

Colorado CCA News



Colorado Certified Crop Adviser Newsletter

Greetings from the Colorado CCA Board

I hope this newsletter finds your customers' crops doing well and hopefully not too many of them have been hit with hail. In this newsletter you'll find news about the USDA sponsored water quality training program, as well as new guidelines for work experience for CCA

applicants. Also you will find opportunities for CEU's as well as many new web sites for your review. Good luck with the rest of your production season.

Kevin Miller
Colorado CCA Chairman

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Colorado CCA News

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CEUs Available for "Introduction to Water Quality" Training Program

Twelve Continuing Educational Units (12 CEUs) may be obtained from the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) for the CCA Program for successful completion of the Introduction to Water Quality training program sponsored by the USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

This training program creates an awareness of NRCS Water Quality policy, and teaches principles and how to apply them in daily activities at the field, farm, and watershed scales. The course utilizes video and a student workbook for the self-study delivery. The training program requires approximately 20 hours of concentrated study to complete.

ASA has awarded 2 CEUs for Nutrient Management and 10 for Soil and Water for a total of 12 CEUs. Upon completion of the program a Certificate of Completion will be issued, along with instruction on how to obtain the CEUs.

There is no cost to anyone to register and take the "Introduction to Water Quality" training program. The course can be accessed at: <http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/nedc/homepage.html>. Select "Course Catalog & Enrollment" from the menu at the left side of the screen and then select "Introduction to Water Quality" to register and begin the program.

Be sure to check your CEU status for the current cycle before enrolling in the class. If you already have enough CEUs in Nutrient Management and Soil and Water, you may want to wait until your next certification cycle begins to take the course.

The ASA may offer CEUs for other NRCS courses in the future. Please check future Colorado CCA Newsletters for updates.



New ICCA Work Experience Guidelines



At the recent meetings of the International CCA (ICCA) Advisory Council and Board, considerable time was devoted to what activities constitute acceptable (and unacceptable) work experience.

Philosophically, things a farmer or client expects his/her competent dealer to be doing during the week probably should count as acceptable work experience. A competent dealer doing the range of activities that dealers typically do will probably fulfill his/her 4-year work experience requirement in 4 years. This acknowledges that during some of those hours, he/she is not actively giving advice. This is consistent with section 3.2.2.3 in the ICCA Policy Manual, which states that a year of experience should be credited if the applicant indicates that approximately one-third (e.g. at least 30% to 35%) of their year is engaged in one or more of the following activities: a. Advising farmers on crop production; b. Teaching or educating crop advisers about topics that are described in the performance objectives; and c. Advising or working with farmers to install soil conservation practices, or to meet state or federal regulations that are related to crop production.

As a guideline to local committees, the ICCA Board would expect the following statements to be accepted as

appropriate work experience:

- Advising clients on crop production.
- Advising or working with clients to install soil conservation practices.
- Advising or working with clients to meet state, provincial, or federal regulations related to crop production (such as conservation compliance).
- Develop crop plans for customers.
- Develop crop plans for crops.
- Diagnose crop growth problems.
- Help customers choose varieties/hybrids.
- Manage variety trials.
- Scout fields for problems and recommend action to be taken.
- Take soil samples, interpret results, and discuss with clients.
- Teaching, training, or educating crop advisers about topics that are described in the performance objectives.

The board would expect the following statements would probably not be accepted as appropriate work experience:

- Application of pesticides.
- Collect overdue payments on accounts.
- Deliver fertilizer to customers.
- Drive spreader truck.
- Mix and deliver feed.
- Sell chemicals and fertilizers.
- Take soil samples.

Call for Articles

Do you have an idea for a future newsletter article? Do you know of a CCA member who has received recognition and should be mentioned in a future CCA newsletter? Do you know of any websites that would be of interest to other CCAs?

If you have answered "yes" to any of the above questions or have any other ideas or comments to share, please contact Betsy Buffington at Betsy.Buffington@ColoState.edu or (970) 491-6027.

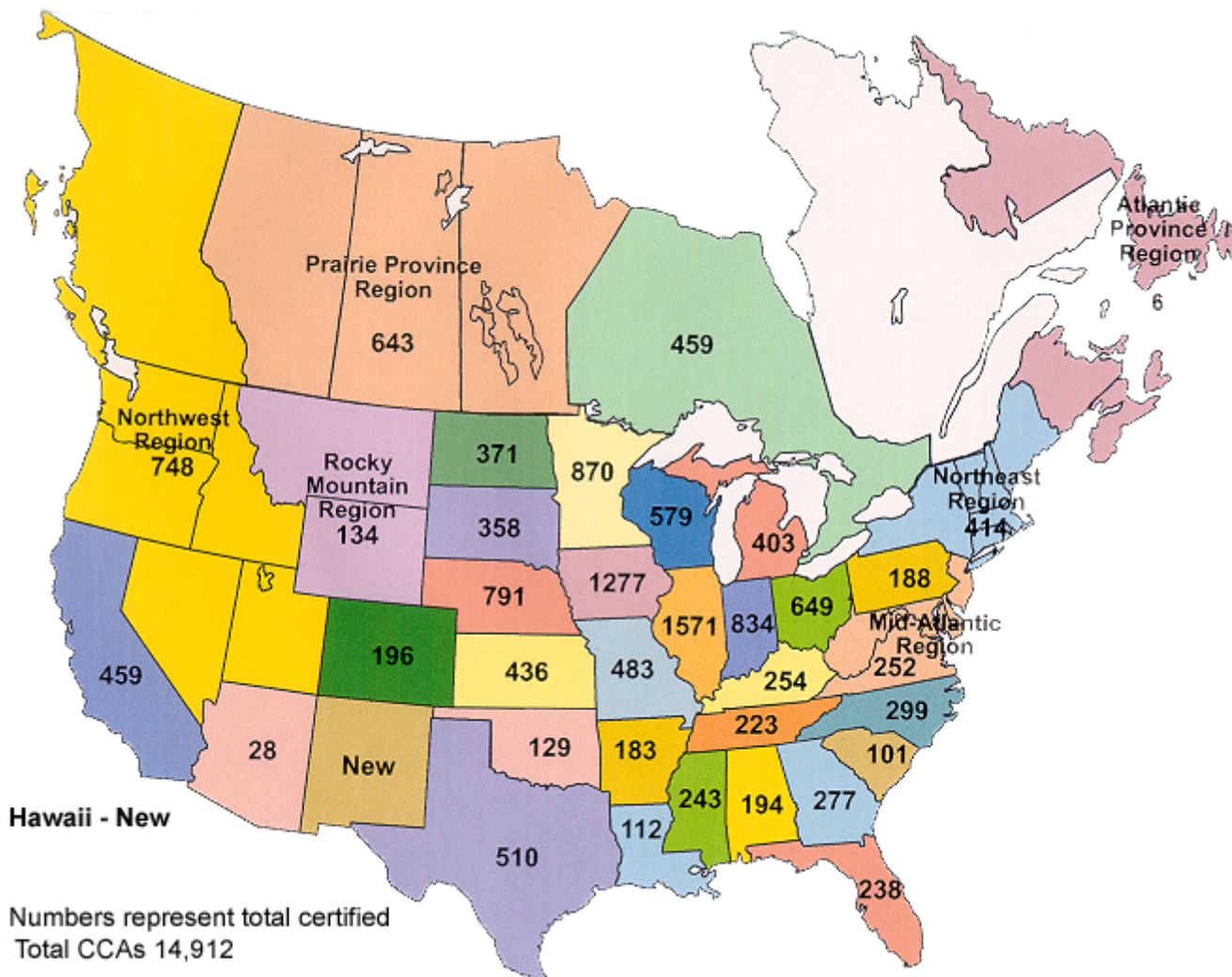
Detailed CCA CEU Statement Available On-line

You are now able to access your detailed CCA CEU statement on-line at: http://www.agronomy.org/cca/search_ceu.html. You can view and/or print this statement at any time. The ASA/ICCA office will still mail you a statement in January and October, but will no longer mail one in June. You may still request a detailed statement to be mailed to you

at any time by contacting the CCA office at (608) 273-8085.

You are now also able to report any missing CCA Board Approved CEUs on-line by using the appropriate form found at: http://www.agronomy.org/cca/ceu_missing_form.html. Changes can not be accepted over the phone.

2001 ICCA Program Participants



CEUs Available for University of Nebraska Home Study Courses

The Nebraska CCA Board has worked with UNL to develop two Home Study Courses for CEU credits. The Irrigation Home Study Course is available and consists of a manual that contains 13 chapters and 13 tests. Each test is worth a total of 1 CEU in Soil and Water Management.

The Soils Home Study Course is available and consists of a manual that contains ten chapters and ten tests. Each test is worth a total of 1 CEU in Nutrient Management. The Soils Home

Study Course tests are available on-line with instant feedback at: <http://www.ianr.unl.edu/soilshomestudy/index.htm>.


Manuals can be purchased for \$85.00 each, plus shipping from the Nebraska Agri-Business Association, 1111 Lincoln Mall, Suite 308, Lincoln, NE 68508. There is a 5% handling fee if paid for with a credit card. Order forms can be requested by contacting Dana at (402) 476-1528, Fax: (402) 476-1259 or e-mail to info@necca.org



A map of Colorado showing its 64 counties. Each county is represented by a colored rectangle containing its name and number. The colors are as follows:

- Red:** Larimer (25), Morgan (18), Park (), Fremont (2), Rio Grande (9), Baca (2).
- Green:** Moffat, Jackson, Eagle, Mesa (3), Delta (1), Montrose (1), Ouray, Dolores, La Plata, Archuleta, Conejos (3), Las Animas.
- Cyan:** Rio Blanco (1), Grand, Boulder (3), Gilpin, Clear Creek, Summit, Pitkin, Lake, Chaffee, Teller, Lincoln (3), Cheyenne (2), Bent (1), Huerfano.
- Magenta:** Routt, Gunnison (1), Lake, Jefferson (1), Douglas, Elbert, Kit Carson (12), Kiowa (2), Alamosa (3), Costilla.
- Yellow:** Weld (36), Logan (5), Adams (2), Arapahoe (2), Douglas, El Paso (2), Pueblo, Otero (1), Bata (1).
- White:** Garfield (2), Clear Creek, Douglas, Lincoln (3), Crowley, Otero (1), Mineral, Hinsdale, Park (), Custer, Prowers (3).

The map also shows major cities like Denver and Fort Collins, and the state's borders with Nebraska, Kansas, New Mexico, and Utah.



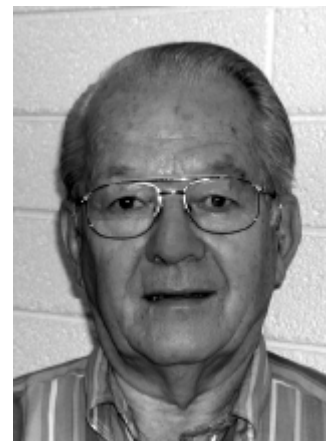
Meet the Colorado CCA Board—John Mortvedt

Editor's Note: Beginning with this issue, each newsletter will introduce you to a current CCA board member. We begin the series with John Mortvedt, ex-officio board member.

John Mortvedt was raised on a farm in South Dakota. He received B. S. and M.S. degrees in agronomy from South Dakota State University and a Ph. D. degree in soil chemistry from the University of Wisconsin. From 1962-1993 he worked at the National Fertilizer and Environmental Research Center of the Tennessee Valley Authority in Muscle Shoals, AL mainly with research on micronutrient fertilizer development and use, their reactions in soils, and plant nutrition. He has written numerous papers for technical journals and trade magazines over the past 40 years, and was co-author of the book, Fertilizer Technology and Application in 1999.

John moved to Colorado in 1992, and served at CSU as an Extension Soils Specialist in 1994-1995, and as Extension Environmental and Pesticide Education Specialist in 1996. During that time he also assisted in organizing the CCA program in Colorado, and served as Chair of the Colorado CCA Board from 1994-1998. Now he is semi-retired, serving as a consultant to the fertilizer industry.

John is an ex-officio member of the CCA Board, and is on the Training Committee. He evaluates all applications of meetings with continuing education units (CEUs), approves eligible CEUs, and sends them to the International CCA Headquarters in Madison, WI for recordkeeping. Send your CEU applications to him at the Dept. of Soil and Crop Sciences, CSU, Ft. Collins, CO 80523.



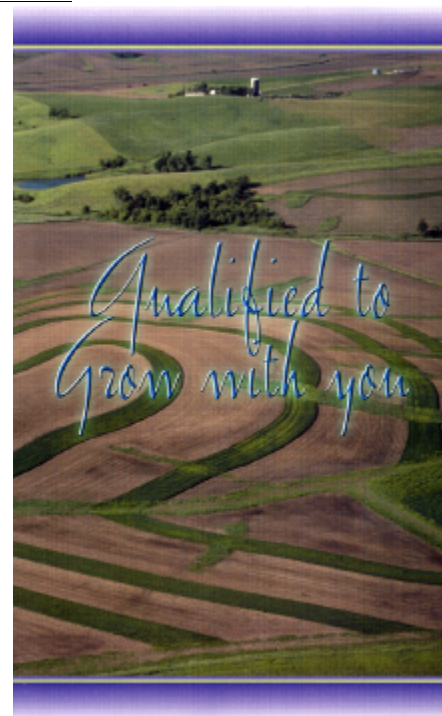
John Mortvedt
Ex-Officio Board Member

New CCA Marketing Tools Available

A new power point presentation entitled "Qualified to Grow With You" is now available for you to download off of the CCA web site at: <http://www.agronomy.org/cca>. The animated, 28 slide presentation explains the CCA program and can make a great feature for your grower meetings. The presentation can be customized to fit the needs of your grower customers and prospects. There is also a CCA presentation template on the web site so that you can design your own power point program.

Also, a new, full-color brochure is available as a marketing tool. It is great

to give to your grower customers and prospects to let them know what it means to be a CCA. The brochure cover is pictured at right. You can order the brochure by contacting Colorado's CCA Representative, Lorene F. Peterson, on her direct extension by calling 608-273-8090, extension 310, or via E-mail at lpeterson@agronomy.org. Brochures are \$0.13 each, and can be ordered in any amount.



Colorado Certified Crop Adviser Newsletter

Colorado Certified Crop Adviser Program
Dept. of Soil and Crop Sciences
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1170



Web Sites Worth A Look

International CCA website

<http://www.agronomy.org/cca/>

Check your CEU's by entering your certification number, look at upcoming events on the CEU calendar, take self-study exams, and much more!

CSU Crops Online Fact Sheets

<http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/crops/pubcrop.html>

Fact sheets covering crop production, diseases, irrigation, and soils and fertilizers with links to insects and farm management.

Agriculture Online's Crop Production Talk Group

<http://talk.agriculture.com/crop.html>

Discussion groups covering crop planning, planting, scouting and harvesting, as well as specialty farming.

Colorado Climate Center

<http://ccc.atmos.colostate.edu/>

The Colorado Climate Center was established by the state in 1974, through the Colorado State University Agricultural Experiment Station, to provide information and expertise on Colorado's complex climate.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

<http://www.usda.gov.nass/>

NASS publications cover a wide range of subjects, from traditional crops, such as corn and wheat, to specialties, such as mushrooms and flowers, from calves born to hogs slaughtered, from agricultural prices to land in farms.

