

National Program 206: Manure and Byproduct Utilization

Assessment Team Meeting

March 22-23, 2004

Assessment Team

- Ten persons participated
- EPA
- Environmental Defense
- University Scientists, animal science, engineering and soil science
- NRCS
- Industry

Assessment Process

- Reviewed each program area,
 - Background
 - Accomplishments/impact
 - Publication record
 - Consensus score for impact
 - Written comments on each problem area

Assessment Process

- Wrote general comments on each component (nutrients, emissions, and pathogens)
- Wrote general comments on program 206
 - Interaction with end-users
 - Strengths and weaknesses of the program
 - Balance of effort among components

Component observations

- Future needs
- Current problems to emphasize
- Current problems to de-emphasize

General Comments

- High capital cost and long term projects that land grant universities can't do
- Economic analysis should be factored into technology/BMP development
- Evaluate cross-media (air, water and soil) impacts
- Work with end users to develop communication tools and collaboration

General Comments

- Apply promising research to other regions
- Focus on prevention, not remediation
- The three components (nutrient management, emissions and pathogens) have been the correct ones

General Comments

- Number one priority is emissions, otherwise balance among components is good
- Develop systems for all sizes, including small and medium size operations
- Emphasize watershed scale, de-emphasize field scale studies

Components

- **Nutrients**, extensive history of soil and water interaction research,
 - 9 problems areas
- **Emissions**, much less research has been done on gases, odors and particulates,
 - 6 problems areas
- **Pathogens**, minimal research completed
 - 5 problems areas