

INMC Meeting Notes

November 1, 2018

Attendance: Stephanie Kulesza, David Crouse, Colleen Hudak-Wise, David Hardy, Jeff Young, Michael Sheperd, Joe Hudyncia, Christine Lawson, Deanna Osmond

1. Changes to the committee

- Stephanie Kulesza is the new animal waste specialist in the Crop and Soil Sciences Department. She is joining the committee while David Crouse continues to serve through 2019, after which he will drop off the committee

2. Continuing education for nutrient management certification

- Certified nutrient management planners will need six hours every three years in a related topic. It is expected that the requirement will start January 1, 2019 but that decision will be finalized in November (see appendix).
- Currently about 110 technical specialists out of about 400 have signed up to stay on the list.
- Deanna will announce at this year's CCA training the details regarding continuing education for certified nutrient management planners.

3. Make-up of the certifying body for technical specialists designated by the Soil and Water Commission

- The proposed certifying body will consist of personnel from: 2 private sector, 1 NCDA soil and water, 1 NC State, 1 NRCS, 1 soil and water district, and 1 water resources. Further information should be available by December.

4. RYE and N rate for corn and wheat

- Deanna presented some corn and wheat yield and N rate data. It was decided that only the data from the linear plateau response curves will be used. We will discuss this further at the March 2019 meeting and determine if yield goals and N rates need to be increased.

5. Nutrient Management Training – March 11-15, 2019 (also December 2018)

- Stephanie took the training this fall and will start teaching in March, under the supervision of David Crouse. Once the March class is finished, all responsibility for nutrient management training will be turned over to Stephanie.

6. Changing to WEPP and Nutrient Management Training

- NRCS is changing to WEPP supposedly January 1, 2019 but there's really no plan to get it rolled out. The available training seemed obscure and there is concern about how non-NRCS technical specialist can use this tool to determine soil loss, which is needed in PLAT. Until we have more information from national NRCS it is difficult to plan for the change from RUSLE2 to WEPP.

7. **2018 Meeting Dates:** March, May, July, September, November 2019

Appendix:

Technical Specialist Continuing Education Requirement:

As a result of the readopted Rules in November 2017, all Technical Specialist designated by the Soil and Water Conservation Commission will be required to complete 6 hours of continuing education training every 3 years. At the time when the new rules were readopted, we had no mechanism to track training hours or guidelines in place to approve courses. To give us time to develop these requirements and to make it easier to manage the 3 year windows, our suggestion to the commission was to have the 3-year window start for all technical specialist January 1, 2019. One step in this process is to assign all current technical specialist with a unique identifier number that they will use to help track continuing education hours. We have discovered a lot of missing holes in our technical specialist database as people do not always update us when they change job locations and/or their contact information changes, so we are asking for all the help that we can get to get the work out and for all technical specialist to contact us and register for a number. Currently there are 400 people on the list of designated technical specialist and we have received a little over 100 registration forms. Although we do not anticipate getting forms from all 400 we still anticipate getting several more and will be sending out notices again every month until the end of the year. A link to the registration form can be found on the Division's website in the Upcoming Events tab at <https://www.ncagr.gov/swc/> Through this process we have had several people noticed they were not on the list and say they thought they were technical specialist since they went through the weeklong nutrient management training class. The application and approval process for technical specialist may need to be explained during the class.

NC Rules and Regulations Governing Animal Waste Management Training:

We held a training as part of the annual Conservation Employee Training (CET) 4-day workshop in Fayetteville on August 22. We had 42 people attend the training, mostly CET workshop participants, but we did have several others that came just for this training. We will plan to hold another training event the first of 2019.