

Teleconference among the Nutrient Management Team members to discuss possible topics for the SRWQC in Lexington - 10-11 AM EDT Feb 21, 2005

Participating members-

Diane Boellstorff, Mike Daniels, Sam Dennis, Desh Duseja, Mark McFarland, Charles Mitchell, Fred Moore, Rao Mylavarapu, Larry Oldham, Hailin Zhang

The Lexington meeting format requires that the NM team gear up for one workshop and 3 session titles.

In order to minimize duplication of topics, Diane checked the web site and informed the group of the three topics that Animal Waste Management team put forth. As there was minimal or no overlap, it was apparent that the NM team has to come up with all the titles.

Hailin suggested that there should be a workshop on Lawn and Garden Nutrient Management, which was strongly supported by Sam and Charles, particularly due to a lot of misinformation and availability of delivery modules such as Master Gardener trainings. Soil sampling, fertilizer formulations and choices, recommendations, fertilizer and service industry perspectives were suggested as specific topics to be addressed.

It was agreed that the workshop on these topics would lead to creating regional guidelines to address water quality concerns from nutrient applications to Lawns and Gardens. Hailin and Charles have agreed to lead the workshop.

After some discussion led by Mark, Mike, Sam, Charlie and Rao, on how much the extension agents are involved with P-Index implementation and NM plans in each state, Mark suggested that one of the sessions be titled, 'Extension Involvement in Implementation of P-Index'. Sam enquired if there would be a panel discussion to which Mark replied that it was quite possible.

The next topic that Mark suggested was, 'Enhancing Adoption of Soil Testing as a BMP'. The ensuing discussion considered user friendly, web based formats for delivering results, aerial photographs and maps (Charles), free soil testing versus charging a real fee (Mike, Mark and Charlie), creative strategies for promotion and NRCS requirements on soil tests (Mark).

'Nutrients from Organic Amendments' was suggested as the third session title by Mark again. Organic amendments such as composts, biosolids, etc. are being used widely and their mineralization/availabilities vary widely even within a state (Charles).

In response to Desh's suggestion that some of the agencies such as EPA and NRCS should be involved to provide their perspectives, Mark said suitable NRCS person in and around Lexington, KY, could be identified for speaking at the session, particularly on the soil testing topic.

Rao said that the titles identified for the workshop and sessions will be forwarded to Mike Smolen for sending all out invitations for speakers. Rao encouraged every one to bring along agents and other appropriate people to the Lexington meetings and particularly papers/speakers.

Diane and Rao reminded every one to send in articles for the first regional newsletter on nutrient management activities as soon as possible.

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