

Colorado CCA News



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Colorado CCA News

is a quarterly publication of the Colorado Certified Crop Advisers.

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Colorado Certified Crop Adviser Newsletter

Colorado CCA Update

By Jim Sharkoff, Colorado CCA Board Chairman

2002 Farm Bill

On May 13, President Bush signed the 2002 Farm Bill titled "The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002". This legislation authorizes increased Federal spending for conservation of natural resources on private farm and ranch lands by about \$13 billion over the next six years. These conservation dollars, once appropriated, will be available to private landowners for both financial and technical assistance. Financial assistance includes payments for land rental or cost-shared structural practices such as fencing and irrigation systems. Technical assistance includes conservation planning, engineering and installation of practices such as prescribed grazing or nutrient and pest management.

Technical Assistance

The Secretary of Agriculture has been directed to provide technical assistance to eligible producers directly or, at the option of the producer, through a payment to the producer for technical assistance delivered by an approved Third Party Provider. A Third Party Provider is an individual certified to provide specific types of technical assistance to USDA Program participants. Actually, the Third Party concept is not new.

The Food Security Act of 1985 and the Farm Bill of 1996 already authorize producers to secure technical assistance from approved sources other than NRCS. In response, ICCA signed an agreement with the NRCS in 1998 to provide a mechanism to register CCAs as approved sources of technical assistance for nutrient and pest management.

The 2002 Farm Bill also directs the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a system for approving individuals and entities to provide technical assistance, including criteria for the evaluation of providers and establishing the amounts and methods for payment for the assistance provided. This system will apply to all types of technical assistance and not just nutrient and pest management. The details have not been worked out yet, but the task must be completed within 180 days of the enactment of the Bill, so we should know something about any additional requirements for CCAs by the end of September.



For additional information about the 2002 Farm Bill and CCA, see the May and July issues of CCA Advantage. They can be accessed online at

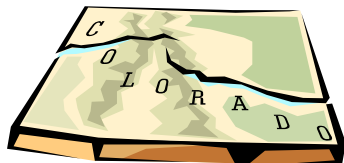
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Colorado CCA Update (Continued)

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<http://www.cropdecisions.com>. If you would like a copy of the Bill as it pertains to Third Party Providers, go to <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill> and click on Title II, Conservation.

down as one of the West Regional Representatives to the ICCA Board. Merlin Van Deraa has been nominated by the Colorado Board to fill in behind Reagan, so be sure to return your ballots to Madison by August 14, 2002.



ICCA Regional Representative Elections

Dr. Reagan Waskom, who was instrumental in establishing the Colorado CCA Program, is stepping

New Colorado CCA Website Launched

Announcing a new website, the Colorado Certified Crop Adviser Program, now up and running at: <http://www.ColoradoCCA.org>. The website provides updated information and serves as a resource for current Colorado CCAs, potential CCAs, and CCA clientele.

CCA Clients:

ColoradoCCA.org offers producers information on what they should look for in a crop adviser and what CCAs have to offer them. New CCA clientele could be directed to the website to learn more about the Colorado CCA program or the information on the site could be used to create promotional materials for potential clientele.

Current Colorado CCAs:

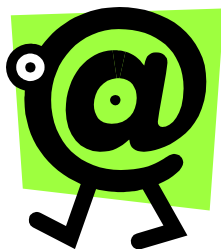
Using ColoradoCCA.org, CCAs can quickly find meetings offering CEUs. A frequently updated calendar of upcoming CEU opportunities is available on the site, as well as descriptions of the different types of CEUs and how to apply for board-approved CEUs. The website is a great place to get any of your CEU questions answered.

Potential CCAs:

The requirements and steps to becoming a Colorado CCA can also be found on the website. Please encourage perspective members to view ColoradoCCA.org to learn more about our program.

Other pages of interest to current CCAs include current and previous newsletters; contact information for board and committee members; and links to check your CEUs, to find other CCAs, and many other agronomic links.

We hope that you will find the website useful. If you have any suggestions or ideas for the website, please contact the webmaster, Betsy Buffington, or anyone on the CCA board.



Promote the CCA Program!
Share this newsletter with your friends and colleagues.

CDA Notes

By Mark Klapperich, Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) Division of Plant Industry Inspector and CCA.

Commercial Pesticide Applicators:

CDA is implementing a risk-based applicator inspection system in which an inspector will visit one-third of the commercial, limited commercial, and/or public applicators each year. With this new approach, the goal is 100% compliance by the end of the inspection year. For the applicators, the inspection itself has not changed. The only noticeable difference that the applicator will experience is that more follow-up visits will be done when any areas of concern arise, to verify corrections have taken place.

Pesticides:

Section 18 emergency exemptions are used when there are no federally registered pesticides available to control a serious pest problem and there would be significant economic loss without the use of the Section 18 pesticide. This year CDA has received 15 Section 18s. The products and uses, along with the expiration dates for the products are listed on the following CSU extension website:

<http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/SoilCrop/extension/CEPEP/sec18/exemptions.htm>.

Before applying a Section 18 product in Colorado, an applicator needs to apply for, and receive, a special permit from CDA and must have in their possession the current Section 18 label from the manufacturer. It is important to have the label because this is where the restrictions are listed on the use of the product. These restrictions can include the time of year, counties the product can be applied in, application types (ground, chemigation, and aerial), minimum gallonage per acre, and type of cropping systems to be used in. It is important that the applicators read,

understand, and follow the permit and label directions. The conditions for each product and crop combination are unique. By not following the instructions, the applicator puts at risk these valuable tools of production agriculture.

Chemigation:

I do not know if it is the year or what, but I have been permitting a lot of irrigation systems already this summer. A permit is needed when the water goes into a closed (pipe) irrigation system. A common sense approach is to look at the system and if the water could backflow at anytime and carry anything with it down the well, a permit and the safety equipment probably are needed. When injecting agricultural chemicals, including both pesticides and fertilizers, into a closed irrigation system, a permit and safety equipment are needed **BEFORE** an injection is started.

The permit fee is \$45 and is due by **April 1** each year. Any permit applications turned in after that date require a \$45 late fee to be paid in addition to the permit fee (total of \$90). If a well or water source is not permitted, an affidavit (no cost) must be filed with CDA. An affidavit will allow a farmer to obtain a permit after the April 1 due date without paying a late fee. The affidavit may be used when no decision has been made as to which field to plant with which crops. Once the crops have been planted, the permit application and fee are mailed in, without the late fee.

Once the permit is obtained, the permit must be in hand before any injection is started. An inspection is conducted once every 2 years to verify that the installed safety equipment is operating properly.

If a person is chemigating without the permit and/or safety equipment, there is the possibility of a fine. The fine is

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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 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) 491-3947.

CDA Notes (Continued)

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\$1,000 per day. If it is looked at in another perspective, that fine would pay for about 20 years of permits. My question is, "is the risk worth the risk?"

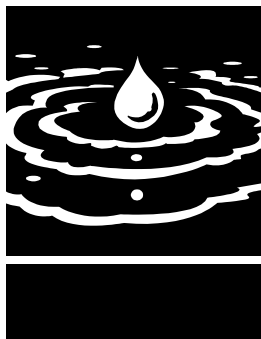
On-Farm Fertilizer Containment:

Most all of the commercial fertilizer outlets are very well aware of the storage requirements for bulk pesticides and fertilizer. However, the way that the law is written, farmers also fall under these same rules. The rule states that if fertilizer is stored in a container having a capacity greater than 5,000 gallons (not the quantity of fertilizer in the tank), and the tank has product in it for 30

consecutive days or more, then containment is required. Most of the farmers I have contacted for chemigation inspections are also storing some quantity of fertilizer on their farm. The farmers need to be aware of the law so they can make intelligent risk based decisions for their operation.

Further explanation of groundwater rules are available at: <http://www.ag.state.co.us/DPI/GroundWater/home.html>.

If you have any questions on any of these programs, please call your inspector or the Lakewood Office at 303-239-4140.



Colorado ChemSweep Coming in October

Colorado ChemSweep, an agricultural pesticide disposal program conducted by MSE Environmental, will be held in October and again next May. The purpose of this program is to help those involved in agribusiness, including farmers, ranchers, commercial applicators, golf courses, greenhouses and nurseries to dispose of unwanted, banned and unused pesticides. The cost to participants will be approximately \$2.65 per pound with a \$75 minimum per stop.

The program is conducted under the "Universal Waste Rule" which will allow MSE Environmental to go to the site; properly package the waste; take possession of the waste, thus becoming the generator of the waste and reducing future liabilities for the program participants; and transport the waste for disposal. The program meets all state and federal hazardous waste regulations.

EPA recently published the 2001 summary and compilation of Clean Sweep (ChemSweep in Colorado)

programs which collect unwanted agricultural pesticides. The report is a salute to the successful contributions by state and local governments to clean up the environment and dispose of agricultural waste pesticide products. State and local governments have collected and safely disposed of more than 24 million pounds of unwanted pesticides over the past 20 years. The Clean Sweep Report 2001 can be accessed on EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs website at: http://www.epa.gov/oppead1/cb/csb_page/updates/cleansweep.pdf.

Enclosed is a brochure for Colorado ChemSweep. Please note that the brochure does not have a deadline and will be valid until future changes to the program are made. For additional brochures, contact Sandra McDonald at 970-491-6027 or email her at smcdonal@lamar.colostate.edu. For more information on the Colorado ChemSweep program call the MSE Colorado ChemSweep Hotline at 1-888-AGCHEM2 (1-888-242-4362).



Meet the Colorado CCA Board—Ron Jepson

Ron is the group leader of the Animal Feeding Operation regulatory program within the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, Water Quality Control Division. Prior to this position, he was an agricultural extension agent for 11 years with Colorado State University Cooperative Extension in Adams County. One highlight of his extension tenure was organizing the first agricultural pesticide recovery program for Colorado.

Ron served two terms as Board of Director with the Colorado Weed Management Association and was president of the Colorado County

Agents Association. Ron has been a CCA since 1996. Other "lives" include farm and ranch land appraising, mined land reclamation, federal grain grading, and serving in the Peace Corps in Ghana, West Africa. Ron has a B.S. in Animal Science and an M.S. in Range Science, both from Colorado State University.

Ron is married to Paula and has a son, David, who is 12. Ron likes to play racquetball, fool with the backyard xeriscaping, backpack, fish, hike, read westerns and spy stories, and grow big pumpkins. Contact Ron at 303-692-3520 or ron.jepson@state.co.us.



*Ron Jepson
CCA Board Member*

Crop Management Publishes First Papers

Crop Management, online at <http://www.cropmanagement.org> announces the publication of its first two research articles: "Determining an Optimum Seeding Rate for Spring Wheat in Northwest Minnesota" and

"Effects of Foliar Fertilizers and Growth Regulators on Alfalfa Yield and Quality." Visit their site for submission guidelines and to view the two research articles.

Calendar of Upcoming CEUs

Date and Location	Course Title	CEU's	For more information contact:
8/12/02 - 8/13/02 and 8/14/02 - 8/15/02 University of Nebraska Panhandle Research and Extension Center Scottsbluff, NE	2002 Crop Management Workshop Focus on Corn	Proposed: NM 2.0 SW 1.0 PM 4.0 CM 3.5	308-632-1230
8/15/02 USDA-ARS Central Great Plains Research Station Akron, CO	Colorado State University and ARS Dryland Corn Field School	NM 1.0 SW 1.0 PM 2.0 CM 2.0	Jessica Davis 970-491-1913

Other meetings for continuing education credits will be announced in future CCA newsletters or can be found on the Colorado CCA website at http://www.coloradocca.org/continuing_education.htm#Calendar.

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!

ASA Virtual Library
<http://asa2.digiscript.com>
Earn CEUs by viewing online agronomic presentations. Subscriptions are \$75 for ASA members and \$125 for non-members.

Colorado Pest Management Center
<http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/SoilCrop/extension/CEPEP/CoPMC/default.htm>
This website contains crop profiles with information about Colorado commodities, pests, and pest management practices.

Pest Alert
<http://www.colostate.edu/programs/pestalet/>
An online newsletter, maintained by CSU, which provides up-to-date Colorado pest and pesticide information.

Crop Watch
<http://cropwatch.unl.edu/>
This web site, maintained by the University of Nebraska, provides changing news throughout the crop production season to help keep producers and agribusinesses informed.

Virtual Field Scout IPM Manual
<http://screc.unl.edu/IPMManual/>
Links to publications in general agronomy, soil and fertility management, irrigation, insects and mites, plant diseases, weeds, and pesticide safety.

