Manure Truck Calibration
Areas where we need feedback

- Employee training
- Manure truck specs
- Smartphone and/or computer apps that aid in spreader calibration
- Improvement to calibration technique
Truck specs
Materials and methods for single-pass manure truck calibration

• Tarps - dimensions and placement
• Conversion factor
  – Lbs/tarp to tons/acre
• Handheld scales
• Weights
• Width of manure application
• Field conditions
Conversion factors

• 1 pound of manure on the 56”x56” tarps = 1 ton/acre
• 1 pound of manure on the 28”x28” tarps = 4 tons/acre
Applicators perspective
It takes less than 60 seconds to weigh each tarp and record the data.
Aspect ratio

The tarp dimension and configuration that yielded the most consistent results were tarps that were 28”x112” and placed on the center line of the application area.
Challenges
• Tarp dimensions
• Tarp placement
• Truck speed
• Distance between the back dual tires
• Wind
• Field conditions
Diagnosing a spreader truck problem
Inconsistency due to spreader malfunction
10-35 tons per acre
average = 17 tons per acre +/- 8 tons
Areas where we need feedback

• Employee training
• Manure truck specs
• Smartphone and/or computer apps that aid in spreader calibration
• Improvement to calibration technique
Manure application with tarp aspect ratio of 1:1 (prior to truck repair)
Manure application vs tarp aspect ratio (post truck repair)