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Spreadin' The News

Mark Your Calendars!

Cover Crop Field Day

July 20, 2011 – 10:00 a.m.

Dennis & Gary Baugher Farm

4511 E. Co. Rd. 50, Tiffin



Light Lunch Will Be Provided—RSVP Requested

Contact Kendall Stucky at (419) 447-7073 or kendall.stucky@oh.nacdnet.net

or Cindy Brookes, at (419) 334-5016 or cabrookes@wsos.org



Manure Science Review

August 16, 2011

Winner Family Farm

7317 State Route 47 West, Degraff, Ohio

Costs \$30 (before August 8) or \$35 (after August 8)

Contact Mary Wicks at wicks.14@osu.edu for more information

<http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/e5406/Manure-Science-Review.htm>



For Complete
Information or Fliers On
Any Of
The Field Days,
Visit
www.senecaswcd.com

Summer Pasture Walk & Management Meeting

August 24, 2011—5:30 p.m.

Baldosser Farms

5393 Township Road 78; Green Springs, Ohio

Cost - \$6 each - Registrations Due: August 22

Contact Kendall Stucky at (419) 447-7073
or kendall.stucky@oh.nacdnet.net to register

Know How Much You Are Putting On

Manure Spreader / Tanker Calibration

There are several methods that can be used to calibrate the application rate of a manure spreader. The two best methods are the load-area method and the plastic sheet method. It is desirable to repeat the calibration procedure 2 to 3 times and average the results to establish a more accurate calibration.

Before calibrating a manure spreader, the spreader settings such as splash plates should be adjusted so that the spread is uniform. Most spreaders tend to deposit more manure near the spreader than at the edge of the spread pattern. Overlapping can make the overall application more uniform. Calibrating application rates when overlapping is involved requires measuring the width of two spreads and dividing by two to get the effective spread width. Calibration should take place annually or whenever manure is being applied from a different source or consistency.

Load Area Method

The load-area method is the most accurate and can be used for most types of manure handling equipment. This method consists of determining the amount (volume or weight) of manure in a spreader and the total area over which it will be applied. The most accurate method to determine the amount of manure in a spreader is to weigh the spreader when it is full of manure and again when it is empty (portable pad scales work well for this).

The difference is the quantity of manure to be applied over the covered area. Spreader capacities listed by the manufacturers can be used to determine the amount of manure in the spreader. However, care must be taken when using a manufacturer's spreader capacities.

Heaped loads, loading methods and manure type may vary considerably from what is listed by the manufacturers of box and side delivery manure spreaders. Spreader capacities for liquid tankers are generally accurate provided the tanker is filled to the manufacturer's recommended levels, and no foam is present in the tank.

The area of spread is determined from measuring the length and width of the spread pattern. Measuring can be done with a measuring wheel, measuring tape or by pacing.



Application Rate Formula

Distance traveled(ft.) x Spreading Width
(ft.)/43,560 =Area Covered
Ex: 1,800 ft x 12 ft/43,560 = .4959

Spreader Capacity (tons or gallons)/Area
Covered = Rate Per Acre
Ex: 5,000 gallon/.4959 = 10,082 gallons



Plastic Sheet Method

The plastic sheet method can only be used with solid or semi-solid manure. This method of calibrating spreader application rates involves 1) cutting a plastic sheet to the specified dimensions (56 inches X 56 inches); 2) weighing the clean plastic sheet; 3) laying out the plastic sheet on the ground and driving the manure spreader (applying manure at a recorded speed and spreader setting) over the sheet; 4) weighing the plastic sheet with the manure on it; 5) determine the net weight of the manure on the sheet (weight of manure and sheet - weight of the clean sheet); and 6) the net pounds of manure equals tons per acre applied.

When calibrating manure spreaders, all details regarding tractor speed and manure spreader settings and date (s) of each calibration should be recorded with manure application information, and directly on the equipment. Mark equipment to ensure a known application rate is applied each time the referenced tractor speed and spreader settings are used. Manure spreader settings can include such things as: fast and slow settings on some box spreaders, gate position on side delivery spreaders and splash plate position and fill levels on liquid tankers.

Why Oats, and Not Cereal Rye or Wheat?

By Stan Smith, PA, Fairfield County OSU Extension

In the previous Ohio Beef Cattle Letter publication, we suggested that planting oats on acres that were left unplanted to corn or soybeans this spring might be utilized for growing oats which could be grazed or harvested after November 1. Since then the question has been asked why we'd encourage the planting of oats this time of year instead of cereal rye or wheat. Rye is, indeed, an alternative, but based on our experience, here's the way we view the three forages.

If your primary need for forage is NEXT SPRING, then your best option is cereal rye. It will grow much like wheat but reach about 6 to perhaps 10 inches in height yet this summer and fall, but after going dormant this winter will give most of its abundant growth in the spring. It's better than wheat because it is a little more cold toler-

ant, growing a little longer into fall, and breaking dormancy a little earlier in the spring than wheat. Also, there are Hessian



fly issues that must be dealt with if wheat is planted before the fly free date. Although producing less tonnage than oats yet this

calendar year, the cereal rye growth one could graze this fall would be very high quality feed . . . much higher in protein than oats likely would be.

If your primary need for forage is yet THIS YEAR, then oats are a better option. They do not need to go dormant in order to elongate and provide abundant growth. Instead, when planted in mid to late summer they will reach maximum height and growth in about 75+/- days after planting. By planting them after the summer solstice, they will generally remain vegetative and not make seed. Sometimes oats will push out what appears to be seed heads, but the hulls are typically hollow. In addition, oats don't need to be chemically killed in order to plant a row crop next spring as rye would be.



Cover Crop Website Links:

<http://plantcovercrops.com>

<http://mcccdev.anr.msu.edu>

"More Than Manure" is a new product developed by Specialty Fertilizer Products (SFP). "More Than Manure" is a very unique product because of its ability to keep your nitrogen from volatilization and leaching. It also prevents phosphorus from being tied up in the soil, making it more readily available to the plant during the growing season. "More Than Manure" was developed especially for manure for all species as well as treating pit, lagoon, or dry pack

manure. The product is versatile and environmentally friendly as



well as non-toxic to livestock and non-corrosive. Additional features

"More Than Manure"

are it is very easy to use and handle and it has no crop rotation restrictions.

SFP is offering a test market trial purchase of "More Than Manure".

If you would like more information about "More Than Manure", please contact either, Tom Kupke, Livestock & Poultry Product Manager for SFP at 308-249-3298, or Tony Donoho, Northeast Regional Account Manager for SFP, at 765-437-1316.

Manure Sampling Procedures

The recommended sampling for solid manure is to sample while loading the spreader. Sampling the manure pack in a barn directly has been shown to result in very variable results and is not recommended. Take at least 5 samples during the process of loading several spreader loads and save them in a bucket. When all samples are collected thoroughly mix the samples and take a subsample from this to fill the manure test container.

In liquid manure storage, agitation is critical to uniform spreading of

manure and getting a representative sample. Agitating for 2-4 hours is the minimum and depending on the type of storage much longer may be required. The agitation for sampling should be similar to the agitation done when the storage is emptied. For this reason the most practical time to sample is when the storage is being emptied for field application.

Use a bucket to collect at least 5 samples during the process of loading several loads and save them in a bucket. When all samples are collected, thoroughly mix

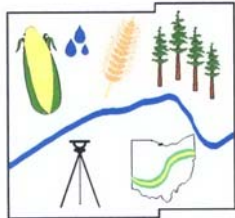
the samples and take a subsample from this to fill manure test container about three-fourths full. Since the samples will be taken over a several hour period, keep samples on ice to limit ammonia losses.

We strongly recommend samples be mailed Monday thru Wednesday.



For sample containers or questions, please contact Kendall Stucky MNMS at (419) 447-7073.

Four County Manure Management Program *serving livestock producers in Seneca, Wyandot, Crawford & Sandusky Counties*



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***** Special Note *****

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email, please contact Kendall at:
kendall.stucky@oh.nacdn.net

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