



November 30, 2010

DRAFT—bw—11/22/2010

TO: Project Stakeholders

FROM: Ben Weinheimer, Texas Cattle Feeders Association
Dr. Brent Auvermann, Texas AgriLife Extension Service

SUBJECT: Manure Demonstration Project Advisory Group Meeting – January 5, 2011

Please plan to join us for the first meeting of the Project Advisory Group for the demonstration project, *Development and Implementation of an Environmental Training Program for Manure and Compost Haulers/Applicators in the Texas High Plains*. Agenda is enclosed.

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday, January 5, 2011
Texas AgriLife Research & Extension Center
6500 Amarillo Blvd. West
Amarillo, Texas

The purpose of this project is to facilitate the development and implementation of an education, training and demonstration program to improve the understanding of environmental protection principles by manure/compost haulers, equipment operators, certified crop advisors (CCAs) and crop producers across the Texas panhandle. The project team includes Texas Cattle Feeders Association, Texas AgriLife Extension Service, Texas AgriLife Research and West Texas A&M University.

Funding for this project was provided through a Clean Water Act §319(h) nonpoint source grant from the Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Additional details about the project are available at <http://www.tsswcb.state.tx.us/managementprogram/TCFAEDU>.

So we can plan for lunch, please RSVP by JAN. 3, 2011 to Cynthia Riojas, TCFA, by email at cynthia@tcfa.org or by phone (806) 358-3681. There is no registration fee.

We look forward to your participation and input throughout the duration of this project. If you have any questions, please call Ben at (806) 358-3681 or Brent at (806) 677-5600.

Sincerely,

Ben Weinheimer
Texas Cattle Feeders Association

Dr. Brent Auvermann
Texas AgriLife Extension Service

AGENDA

Project Advisory Group Meeting

Development and Implementation of an Environmental Training Program for Manure and Compost Haulers/Applicators in the Texas High Plains

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Wednesday, January 5, 2011
Texas AgriLife Research & Extension Center
6500 Amarillo Blvd. West
Amarillo, Texas

- 10:00 a.m. - Welcome, Introductions and Opening Comments
John Sweeten / Ben Weinheimer / Brent Auvermann
- 10:10 a.m. - Comments on TSSWCB Programs, including this project
Mitch Conine
- 10:20 a.m. - Review of Project Goals/Tasks and Timeline
Ben Weinheimer / Brent Auvermann
- 10:40 a.m. - Manure Spreader Calibration Trials and Manure Calibration Kits
Kevin Heflin / Marty Rhoades / Brady Miller
- 11:00 a.m. - Quality Assurance Project Plan
Gary Marek / Kevin Heflin
- 11:10 a.m. - Demonstration Sites in Deaf Smith, Donley and Wheeler Counties
Kevin Heflin / Ben Weinheimer – soil sampling sites
Paul DeLaune – water quality runoff site
- 11:45 a.m. - Overview of “Year 1” Soil Sampling Plan and Initial Results
Matt Davis
- Noon - Distribute and Discuss Draft Environmental Knowledge Assessment Surveys
Brent Auvermann
- 12:20 p.m. - Open Discussion, Comments and Suggestions
- 12:30 p.m. - Lunch (catered)
- 1:30 p.m. - Adjourn

Project Team:

Mr. Ben Weinheimer, Mr. Brady Miller and Mr. Matt Davis, Texas Cattle Feeders Association
Dr. Brent Auvermann, Texas AgriLife Extension Service at Amarillo
Dr. Brent Bean, Texas AgriLife Extension Service at Amarillo
Dr. Paul DeLaune, Texas AgriLife Research at Vernon
Dr. Marty Rhoades, West Texas A&M University
Mr. Mitch Conine, Texas State Soil and Water Conservation Board

Development and Implementation of an Environmental Training Program for Manure and Compost Haulers/Applicators in the Texas High Plains

Purpose:

To facilitate the development and implementation of an education, training and demonstration program to improve the understanding of environmental protection principles by manure/compost haulers, equipment operators, certified crop advisors (CCAs) and crop producers across the Texas panhandle.

Project goals:

- Assess the current level of environmental knowledge of custom manure/compost haulers and the extent of training provided to equipment operators.
- Design and develop an environmental training curriculum for custom manure/compost hauler owners, equipment operators, CCAs and crop producers, including materials in Spanish.
- Promote adoption of sound water quality protection practices by custom manure/compost haulers, equipment operators, CCAs and crop producers through program delivery in at least two pilot watersheds.
- Utilize workshops, field days and hands-on demonstration of best management practices and ensure availability of education materials through website.