

Colorado CCA Newsletter

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What's New?

First, let me say it is an honor and a privilege to have been selected to chair the Colorado CCA Board this term. I would like to thank John Mortvedt, the Board of Directors past and present, and you the practitioners, for making the CCA program in Colorado what it is today.

In order to consider What's New, we need to reference what has been, so it seems appropriate to give you some information about my background. I'm a USDA/NRCS agronomist who sold agricultural fertilizers, chemicals, and custom applications to producers in

Northeastern Colorado from 1976 to 1985. In order to be competitive those

days, we had to provide our customers with services such as soil sampling, field scouting and record keeping. Producers expected us to pull representative soil samples, make recommendations based on reasonable yield goals, scouting reports, and economic thresholds, and keep better pest, pesticide and fertilizer records.

So What's New today? We have Amendment 14, the AFO/CAFO Strategy, EQIP, and the ASA/CCA Memorandum of Understanding with the USDA/NRCS. Now the state and federal governments as well as the producers, expect us to pull representative soil samples, make recommendations based on reasonable yield goals, scouting reports, and economic thresholds, and keep better pest, pesticide and fertilizer records.

I've oversimplified things a bit but the point is this, regardless of the amendment, strategy or program, today's producers require the same types of crop production assistance from dealers, consultants, and custom applicators that they did 20 years ago. The difference is that agriculture today is faced with increasing pressures to minimize non-point-source pollution potentials and conserve our natural resource base. This reality underscores the need for a professional organization such as CCA, to maintain consistent performance objectives and quality assurance while promoting continuing education opportunities for practitioners.

The Certified Crop Advisor program is intended to be responsive and relevant. Please contact any board member or myself to provide comments or suggestions. Thank you.

James L. Sharkoff, Chair

December 1998

The CCA Board

The Colorado CCA Board has several new faces and some shifts in responsibility. Jim Sharkoff has taken over as chairperson. Regan Waskom (chair), Kurt Davies and Wayne Gustafson are on the Exam Committee. Kevin Miller (chair), Brad Austin and Mitch Yergert are the Standards and Ethics Committee. Sandra McDonald (chair), John Person, Randy Terrel and John Mordvedt form the Training Committee. In addition, Sandra McDonald has gained the responsibility of editing the newsletter. Please contact the board members with any concerns or ideas you may have.

Report From the International Board

Regan Waskom represented Colorado CCA at the International CCA Board of Directors and Advisory Council Meeting in Maryland in October. Following are some highlights:

1. **New Staff at CCA Headquarters:** The new contract for Colorado CCA is Linda Acker (pronounced "acre"). Her phone number is 608-273-8090, ext. 339. She is from Cross Plains, WI (not far from Madison). Linda filled the vacant Professional Services Assistant position.
2. **CEUs:** The Board voted to eliminate the 10 CEUs per year rule, effective July 1998. The reports that you received for CCA that are out of compliance for lack of CEUs are still accurate since the reports were for the period ending June 30, 1998.
3. **Marketing:** The five minute

ASA/CCA video is available. A copy can be purchased from CCA Headquarters, attn.: Luther Smith for \$9.00 this includes shipping. The video is also available on Beta. Television stations require beta for television stations to use it. The charge for the Beta version is \$49.00. There is also a 30-second commercial. It is taken from the five minute video. This is also available through headquarters.

The Colorado CCA Board has a copy of the tape "Working for the American Farmer." This tape is designed to help you explain the CCA program to your clients. If you would like to check out the video for your use, please contact Sandra McDonald, Colorado State University, 970-491-6027.

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Mailing Lists: The Board instituted a new mailing list policy that will appear in the 1999 Policy and Procedures Manual. For requests that are sending out notification about continuing education events, the charge will be \$25.00/1,000 mailing labels and will include all CCAs from the area requested. It will only be released on mailing labels. For any other request the charge will be \$95.00/1,000 labels and will only include CCAs that have answered yes to releasing their name.

5.

New Certificates: With the implementation of the change in reporting year to a calendar basis new certificates were issued to all CCAs in November. The certificates have the new ending dates on them.

6.

There are now more than 12,000 CCA's in the U. S. and Canada.

CCA Exam Registration Deadline

The next CCA exam is February 5, 1999 at the Adams County Fairgrounds near Brighton. The registration deadline is December 18, 1998. Registrations received after this deadline will not be accepted under any circumstances, despite the postmark. The next exam opportunity will be in February of 2000.

Registration packets for the state and/or international CCA exams are available, please contact Gloria Blumanhourst via e-mail gbluman@lamar.colostate.edu or fax 970-491-2758, or write her c/o Soil & Crops Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523.

USDA/EPA Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations

The U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Environmental Protection Agency have developed a Unified National Animal Feeding Operations Strategy to minimize water quality and public health risks associated with these operations. A national public listening session is planned at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Denver, on December 14, 1998, from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. This listening session is intended to provide information on the draft strategy to the public and field technical questions concerning the strategy.

The Strategy establishes a national expectation that all Animal Feeding Operations will develop and implement comprehensive nutrient management plans by the year 2008. We estimate as many as 300,000 animal feeding operations nationwide will need to develop or

revise comprehensive nutrient management plans to meet expectations of the Strategy.

Copies of the draft strategy are available from EPA's Water Resource Center at 202-260-7786 and on the internet at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/cleanwater/afo> or <http://www.epa.gov/owm.afostrat.htm>. Written comments will be accepted through January 19, 1999, and should be addressed to Denise C. Coleman, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, P.O. Box 2890, Washington D.C. 20001-2890. Comments can also be e-mailed to denise_c.coleman@usda.gov.

Questions or additional information concerning the listening session or the draft strategy should be directed to Dan Meyer at (303) 236-2903 ext. 253.

Nutrient Management in the 21st Century Conference

The America's Clean Water Foundation (ACWF) is sponsoring a conference, Nutrient Management in the 21st Century in Denver, Colorado. It will be held December 14 - 16, 1998 in at the Hyatt Regency Denver.

The conference will examine innovative approaches to nutrient management underway at the local, state and federal level.

If you have questions, please contact Charlie Ingram or Jeff Anliker at 202-296-9680.

CCA CEU Credits

As a reminder, Colorado Ccs can earn CEUs for attending sessions in adjoining states, if their respective boards have approved the credits. If the session approval was not requested, remember attendance can be counted toward your self-directed credits.

Directions for applying for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for Certified Crop Advisers (CCAs) in Colorado follow. Application forms are included in this newsletter as an insert. Please feel free to make additional copies and use them.

1. Meeting or workshop vendors (sponsors) should apply in writing to the Colorado CCA Training Committee for CEUs at least 15 days prior to the event.

2. Forms for CEU applications are available upon request from CSU Cooperative Extension (phone 970-491-6201, fax 970-491-2758). Separate forms should be completed for each day session.

3. The completed application forms should be submitted along with a copy of the printed program, if available, giving the time of each presentation. A list of each speaker and a brief summary of the speakers' credentials also is required.

4. The Training Committee will approve the appropriate number of CEUs in each competency area. The number of CEUs granted per topic is related to contact time as follows:
30-45 minutes = 0.5 CEU, 46-75 minutes = 1.0 CEU, & 76-105 minutes = 1.5 CEUs.

5. Official attendance sheets for each session will be sent by the International CCA office to the meeting vendor.

6. The CCAs attending each session must sign the attendance sheets and include their CCA number. The meeting vendor is responsible for sending the original sheets to the International CCA office, and for keeping duplicate copies in case the originals are lost in the mail.

Note: The names of three CEU categories have been revised: Soil Fertility is now **Nutrient Management (NM)**, Pest Management is now **Integrated Pest Management**

(IPM), and Crop Production is now **Crop Management (CM)**. Soil and Water Management (SW) remains the same.

1999 Upcoming Meetings Calendar

Customizing Fertilizer Recommendations NM- 4, 5 CEU's, SW - 3.5 CEU	Dec. 10 Sterling, CO	Bryan Hopkin 888-785-4320
Premium Agriculture, The Future of Farming CM - 4.0 CEU	Dec. 10 Brighton, CO	Robert Hamblin 970-484-6000
Agronomic Seminar NM - 3.5 CEU, CM- 2.0 CEU	Dec.10 Fort Morgan, CO	Bob Hecht 785-858-4460
Nutrient Management Planning NM - 4.0 CEU's, SW - 3.0 CEU's	Dec.10 Sterling, CO	Servi-Tech 888-785-4320
CSU Drybean Management Clinic NM - 1.0, SW - 1.5, pm - 5.5, CM - 8.0 CEU's	Jan. 5-7 Denver, CO	Ron Jepson 303-637-8117
Rocky Mountain Plant Food & Agricultural Chemicals Association NM - 2.0, SW - 2.0, PM - 7.0, CM - 2.0 CEU's	Jan. 12-14 Denver, CO	Gary Leeper 303-433-446
Onion/Dry Bean Seminar Credits pending	Jan. 15 Montrose, CO	Wayne Cooley 970-249-3935
Western Society of Weed Science Credits pending	March 8-11 Colorado Springs, CO	Paul Ogg 303-772-0843