

Technical Review Committee: Animal Waste Policy Workgroup

July 14, 2015: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Archdale Building, 4th floor conference room

512 N. Salisbury St., Raleigh, NC

Teleconference phone number: 919-212-5733

To join the Connect Pro meeting: <https://ncag.adobeconnect.com/trc/>

Draft Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Carl Dunn, Kelly Hedgepeth, Terri Ruch, Pat Harris, Tom Ellis, Julie Henshaw, David Harrison, Natalie Woolard, Josh Spencer, Joy Sherrod, David Williams

I. Introductions & Purpose of Workgroup

Participants introduced themselves and discussed the purpose of this workgroup. This workgroup is tasked with updating waste management best management practices (BMPs) available in the Agriculture Cost Share Program (ACSP) to ensure that the appropriate rules and standards are referenced. This group will also work on preparing draft emergency provisions for Soil and Water Conservation Commission consideration regarding ACSP policy implementation should a catastrophic mortality situation occur in NC.

II. Consideration of revisions to the Livestock Mortality Management System BMP

A. The group reviewed the BMP and recommends changing policy 14 to read:

When a roof is installed on an incinerator, regardless of whether or not cost share is received, the size and other clearances as recommended by the incinerator manufacturer must be followed as described in the NRCS standard.

III. Review of existing BMPs that may require temporary policy exceptions should High Pathogenic Avian Influenza impact NC

Consider drafting language for a temporary flexibility in administration of Soil and Water Conservation Commission BMP policies if the Governor, Commissioner of Agriculture or State Veterinarian declare a state of emergency to respond to catastrophic mortality. BMPs that have the potential to be impacted in this situation are listed below, along with the NRCS standards referenced for each practice.

A. [Livestock Mortality Management System](#) (policy 12)

a. Multiple systems may need to be incorporated on a single farm.

b. NRCS standard referenced: [Animal Mortality Facility](#) (316)

i. Conditions where practice applies: *In cases of disease related to catastrophic mortality, this standard is applicable only when directed by the appropriate state or federal authority (typically the state veterinarian or USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) to use the methods in this standard.*

B. [Dry stack](#)

a. NRCS standard referenced: [Waste Storage Facility](#) (313)

- C. [Manure composting facility](#)
 - a. Existing manure composting facility may need to include mortality.
 - b. NRCS standards referenced:
 - i. [Composting Facility](#) (317)
 - ii. [Nutrient Management](#) (590)
- D. [Crop residue management](#)
 - a. Exception if crop residue (e.g. wheat straw, corn stover) is harvested and stockpiled as a potential carbon source for composting mass mortalities.
 - b. NRCS standards referenced:
 - i. [Conservation Crop Rotation](#) (328)
 - ii. [Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till and Strip Till](#) (329A)
 - iii. [Cover Crop](#) (340)
- E. [Long-term no till](#)
 - a. Exception if crop residue (e.g. wheat straw, corn stover) is harvested and stockpiled as a potential carbon source for composting mass mortalities.
 - b. NRCS standards referenced:
 - i. [Conservation Crop Rotation](#) (328)
 - ii. [Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till and Strip Till](#) (329A)
 - iii. [Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till](#) (345)
 - iv. [Cover Crop](#) (340)
 - v. ~~Long Term No Till (778)~~
- F. [Three year conservation tillage \(both cropping variations\)](#)
 - a. Exception if crop residue (e.g. wheat straw, corn stover) is harvested and stockpiled as a potential carbon source for composting mass mortalities.
 - b. NRCS standards referenced:
 - i. [Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till](#) (345)
 - ii. [Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till](#) (329)
 - iii. ~~Residue Management (344)~~
 - iv. [Cover Crop](#) (340)
- G. [Agricultural road repair/stabilization](#)
 - a. Excessively heavy (atypical) truck traffic will be associated with an HPAI positive facility. This BMP would require site specific justification.
 - b. NRCS standards referenced:
 - i. [Critical Area Planting](#) (342)
 - ii. [Access Road](#) (560)
- H. [Nutrient Management](#)
 - a. Adding fields to existing waste plans (amendment) for applications of finished mortality compost.
 - b. NRCS standards referenced: [Nutrient Management](#) (590)
- I. [Storm water management system](#)
 - a. Modify or add to system to manage stormwater for outdoor composting or stockpile of mortality compost.
 - b. NRCS standards referenced:
 - i. [Roof Runoff Structure](#) (558)
- J. [Waste Treatment Lagoon/Storage Pond](#)
 - a. One or several facilities may be able to add mortality to an existing covered lagoon/methane capture system.
 - b. NRCS standards referenced:

- i. [Nutrient Management](#) (590)
- ii. [Waste Treatment Lagoon](#) (359)
- iii. [Waste Storage Facility](#) (313)

IV. Update of rules and standards referenced for animal waste BMPs – reformatted all NRCS references from specifications to standards; updating language in requirements for all waste management measures.

- A. Closure – waste impoundments
 - Update name of Division of Water Resources (1.c.ii)
 - Remove reference number of nutrient management software program (1.d)
 - Correct division approval language (1.h)
- B. Concentrated nutrient source management system (no changes recommended)
- C. Constructed wetlands
 - Recommend removal from ACSP
- D. Dry stack (no changes recommended)
- E. Feeding/waste storage structure
 - Remove policy 10 regarding Area Engineer approval requirement
- F. Heavy use area protection
 - Revise policy 4 to current 1217 guidance document
 - Update geotextile reference
- G. Insect control practice
 - Update 1217 reference
- H. Lagoon biosolid removal incentive - (no changes recommended)
- I. Livestock mortality management system (see recommendation under IV)
- J. Manure composting facility
 - This BMP will be updated by the compost workgroup to make sure that the language accurately reflects just manure composting.
- K. Manure/litter transportation incentive
 - NRCS standard for this BMP will be changing. Revise reference once that update is complete.
- L. Odor control management system - (no changes recommended)
- M. Retrofit of on-going animal operations
 - Remove reference number of nutrient management software program (1.a)
 - Remove reference to previous version of ACSP manual (2)
- N. Solids separation from tank-based aquaculture production - (no changes recommended)
- O. Storm water management system
 - Remove statement regarding Area office approval requirement (1)
 - Remove reference date for eligibility – beyond 10 year maintenance period (3)
 - Ask TRC for discussion of this BMP
- P. Waste application systems
 - The name of the NRCS standard for this BMP will be changing to #442 (Sprinkler System)
- Q. Waste treatment lagoon/storage pond
 - Revise language referencing .0200 certification (policy 6)
 - Add NRCS standard 360 as a reference