

**INTERAGENCY NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MINUTES
JULY 27, 2006**

ATTENDEES:

NCDACS
Richard Reich
Kent Messick

NCSU
Deanna Osmond

DSWC
Vernon Cox

NRCS
Lane Price
Josh Spencer

Discussion items:

1. Draft revision to 633 Waste Utilization standard. Josh Spencer handed to the group a list of 633 issues that, after review of the draft standard since the last INMC meeting, needed to be resolved by the committee prior to distribution of the draft standard. These issues were:
 - Pine forest waste application and potential P leaching—The draft standard gives producers the ability to apply on pine forests under certain conditions detailed in the standard. Deanna had raised the concern through the review process that repeated applications of animal waste over a significant period of time could result in high P buildup in soils that have potential to leach. The group, after considering research and input from Dr. Lee Allen, NCSU, decided to insert language into the standard that would require annual soil samples on pine forest application areas, and that a resulting agronomic P index of greater than 50 would prohibit further waste application in lieu of running PLAT. The soil samples are to be conducted at a depth of 0-6 inches in a conventional manner. Further investigation and research will continue into this method of waste application.
 - Accounting for supplemental feed nutrients on pastureland—The draft standard states that nutrients from supplemental feed to cattle or other livestock must be accounted for in the nutrient management/waste utilization plan. Vernon had voiced the concern during the review process that there is no current method of quantifying supplemental feed nutrients. The group advised Josh and Lane to talk with Jim Green about ways to account for these nutrients, and that they should be recorded on required producer recordkeeping forms.
 - Animal waste manure data tables—The issue of modernizing the waste data tables was discussed by the group. At Lane's suggestion, the group decided to continue to use the current Barker tables until new information from ASABE/NCDA/NCSU/USDA, as well as industry surveys on the need to update animal waste categories can be evaluated and eventually assimilated into a new product. Josh is to provide Deanna with the current digitized (Excel spreadsheet) Barker data to post on the NC Nutrient Management website. The draft standard will refer to the website for this information. Deanna said that she had ASABE manure tables and would provide them to NRCS. Follow-up with industry contacts, NCDA, and poultry specialists will be necessary to shape the new waste table product.

2. *RYE Update progress.* David Crouse was unable to attend to update the group on this item. Refer to May 2006 minutes for more information.
3. *EPA revised CAFO rule.* Lane updated the committee on the revised EPA CAFO rule. Some members of the group attended a public hearing held in Fayetteville last week on the revised rule. The proposed rule from EPA requires only CAFOs that discharge or propose to discharge apply for an NPDES permit. CAFOs that discharge only defined “agricultural stormwater” would not be required to apply for a permit. However, under the proposed rule, any discharge from an operation that is not permitted would be illegal. Also, the nutrient management plan is now part of the permit, and would be subject to public comment and review during the permitting process under the proposed rule. Major changes to a nutrient management plan for a permitted facility would be subject to public review as well.
4. *Nutrient Management Software/Flexibility.* The group discussed the need for greater flexibility in writing nutrient management/waste utilization plans, in part because of the “added sprayfield/land is a major change to a plan” provision of the new proposed CAFO rule. Vernon and Lane discussed the need to have alternative application crops in the plan, and also the need for flexibility because of numerous changes in cropping rotations that can occur on a frequent basis for animal operations. Lane raised the issue, after field feedback, of having a simpler user interface in the nutrient management software, and also the possibility of integrating it with NCANAT and NRCS Toolkit/ArcGIS. Deanna mentioned the possibility of using 319 grant for reprogramming with nutrient management and PLAT in an effort to consolidate the software programs. The group discussed the need to poll the software users to determine needed changes and features that would be integrated into a new consolidated product. Lane suggested that a small group meet at the NRCS office on Sept 1, 1PM, to see NRCS planning products and discuss integration of planning tools with nutrient management and NCANAT.

The next INMC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 28, 2006 (1PM) at the NCDA Agronomic Lab library.