



Anaerobic Digestion Systems

August 11, 2017

2:30 pm (eastern), 1:30 pm (central), 12:30 pm (mountain), 11:30 am (pacific)

When most people think of anaerobic digestion systems, they think about the cost of the start-up of such systems. In this webinar, presenters will discuss opportunities and the value of these systems as well as the challenges that may come along when using an anaerobic digestion system. We'll look at improving the economic feasibility of anaerobic digestion on dairy farms as well as discover innovative business models that are in use in the United States through the AgSTAR program. Finally, we'll take a look at how developing regions are using small scale digesters to produce a more reliable energy source. *An application for continuing education credit for Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) and members of the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists (ARPAS) will be submitted.*



Curt Gooch is a Senior Extension Associate at Cornell University. His research focus has been in Dairy Environmental Systems and Dairy Sustainability. His extension focus is with the Pro-Dairy program, which works closely with New York State and U.S. dairy industry leaders to identify, develop, document, and introduce innovative methods in dairy housing and waste management systems to enhance animal performance, animal well-being, system efficiency, environmental compliance and, overall farm profitability. He received a Master of Science degree from University of Maryland. Phone: (607) 255-2088; Email: cag26@cornell.edu

Mahmoud Sharara received his Ph.D. in Biological Engineering from the University of Arkansas and now serves as a Research Associate at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Sharara's research focuses on the nexus of agriculture, energy, and the environment. His specific studies address the following topics: (1) characterization and upgrading of various agricultural feedstock and biowastes for energy conversion, (2) conversion of lignocellulosic and manure residues to biofuel and bioenergy streams through different conversion routes: thermochemical (pyrolysis, gasification), and biological (e.g. anaerobic digestion) (3) assessment of different technologies using life cycle, and techno-economic analyses. Phone: (479) 713-0658; Email: msharara@wisc.edu



Nick Elger serves as the Program Manager for the EPA AgSTAR Program and Global Methane Initiative. In his role as Program Manager for AgSTAR, Nick works with the U.S. livestock industry, state and federal agencies, and biogas industry stakeholders to advance the deployment of manure digesters and biogas systems. While supporting the Global Methane Initiative, Nick helps advance anaerobic digestion of organic feedstocks globally for methane mitigation and energy production. He graduated from the University of Minnesota where he received his Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Sciences, Policy and Management. Phone: (202) 343-9460; Email: elger.nicholas@epa.gov

Becky Larson is an assistant professor and extension specialist in the Biological Systems Engineering Department at UW-Madison focusing on biological waste issues. Becky completed her B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Biosystems Engineering Department at Michigan State University. Her research and extension interests include all areas of biological waste including manure management, handling and treatment of agricultural waste, diffuse source pollution, agricultural sustainability, and waste- to-energy technologies including biogas production from anaerobic digestion. Phone: (608) 890-3171; E-mail: rebecca.larson@wisc.edu



How Do I Participate?

On the day of the webcast, go to www.extension.org/58813 to download the speaker's power point presentations and connect to the virtual meeting room. First time viewers should also follow the steps at: www.extension.org/8924.

For More Information

- * Dairy Environmental Systems <http://www.manuremanagement.cornell.edu/>
- * Innovative Business Models for On-farm Anaerobic Digestion in the U.S. <http://articles.extension.org/74250>
- * Accelerated Renewable Energy (ARE) Consortium <http://www.are.wisc.edu/>
- * Integrating Small Scale Digestion Systems in Developing Regions <http://articles.extension.org/74266>