the past 12 years. If funding becomes available in the future, articles and links will again appear on this site. Past issues of the newsletter will remain available in electronic format via the “Previous Issues” link at: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Pages/communications/EPC/toc.html.

Iowa Manure Management Action Group (IMMAG)

The majority of time spent in July was in preparation for the Upper Midwest Manure Handling Expo held on July 22 at the Central Iowa Expo facilities located west of Ames. IMMAG was a primary marketing outlet for the Expo and assisted with marketing and recruiting vendors. IMMAG also hosted a vendor booth at the Expo and generated great interest by Expo participants. Many people were looking for information related to manure issues.

Other IMMAG activities include the weekly maintenance of the IMMAG Web page and the development of the fact sheet “A Top Ten List: Preparing for Fall Manure Application.” This fact sheet was developed for use on the IMMAG Web page and for use by all IMMAG partners. This fact sheet was linked on many IMMAG partner web pages, as well as reprinted in Manure Manager Magazine, National Hog Farmer
Newsletter, and several Iowa commodity groups newsletters or magazines. This fact sheet was the most downloaded document from the IMMAG Web page in both August and September. A copy of this fact sheet can be found at: [http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/info/fallmanureapplication.pdf](http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/info/fallmanureapplication.pdf). Copies of the July, August and September IMMAG Updates are found in Appendix 1.

Work continues on the development of the National Air Quality Site Assessment Tool through a national CIG grant with NRCS. Iowa is the lead state for development of the swine segment of the on-line tool. Iowa State University Extension is partnering with Michigan State University and 18 other land-grant institutions in the development of this tool that will assist livestock producers in assessing emissions and odor from their livestock facilities, storage and land application practices. A team meeting was held in Kansas City on September 3-4 to continue development of the tool. The tool has been beta-tested in the field with producers and the next round of field testing is currently underway with Extension specialists and producers.

The IMMAG Quarterly meeting was held on September 14 at the Iowa Pork Producers Association office in Clive. IMMAG members had the opportunity to meet the new nutrient management specialist at NRCS, to hear discussion on the proposed new rule package coming from DNR, to hear discussion about the Purdue Planner nutrient management software, and to again here discussion about funding needs for IMMAG. The group also discussed the idea of developing a fact sheet on how to interpret nutrient analysis from a manure test. It is likely this fact sheet will developed with some funding support from the Iowa Pork Producers Association.

**Recommendations for Future Efforts**

The quarterly report completes the contractual requirements for Agreement No. 68-6114-5-238. The Iowa Manure Management Action Group was initiated in 1997 and the Web page was functional in 1998. IMMAG has been funded by Iowa NRCS and/or 319 Funds from the Iowa DNR for nearly 13 years. What started out as being a 3 year project has evolved into 13 years of coordinated statewide programming in manure management issues, including water quality and air quality and emissions. Iowans continue to demonstrate a need for science based information and educational activities related to manure management. They have a concern for their environment, in particular the use of manure as a nutrient source for crop production, the implementation of regulations and the need to protect water, air and soil quality. These concerns require a continued presence in these type of programming efforts. IMMAG has served this need. Therefore, we must move past short-term funded “projects” lasting 3 to 5 years in length and acknowledge that continued success will only happen if manure management education is a statewide program that brings together all of the partners and is funded continuously by all partners.
Appendix 1.

IMMAG Updates

July 2009

August 2009

September 2009
July 2009 IMMAG Update

Welcome to the monthly update for the Iowa Manure Management Action Group (IMMAG) Web site. This update is provided as a service to inform you about changes made to the IMMAG Web Page or items of interest dealing with manure management and air quality from animal feeding operations. If you wish to subscribe to this mailing please click here. You may also view this update with direct links on the CURRENT NEWS site on IMMAG.

CURRENT NEWS: The Current News page on the IMMAG site is updated weekly. Please check this site often for the latest news regarding animal feeding operations and manure management issues.

The Upper Midwest Manure Handling Expo committee has been working hard and things are coming together nicely for the Expo planned for July 22. Currently there are 6 educational sessions; 52 exhibitors; 8 dry/solid applicator demonstrations; 10 liquid manure applicator demonstrations; an educational demo on spill response, leak detection and ruptured hose response as well as several “ride and drive” opportunities. This event will offer commercial manure applicator certification hours. Commercial applicators must attend all 6 educational sessions in order to meet the certification requirements. Please remember to bring your certification card, sign the training sign-in sheets and remember to pick up your signed certification forms at the ISU Information Booth between 3-4 p.m. that day.

ISU Field Specialists will be staffing the IMMAG booth and are ready and willing to answer your questions about manure management issues. We will be located in Tent 3, booth 123. We hope to see you at the Expo!

For more information please see the following links:
2009 Upper Midwest Manure Handling Expo
Educational Sessions
Exhibitor List and Site Map

Need a ride to the Manure Expo? ISU Extension along with Hull Co-op Association; Roda Manufacturing; Farmers Coop Company and Farmers Coop Society are organizing a bus trip from NW Iowa to the Manure Expo. The bus will leave the Sioux Center Coop Parking lot at 6 a.m. and the Le Mars Convention Center at 6:30 a.m. on July 22nd. The cost to ride the bus is $20. To register please call the Sioux County Extension Office at 712-737-4230 or the Plymouth County Extension Office at 712-546-7835 or email Joel DeJong at jldiejong@iastate.edu. Please register by Friday July 17.

EVENTS: Iowa State University Extension will offer a commercial manure applicator “re-show” on August 19 in selected county Extension offices. If you have not met commercial manure applicator certification requirements yet this year, this reshow event would be a great opportunity to meet requirements prior to the busy fall land-application season. A list of county Extension offices hosting this program reshow can be found at: http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/certification/09macreshow.pdf. Please contact the county office where you plan to attend by August 14 to help ensure adequate forms and handouts will be available. Postcard reminders will be sent to commercial applicator businesses in early August.
Angie

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The Iowa Pork Producers Association still has hang tags available. STOP Manure Agitation and Pump–Out in Progress tags are designed to hang on facility doors during manure pump-out and agitation. These tags are being made available to Iowa pork producers and commercial manure applicators. These tags are designed to limit confusion and increase employee and family safety. Please remember that no one should enter a confinement site building or manure storage structure when agitation and pump-out is taking place.

To request tags, please contact Tyler Bettin, IPPA Producer Education Director by calling (515) 225-7675 or email tbettin@iowapork.org.

Fall manure application season is right around the corner. Are you prepared? Read the IMMAG Top Ten List, PREPARING FOR FALL MANURE APPLICATION. Remember manure spills or releases need to be reported as soon as possible or no later than 6 hours after onset or discovery to the 24-hr Reporting Number (515) 281-8694. Each fall millions of gallons of manure are safely applied in Iowa. Keep up the great work!

Do you have a specific practice you employ or a practice you train your employees to implement in manure spill response? If so, send me a brief paragraph and a high quality digital photo and I will compile a list of your ideas/suggestions and share it with IMMAG readers.

PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS: Texas A&M University has just released the publication "Improving the Air Quality of Animal Feeding Operations with Proper Facility and Manure Management". This publication is available by visiting the Texas AgriLife Bookstore online at: http://agrilifebookstore.org/ and typing the reference number E-585 in the search function.

MANURE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION: School has or is starting, family vacations are over and crop harvest is a few weeks away, so now is a great time to meet your annual manure applicator certification requirements. Confinement site manure applicators need to attend 2 hours of training annually to meet their certification requirements. Commercial manure applicators are required to attend 3 hours of annual training.

Commercial applicators are allowed to work for 30 days prior to meeting certification requirements but must be working toward certification and must be supervised by a certified commercial manure applicator. The supervisor must be physically present at the application site and be in sight and able to communicate with the employee at all times.

Please contact your County Extension Office to schedule time to meet the required annual training or contact your local DNR Field Office to schedule time to take the certification exam. If you need to determine your current certification status, contact the DNR Licensing Bureau at 515-281-5918. Please ask for the Licensing Bureau and state you are a manure applicator. Additional information can be found on the ISU Manure Applicator Certification Web Page at: http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html or on the DNR's Web page at: http://www.iowadnr.gov/aho/appcert.html
EVENTS: For a complete list of events, please see the IMMAG events page at:
http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/events.html.

August 27. A tour of open beef feedlots in Lyon County is scheduled for 1 p.m. The tour includes four small feedlots that are handling manure and controlling run-off using cost effective and site specific methods. The tour is sponsored by the Lyon Soil and Water Conservation District, Iowa Beef Center, Iowa State University Extension, Lyon County Cattlemen’s Association and the Lyon County Farm Bureau. Reservations ($5 per person) should be made contacting the Lyon County NRCS Office, (712) 472-4021, ext. 3. Transportation is provided, but seating is limited. The bus will depart from the Larchwood City Park at 1 p.m. For more information see: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/news/2009/aug/160501.htm.

September 18. The Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship Center’s Webcast for September is titled "Air Emissions from Land Application of Manure". This presentation will include an overview of the issues and comparison of emissions from currently available land application systems. Speakers will also discuss odor monitoring and injection of solid manure including research highlights on this topic. To participate in this Webcast please see: http://www.extension.org/pages/Upcoming_Webcasts.

September 28-29. The Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering Department at ISU is offering the workshop, Energy Production from Anaerobic Digestion of Dairy Manure at the Madison Concourse Hotel, Madison, WI. This event will be held in conjunction with the World Dairy Expo. The short course is designed to provide the latest information and resources that consultants, decision makers, system reviewers, information providers or producers can use to understand and address issues related to anaerobic digestion of dairy manure. It has been designed to walk you through dairy manure energy production from fundamental principles to case histories. The course instructors have been selected from industry and academia based on their leadership and success in this area. For additional program information and registration details please see: http://www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/anaerobiccourse/home.html.

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The last edition of the IMMAG Update included a link to the article “A Top Ten List: Preparing for Fall Manure Application”. We received many positive comments about this article and it was picked up for distribution by many farm magazines and newsletters. It should be noted however, the materials developed for the IMMAG Update are developed specifically to address issues in Iowa and are not always applicable to other states or provinces. With that being said, and at the risk of doing another Top Ten List, it is also time to start thinking about winter application of manure. This past spring SF 432 was signed into law in Iowa and prohibits the surface application of liquid manure from confinement feeding operations (over 500 animal units and totally roofed facilities) on snow-covered ground from December 21 to April 1 and on frozen ground from February 1 to April 1 except in emergency situations. The law became effective on July 1, however the DNR is currently preparing to commence rule-making to address this legislation. It is important to note that even in the absence of rules, the law is effective and you should plan accordingly to avoid surface application of liquid manure in these situations. Failure to have adequate storage volume will not warrant emergency application. If emergency application is required these steps must be followed:

1. Notify the DNR. This includes owner’s name, facility name, facility ID, reason for emergency application, application date, estimated number of gallons to be applied, and the size and legal description of the application field.

2. The manure must be applied on land identified for emergency application in the current manure management plan. The land must be identified in the plan prior to application and must also be indentified in the next annual update or revised plan submitted to DNR and the local Board of Supervisors.

3. The liquid manure must be applied on fields with a P Index of 2 or less.

4. Surface water drains (tile inlets) located down gradient of the application must be temporarily blocked.

The above list is not all inclusive of the proposed rules so you should take time to study the proposed rules when they are put out for public comment. Going into this fall application season you should take some time to identify those fields that could be used for emergency application, update your manure management plan to reflect those available fields and avoid application this fall on fields that may need to be used for emergency application. Other things to consider include indentifying available back-up storage facilities that could be used to temporarily store manure until land application can be made.
As stated, this law applies to liquid manure application coming from confinement facilities that are required to have a manure management plan. However, regardless of the source of manure, or the size of operation, application of manure under these conditions is not recommended due to the increased risk of nutrient loss and movement to surface waters.

We have been receiving questions about use of the nitrification inhibitor Instinct™ in liquid manure. The active ingredient in that product is nitrapyrin, the same active ingredient as in N-Serve™ (nitrification inhibitors slow the conversion of ammonium to nitrate). Unfortunately we are not aware of university research data on the efficacy of this product with liquid manure in Iowa conditions.

**MANURE APPLICATOR CERTIFICATION:** Don’t forget to meet manure applicator certification requirements prior to land application of manure this fall. Please contact your [County Extension Office](http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/mac.html) to schedule time to meet the required annual training or contact your local [DNR Field Office](http://www.iowadnr.gov/afo/appcert.html) to schedule time to take the certification exam. If you need to determine you current certification status, contact the DNR Licensing Bureau at 515-281-5918. Please ask for the Licensing Bureau and state you are a manure applicator. Additional information can be found on the ISU Manure Applicator Certification Web Page at:

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- [http://www.iowadnr.gov/afo/appcert.html](http://www.iowadnr.gov/afo/appcert.html)

**EVENTS:** October 16. The Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship Center’s Webcast for October is titled *Pasture Management for Water Quality.* Grazing livestock and their management can have a major impact on water quality. Management of streams and riparian areas to maximize production and manage environmental risks will be discussed. To participate in this Webcast please see:

- [http://www.extension.org/pages/Upcoming_Webcasts](http://www.extension.org/pages/Upcoming_Webcasts)

January 6, 2010. Iowa Commercial Manure Applicator Certification Training. This training will provide the necessary 3 hours of annual training for commercial applicators to meet certification requirements. More details will be included as we get closer to this date.

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