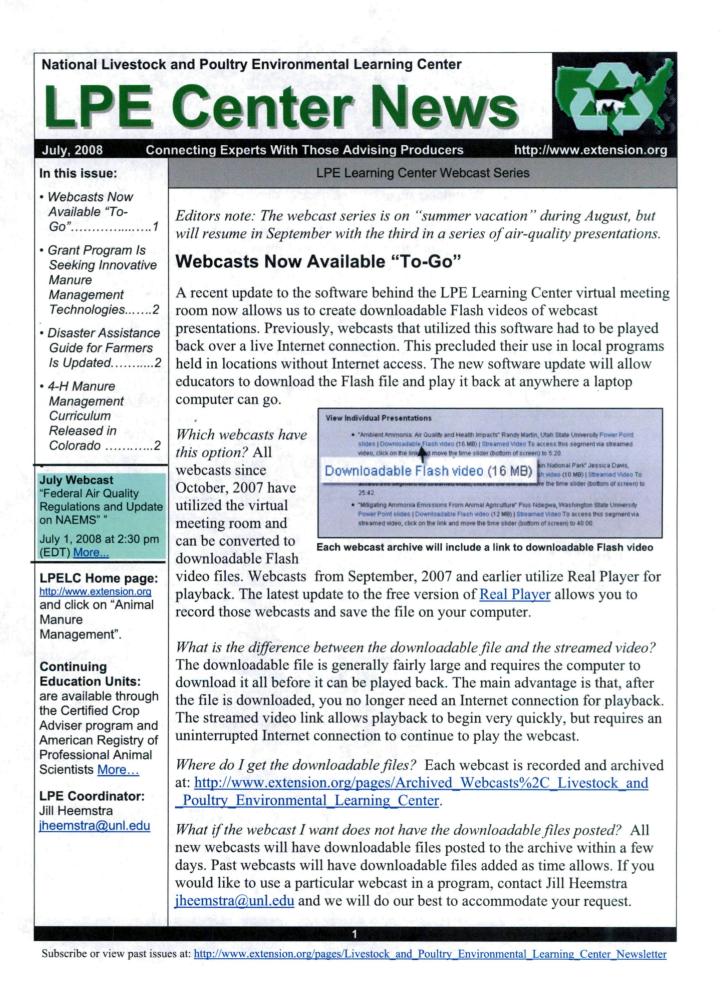
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LPE Learning Center News

Spotlight On....

Grant Program Is Seeking Innovative Manure Management Technologies

Small businesses often have great ideas, but may lack the resources to research the feasibility of the concept or technology. To support small businesses and spur private sector innovation, the USDA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) program competitively awards grants to small business in several areas, one of which is manure management.

Applications for Phase I grants need to be submitted by September 4, 2008. More information about the SBIR program is at: http://www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/sbir/sbir.html.

In December, 2007, the LPE Learning Center hosted a webcast on the program and two of its success stories. <u>Visit the webcast archive...</u>

Disaster Assistance Guide for Farmers Updated

Midwestern floods this spring have reinforced the importance of disaster preparedness for livestock and poultry producers. There are a number of resources available on emergency planning and the "how-to" guides for mortality management and dealing with the immediate impacts of a flood or storm.

An equally important part of dealing with disasters is the financial viability of the farm afterwards. The sixth edition of the "Farmers Guide to Disaster Assistance" includes information on programs included in the 2008 Farm Bill and many more, all designed to assist in the financial recovery of a farm. For more information about the book go to: http://www.flaginc.org/topics/disaster/index.php

National Resources

4-H Manure Management Curriculum Released in Colorado

4-H projects are designed to teach life skills to young people and prepare them to make educated career choices. In Colorado alone, over 13,000 youth are in livestock projects.

A major component of livestock production today is the emphasis on proper manure

management. Several faculty members at Colorado State University reviewed 4-H projects and realized it was possible to excel in that area and



not know anything about manure management or the environmental impacts of livestock.

In response, they created, pilot-tested, and released a manure management curriculum that emphasizes "learning by doing". The curriculum includes topics such as: livestock and the community, health, water quality, air quality, composting, and economics. "We hope that this curriculum will expose young people to the potential environmental impacts of livestock production and best management practices for manure management. We believe this will be useful not only for those that become livestock producers, but also those that choose other career paths and become business or community leaders in the future." Jessica Davis, Professor Soil & Crop Sciences,

Colorado State University

The authors of the curriculum are Adriane Elliot, Kathy Doesken, and Jessica Davis. For more information, visit:

http://www.extsoilcrop.colostate.edu/Soils/docum ents/manure_webviewing.pdf.



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