Volume 5, Issue 1

**April 2000** 

# Colorado CCA News



Colorado Certífied Crop Adviser Newsletter

## **Greetings from the Colorado CCA Board**

Let me start by saying that it is an honor to serve as your state CCA chairman. Another year is upon us, and true to her history mother nature has already thrown a few curve balls at us, and I'm sure will throw a few more before the spring is complete. We have made a few changes in regards to our newsletter. We are very happy to have Betsy Buffington helping Sandra McDonald in the production of our newsletter. Any time you as a member are aware of an issue or information that would be valuable to other members, please pass your ideas along to Betsy for topics for the next newsletter.

We would like to welcome all of our new CCA's that have recently successfully completed their testing. We are excited to have you on board. For our existing members, thank you for your past and future support and anytime you have input that can make our program a better one here in Colorado, please let us know. Your input is both needed and appreciated.

I hope you hit all of those curves out of the park this year, and I wish you a successful and prosperous season!

Kevin Miller, Chairman

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#### Colorado CCA News

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# **Self-Study vs. Self-Directed CEUs**

The difference between self-study and self-directed continuing education units (CEUs) has caused some confusion.

Self-study credits are those that are preapproved by the Local Board Continuing **Education Committee or the International** CCA board. To obtain credit for self-study CEUs, the CCA registrant must complete an exam on the material and achieve a passing score of 70% or provide proof of successful completion of a correspondence course. Self-study materials are most readily found on the American Society of Agronomy CCA website at http://www.agronomy.org/cca/ exams/ or in the CCA Advantage newsletter found in the Crop Decisions magazine. An electronic version of the CCA Advantage, including self-study exams, is available at http://www.cropdecisions.com. Completed exams should be sent to ASA c/o CCA Self Study Exam, 677 S. Segoe Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53711.

Self-directed CEUs are continuing education events including meetings, seminars, symposia, and/or short courses that meet one or more of the International CCA performance objectives, but are not preapproved by a local CCA board. CCAs applying for self-directed CEUs need to fill out a CEU reporting form to get credit. Colorado CCAs are required to have a minimum of 20 board-approved CEUs. The remaining 20 hours can be any combination of self-study, self-directed or board-approved credits.



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# **Applying for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for Colorado CCAs**

- Meeting or workshop vendors (sponsors) should apply in writing to the Colorado CCA Education Committee for CEUs at least 15 days prior to the event.
- Forms for this application are available upon request from CSU Cooperative Extension (phone 970-491-6201, fax 970-491-2758). Separate forms should be completed for each half-day session.
- The completed application forms should be submitted along with a copy of the printed program, if available, giving the length of each presentation. The names of each speaker and a brief summary of each speakers' credentials also is required.
- The Education 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, and 76-105 minutes = 1.5 CEUs.
- Official attendance sheets for each session will be sent by the International CCA office to the meeting vendor.
- The CCAs attending each session must sign the attendance sheets and add their CCA number to receive credit. 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.
- If a vendor expects attendees from more than six states at a given meeting, the vendor should apply for International CEUs instead of Colorado CEUs at least six weeks prior to the meeting. The application should be sent to: Certified Crop Adviser Program, 677 South Segoe Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53711.



# **Upcoming Meetings**

Colorado State University and Agricultural Research Services will be holding an Integrated Crop Management Sunflower Field School on August 17, 2000. The one-day event will be held at the Central Great Plains Research Center in Akron, CO from 6:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Four CEUs will be given in the following categories: 0.5 NM, 0.5 S&W, 1.5 PM, and 1.5 CM. For more

information, contact Jessica Davis at (970) 491-1913 or <a href="mailto:igdavis@lamar.colostate.edu">igdavis@lamar.colostate.edu</a>.

Other meetings for continuing education credits will be announced in future CCA newsletters or can be found on the American Society of Agronomy CCA website at <a href="http://www.agronomy.org/cca/cal/calendar.html">http://www.agronomy.org/cca/cal/calendar.html</a>.



# **Continuing Education Program Summary**

The primary purpose for Continuing Education is to further enhance the skills of a CCA and routinely update their knowledge as new information and technologies become available. In the last 1.5 year period, a total of 257 continuing education units were board approved. The following table gives the total CEUs by category during the past cycle.

July 1998 - Dec. 1999 Board Approved CEUs	
CCA Category	# CEUs Approved
Nutrient Management	59
Soil & Water Management	61
Pest Management	78
Crop Management	59

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#### **2000 Colorado CCA Board Members**

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### **Results of the 2000 CCA Exams**

Forty-one individuals took the Colorado CCA exam February 4, 2000 at the Adams County Fairgrounds near Brighton, CO. 51% of the people who took the exam passed. The International CCA exam was taken by a total of 2,600 individuals and 65% of the people who took the exam received a passing score. Both the state and international CCA exam scores have been sent out.

Requests for the February 2000 International exam raw scores (number correct out of the number possible) may be done in writing, but may not be made over the telephone. The address is: ASA, 677 S. Segoe Road, Madison, Wisconsin 53711.



## **Colorado Certified Crop Adviser Newsletter**

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



#### Websites Worth A Look

#### **International CCA website**

http://www.agronomy.org/cca/ Check your CEUs by entering your certification number, look at upcoming events on the CEU calendar, take self-study exams, and much more!

#### **Colorado Department of Agriculture**

http://www.ag.state.co.us/

Read information on each of the five CDA divisions: Markets, Brand Inspection, Plant Industry, Inspection and Consumer Services and Animal Industry.

#### **CSU Cooperative Extension**

http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/CoopExt/ The Other Bookstore has publications available to order or view on-line on a variety of topics pertinent to CCAs. Locate extension personnel throughout Colorado.

# Crop Decisions Magazine/CCA Advantage

http://www.cropdecisions.com Read an electronic version of CCA advantage and get the latest self-study test.

# CSU Dept. of Bioagricultural Sciences & Pest Management

http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/bspm/ Locate personnel in weed science, plant pathology and entomology. Check out the Outreach initiatives links to the *Pest Alert* newsletter and Veg Net.

#### **CSU Dept. of Soil and Crop Sciences**

http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/SoilCrop/Find out general departmental information as well as research and extension information including the newsletter From the Ground Up Agronomy News.

