



USDA-CSREES 2005 National Water Quality Conference

Distribution of Research-based Nutrient and Pesticide Management Information

Abstract:

Distribution of Research-based Nutrient and Pesticide Management Information

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Situation: Runoff of farmland nutrients and pesticides continues to be a major source of contamination in surface and ground waters throughout the Midwest. The Heartland Nutrient and Pesticide Management (NPM) Team; led by faculty from Kansas State University, and the University of Nebraska, has developed a web site to improve knowledge and promote awareness of nutrient and pesticide water quality issues throughout the Heartland Region.

Objectives: The objective of the NPM web site is to promote the sharing of research-based information between universities in the Heartland Region and to provide a means of delivering that information to various agencies as well as the public. Via the web site, the team will continue to assess pollutants and encourage the implementation of best management practices (BMPs).

Methods: The web site features a search engine for extension and research publications regarding nutrient and pesticide management issues for the entire Heartland Region. Users may locate information by state, pollutant, BMP, etc. A complete contact list consisting of university and agency personnel is offered to encourage communication and collaboration.

Partnerships: The major partnership that supports this web site is that of Kansas State University and the University of Nebraska. Providing an accessible mode of information supports partnerships with county agents and landowners. Significant effort is directed toward enhancing coordination with various agencies within the Heartland Region, such as ARS, DNR, Conservation Districts, NRCS, and the USEPA.

Resources: The web site is supported by faculty and staff time, in conjunction with CSREES grant funds.

Integration of Research, Teaching, and Extension: The web site features research and publications from Iowa State University, Kansas State University, the University of Missouri, and the University of Nebraska. A list of workshops and/or educational events is presented on the website, along with presentations and materials developed from previous events.

Results: The NPM website has proven to be an economical and efficient source of research-based information. The web site serves as a hub for information

sharing throughout the Heartland Region. Summaries of integrated resources and the search publications feature aid the web site in educating and encouraging the use of BMPs to improve water quality.

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