

Colorado CCA News

Colorado Certified Crop Adviser Newsletter



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Colorado CCA News

is a quarterly publication of the Colorado Certified Crop Advisers.

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Greetings from your CCA Board!

Performance Objectives Feedback

In the last newsletter, we enclosed a copy of the current Performance Objectives for Colorado CCAs, and asked each of you to provide feedback. I received one (1) phone call from a CCA regarding this. So, unless we hear from more of you within the next two weeks, your CCA Board is going to assume that most of you are satisfied with the current P.O.s!

Possible SPARTAN Shortage

As the Pesticide Registration Coordinator for the Colorado Department of Agriculture, I have received several phone calls in recent weeks from growers and dealers concerned about a possible shortage of SPARTAN herbicide for weed control in sunflowers. I am familiar with the importance of SPARTAN for Colorado sunflower production, since Colorado obtained section 18 emergency exemptions to allow use of SPARTAN in sunflowers from 1998-2003, until the federal registration was obtained in time for the 2004 season. According to information I have received from FMC, they have discontinued production of the dry formulation, and in the future only plan to market the liquid formulation, SPARTAN 4F. Sunflowers, dry peas (including chickpeas) and various other crops have been added to the label for SPARTAN 4F. However, FMC has confirmed that supply of SPARTAN 4F will be limited in 2005. FMC has assured me that they will try to see that as much of the available SPARTAN as possible is positioned for use on sunflowers and tobacco, since

the other labeled crops have more alternatives. We are monitoring the situation, although we have few options available to address this possible shortage.

One option that I have been discussing with my counterparts in other sunflower-producing states is the possibility of a section 18 exemption to allow use of VALOR herbicide (flumiozazin) on sunflowers. We are still considering this possibility.

There may be limited supplies around of other sulfentrazone products. However, only SPARTAN has sunflowers on the label. Just a friendly reminder that use of other sulfentrazone products on sunflowers would be illegal.

Soybean Rust Section 18

There has been a substantial amount of section 18 activity across the U.S. in preparation for soybean rust. This significant disease first arrived last fall, and has now been confirmed in several Southern states. We are all hoping that Colorado's dry summers and cold winters may spare us from the worst effects of this significant disease. However, as they say, "Hope for the Best, Plan for the Worst!" Colorado will be submitting a section 18 request to allow use of a list of fungicides on our very limited soybean acres. Plans are also underway to submit section 18 requests for additional fungicides to control this disease on dry edible beans and other legumes.

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CCA Board News

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National Board Meeting

Merlin Van Deraa will be attending the ICCA Board meeting as our regional representative on March 21-23.

The primary focus of the ICCA Board meeting will be to conduct two briefings on the Hill, one for the Senate and one for the House. The Board will also be meeting with commodity and environmental groups

as well as agency personnel. This is in addition to conducting board business.

If you have any comments or suggestions that should be brought to the national board, please contact Merlin at 970-848-5600 or at mavanderaa@yahoo.com.

**Laura Quakenbush, Chair,
Colorado Certified Advisers Board**



Need Additional CEUs? Try Self-Reported CEUs

You are probably busy planning for the upcoming field season. This might include attending meetings and reading relevant publications. Did you know that you could be getting self-reported credits for these activities?

Self-reported CEUs, formerly known as self-directed CEUs, are continuing education activities that meet one or more of the Colorado or ICCA Performance Objectives, but are NOT pre-approved by the Colorado CCA board.

The number of CEUs granted in each competency area (NM, SW, PM, CM or PD) is related to contact time as follows:

<u>Class Time</u>	<u># of CEUs</u>
30 to 45 minutes	0.5 CEUs
46 to 75 minutes	1.0 CEUs
76 to 105 minutes	1.5 CEUs

Self-reported CEUs can now be reported online. The CEU Self Reporting Form is available at http://www.agronomy.org/cca/ceu_reporting_form.html.

Remember, Colorado CCAs are only required to have a minimum of 20 board-approved CEUs during each 2-year reporting period. The remaining 20 hours can be ANY combination of self-study, self-reported, or board-approved credits.

Activities eligible for CEU credit include:

- Workshops
- Clinics
- Conferences
- Seminars
- Symposia
- Field days
- Short courses
- College courses
- Technical articles

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) 491-3947.

Have you Read the Code of Ethics Lately?

You might remember signing the CCA code of ethics as part of the credential packet you filled out to become a CCA. The code of ethics is one of three primary qualifications the CCA program uses in its marketing efforts. By signing the document, you agreed to uphold the

code of ethics and should be familiar with what you stand on. To reread the document, please visit: <http://www.agronomy.org/cca/pdf/codeethics.pdf>. Encourage your customers to also read it!

Meet the Staff—Betsy Buffington

I have been editing the Colorado CCA Newsletter since April 2000. I am also the webmaster for the Colorado CCA website, located at <http://www.coloradocca.org>.

I was raised on a farm near Montevideo, MN. I graduated from South Dakota State University with B.S. degrees in agronomy, environmental management, and rural sociology. After an internship with Ciba-Geigy, I moved to Fort Collins to attend Colorado State University. I graduated in 1999 with a M.S. in entomology.

I have worked as a research associate for Sandra McDonald as part of the Colorado Environmental and Pesticide

Education Program for five years. My primary responsibilities are to edit and revise the Colorado commercial pesticide application and safety training guides and to maintain the exam database in conjunction with the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

My husband, Tim and I have two children; Anne who is almost 2, and Zachary, 4 months. They keep me busy!

If you have ideas for future newsletter articles or have comments on either the newsletter or the website, please contact me at betsy.buffington@colostate.edu.



Betsy Buffington
Assistant Editor

CCA Brochures Still Available

A full-color brochure developed by ICCA for use as a marketing tool is still available to Colorado CCAs. A copy of the brochure was sent out in the May

2004 CCA Newsletter. If you would like brochures to distribute to your customers, please contact Betsy Buffington at 970-491-3947.



Calendar of Upcoming CEUs

Date and Location	Course Title	CEU's	For more information contact:
2/15/05 Dodge City, KS	Managing Soil & Applied Nutrients 2005	10.5 NM 2.5 SW	Dale Leikam 785-532-6183
2/15/05–2/17/05 SkiHi Park Monte Vista, CO	SLV Potato/Grain Conference	0.5 NM 2.5 SW 3.0 PM 2.0 CM	Merlin Dillon 719-754-3494
2/17/05 Garden City, KS	KSU Nutrient Rec/Nutrient Mgmt Workshop	6.0 NM 1.0 SW	Dale Leikam 785-532-6183
2/22/05 Irrigation Research Foundation Yuma, CO	Continuing Education Classes	1.0 NM 1.0 SW	Chris Glaze 970-848-3043

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/calendar.htm>.

Note: To receive proper credit when attending meetings in adjoining states, sign the attendance sheets along with your CCA number. You should follow up on out-of-state CEUs to make sure that your records are credited. If they are not, contact Lorene Peterson of the ICCA office in Madison, WI at 608-268-4955.

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

Colorado CCA website

<http://www.coloradocca.org>

Calendar of upcoming CEUs, current and past CCA newsletters, links to Colorado and National sites, information on board and committee members, and much more!

CSREES Northern Plains & Mountains Water Quality Program

http://kiowa.colostate.edu/cwis435/406_website/1_Main_Page.html

Provides information on regional projects addressing watershed/rangeland management, education, BMPs, manure/nutrient management, precision agriculture/geospatial tools, and water management/conservation.

CoAgMet

<http://www.coagmet.com>

The Colorado Agricultural Meteorological Network provides up-to-date ET reports and weather data from weather stations throughout Colorado.

Colorado General Assembly

<http://www.leg.state.co.us>

Information on the 2005 Legislative session including House and Senate bills, calendars, journals and resolutions, status reports, fiscal notes, and links to the Commission on Taxation.

Seed, Soil, Plant and Water Testing Laboratories

<http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/SoilCrop/service.htm>

Listing of agricultural-related services provided by the CSU Department of Soil & Crop Sciences.

