



TAD News

September 2005

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Do you have a nutrient management plan yet?

December 2006 – what is the significance of this date? For Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs), it is the date when they must have a nutrient management plan.

Many dairy producers in Texas already have or are taking steps to comply with the CAFO rules, particularly those in the North Bosque River watershed, where dairies are required to already have a CNMP.

The point I want to make is – if you haven't begun the planning process, you need to get started. December 2006 might seem like a long way off, but it will be here sooner than you think!

The later you wait, the more difficult it will be to complete with other CAFOs for trained technical service providers that you need to work with to help put your plan together.

Dairy producers who have water quality management plans or a NRCS 590 nutrient management plan developed for their operation may already qualify; however, you still need to ensure what you have done will satisfy the requirements by the upcoming deadline.



As summer comes to an end, your retention control structures (lagoons) should be well managed in anticipation of a wet Fall.

Planning now is the best practice rather than having a full pond during wetter weather. ■

Manager's Update

John Cowan

Hurricane Katrina: How dairies can help with money, resources

Hurricane Katrina directly spared Texas, but the state's dairy producers are being asked to help both human and bovine victims of the powerful storm.

Two funds have been established to allow dairy producers to contribute monetarily to the massive relief effort.

Dairy Farmers of America has set up a tax-deductible relief fund to directly help dairy farm families in a crisis. DFA Cares Inc. will collect and administer funds to assist dairy farmers and in getting relief efforts to affected individuals and communities. The fund, which being set up to help the dairy farmers in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama affected by Hurricane Katrina, also will be maintained to help during any future crisis as well.

Contributions can be mailed to:

Dairy Farmers of America
Attn: DFA CARES
10220 N. Ambassador Drive
Kansas City, MO 64153

In addition, Dairy Relief, in conjunction with the National Milk Producers Federation, has set up a special fund for dairy farmers and others to donate money to assist those victims of

Hurricane Katrina. The money collected through Dairy Relief, Inc., will be sent to the American Red Cross.

Tax-deductible contributions should be mailed to:

Dairy Relief – Hurricane Fund
c/o the National Milk Producers Federation
2101 Wilson Blvd., Suite 400
Arlington, VA 22201.

DFA members and staff in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama are still assessing hurricane damage. While individual needs are not yet known, DFA would like to establish a list of available resources that may be used to aid distressed dairy farms.

If you know of a dairy farmer or business contact who have a generator, feed, cattle housing (or other resources) that they would consider sharing with a DFA dairy farm in the affected area, please call David Darr at (816) 801-6432 or log on to www.dfamilk.com and fax the downloadable information form to (816) 801-6590.

As for the cows in the hurricane-raged areas, the Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) reports that cows from **(Continued, "Hurricane," page 2)**

TAD announces revamped Web site

Visited TAD's Web site lately? If not, you're in for a surprise!

The site – www.milk4texas.org – has been redesigned to better serve not only TAD members, but also consumers and anyone else looking for more information about the dairy industry.

Found on the Web site is information about TAD's mission, board of directors, membership and contacts; environmental stewardship; economic impact of the dairy industry. Visitors can also read press releases, op/eds and other articles by and about TAD, as well as click on links to numerous other industry-related sites.

Coming soon, producers also will be able to access information on specific industry rules they are expected to follow.

The site also features updated graphics and photos that showcase Texas' dairy industry. ▪

www.milk4Texas.org.

TX/NM dairy workshop set for October at A&M

A workshop to address the expanding dairy industry in Texas and New Mexico is set for 9 a.m. (MST) on Oct. 12 at the Holiday Inn in Clovis, N.M. The program will be hosted by Texas A&M University and New Mexico State University.

Topics will include: "Building to Meet Customer Needs"; "Radio Frequency Identification – A Management Bonanza from a Regulatory Requirement"; "Postpartum Vitamin E Supplementation for Lactating Dairy Cattle"; "Making John's Disease Control Programs Work"; "Salmonella in Southwest Dairies"; "Ammonia: What's All the Fuss?"; "Cropping Schemes for Nutrient Utilization in Manure"; and "Phosphorous Research in Central Texas."

The day ends with a 3:30 p.m. meeting of the Texas Animal Nutrition Council.

The \$25 fee can be paid at the door, but pre-registration is needed by Sept. 30. To register, contact Hilary Sullivan at (505) 646-3326 or hilarys@nmsu.edu. ▪

Katrina spurs IRS to waive fuel penalty

The Internal Revenue Service, in response to shortages of clear diesel fuel caused by Hurricane Katrina, will not impose a tax penalty when dyed diesel fuel is sold for use or used on the highway.

The relief applies in Texas starting Aug. 31 and remains in effect through Sept. 15.

The penalty relief is available to anyone who sells or uses dyed fuel for highway use. The relief is only available if the fuel seller or the operator of the vehicle in which the dyed fuel is used pays the tax of 24.4 cents per gallon. The IRS will not impose penalties for failure to make semimonthly deposits of this tax.

IRS Publication 510 has information on the proper method for reporting and paying the tax. ▪

"Hurricane" (continued from page 1)

three New Orleans area dairies are being transported to vacant dairies in New Mexico.

Texas' livestock health officials are working to accommodate the evacuation of displaced livestock. The TAHC will allow livestock from Louisiana and Mississippi to enter Texas without the usually required health documents if the owners or shippers alert the TAHC before crossing into Texas.

Dairy cattle evacuated to Texas without a cattle TB test must be isolated from other cattle and meet entry requirements upon arrival.

Owners and shippers from Louisiana and Mississippi should call the TAHC's 24-hour number at (800) 550-8242 to provide information about the species, numbers and destination of the animals.

A permit number will be issued to the caller, and the TAHC will follow up to verify the arrival of the animals and to address any pertinent restriction or test requirements.

The TAHC also maintains a list of facilities or farms whose owners have volunteered to provide temporary shelter for livestock. ▪



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