



**Livestock and Poultry Environmental (LPE) Learning Center
Educational Webcast Series**

Vegetative Treatment Systems for Managing Open Lot and Barnyard Runoff

November 16, 2007

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

Chris Henry and Rick Koelsch, University of Nebraska; Lara Moody, Iowa State University

Vegetative Treatment Systems (VTS) are an option for managing runoff from barnyards and open lot livestock systems with several potential management and environmental advantages. Recent changes in the US EPA Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) regulations may allow VTS as an alternative to the holding pond for CAFOs. But do they provide equal protection for surface water on operations regulated by the CAFO rules? For smaller animal feeding operations, will VTS provide a cost effective means to manage open lot runoff risk and prevent their designation as a CAFO?

Lara Moody, Iowa State University Extension Program Specialist and professional engineer, will summarize results to date of a field performance evaluation of VTS technologies on six Iowa CAFOs. 515-294-7355, lmood@iastate.edu.



Chris Henry, University of Nebraska Extension Engineer and director of the Livestock Producer Environmental Assistance Project, will introduce a small farms demonstration program of VTS technologies including several unique runoff application approaches. (402) 472-6529, chenry1@unl.edu.

Rick Koelsch, Associate Professor at the University of Nebraska, will introduce principles of VTS design and management based upon a USDA NRCS collaborative report on "Vegetative Treatment Systems for Open Lot Runoff". 402/472-4051, rkoelsch1@unl.edu.



Resources and Links:

- Update on VTS Application on Iowa CAFOs , http://www.abe.iastate.edu/fileadmin/www.abe.iastate.edu/extension/wastemgmt/084_054.pdf
- USDA NRCS Collaborative Report on VTS and Heartland VTS Virtual Tours, <http://www.heartlandwq.iastate.edu/ManureManagement/AlternativeTech/>
- Nebraska demonstrations of VTS on small livestock farms, <http://afo.unl.edu/>
- Fact Sheet on small farm application of VTS, http://www.lpes.org/SmallFarms/8_VTS.pdf
- LPE Learning Center VTS information <http://lpe.unl.edu/alternative5.html>

How do I participate?

Information about software requirements, testing your connection, and how to connect to the webcast are available at <http://lpe.unl.edu/webcast5.html>.

The LPE Learning Center is a project dedicated to the vision that individuals involved in public policy issues, animal production, and delivery of technical services for confined animal systems should have on-demand access to the nation's best science-based resources. More information is available at <http://lpe.unl.edu>.