

## "Outside"

For those familiar with rodeos and rough stock events, you know what it means when a cowboy nods his head and says "outside". It means he is in for a ride. I feel like I nodded my head and said "outside" following the 2009 AM/PIC in Portland. It has been a ride of a lifetime. Now my eight seconds are just about up.

By the time this issue of The County Agent is in the hands of the NACAA membership, I will have less than 30 days remaining in my term as NACAA President. As I reflect back on the past ten months, there are several things that make it a special time in my life. I especially value the opportunities to get to know more NACAA members from all across the nation. During my thirty five years as a member of NACAA, the thing that is most important to me is the friendships I have made with my fellow Extension Agents.

It has been a privilege to represent NACAA at various meetings and serve as one of your representatives on the JCEP board. President Elect Moore, Vice President Wigley, Past President Gibson and I had the special opportunity to meet with Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Kathleen Merrigan. We visited with her about our association and what it means to be Extension Educators/Agents.

Working with my fellow NACAA board members to conduct the business of the association was a challenge and a privilege. The friendships my wife and I have made with Board members and their spouses are very special and something we will cherish forever.

I want to thank President Elect Moore and NACAA Executive Director Scott Hawbaker for their work with our NACAA donors and sponsors. Because of their efforts our sponsors continued providing funding at the level needed to support the NACAA awards and recognition programs. Without the support of our donors and sponsors, NACAA would have a difficult time providing many of the professional improvement programs we offer to the membership.

The past year has not been without its challenges and disappointments. One of my goals during my term as president was to keep the loss of membership below the 5% level predicted by the NACAA fiscal committee. That did not happen. To my disappointment, we saw a 5% reduction in membership again this year. This is something we all need to work on. We all know

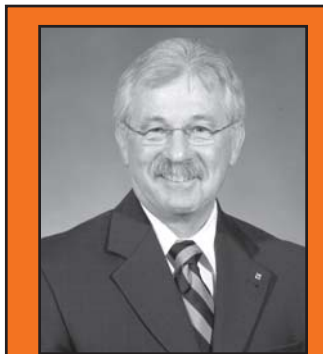
there are fewer Extension agents/educators working today, but we need to make every effort to recruit our Extension peers into our state associations.

On the other hand, registration for the 2010 AM/PIC is on par with 2009. Over the past few weeks NACAA and the Oklahoma Agriculture Extension Agents Association have held their breath as early registration numbers were very low but finally surged to reach the 1200 range.

Obviously the bad U.S. economy and its impact on state Extension budgets had everyone concerned, but once again the NACAA membership has shown it values the professional improvement opportunities and the family friendly atmosphere of the AM/PIC.

As we look to the future, one of the challenges NACAA will continue to face is capturing the attention and commitment of the men and women who will be our new Extension Agents/Educators. This is much more of a challenge than it was when I started as an Extension Agent. We didn't have as many things competing for our professional improvement time. NACAA needs to continue our commitment to incorporate new ways to communicate and new methods of providing professional improvement. We need to critically evaluate our AM/PIC and, if necessary, change it to meet the desires and needs of the next generation of Extension Agents/Educators.

As I finish my eight seconds and get ready to step down, I want to sincerely thank all of the NACAA membership for this great opportunity. Very special and heartfelt thanks to my fellow Okies for signing me up and paying my entry fees.



Phil Pratt  
NACAA President



## Norman Goodwin - NACAA President 1975 Passes

Norman Goodwin, age 97 of Bayport, MN, formerly of DeWitt, IA, entered the peace of Heaven on April 2, 2010 at the Lakeview Hospital in Stillwater, MN.

He graduated in 1931 from Austin High School, where he received the American Farmer Degree in FFA, the first that was awarded in Minnesota and was a Minnesota Champion FFA Dairy Judge. His first job after graduation from the University of Minnesota was as an Assistant County Agent in Wilkin Co. near Breckenridge, MN. Norman coached their 4-H teams to Champion wins at the State Fair that year. In 1937, the Goodwin's moved to Alexandria, MN when Norman was hired as the first Emergency County Agent for Douglas County. For the 25 years, Norman worked as the County Extension Director for Clinton County, DeWitt, Iowa. He became very active in several organizations during this time, including the NACAA (National Assoc. of County Agricultural Agents), serving as national president, the Iowa County Extension Directors (serving as president), not to mention the Noon Lions Club, again serving as president. Another highlight for Norman during this time was the opportunity to travel with the People to People Tour throughout South America.

In 1978, Norman was elected to political office as an Iowa State Senator. He served in the State Senate until 1990. In 2007 at the age of 94, Norman made his last move when he and his wife Mina became residents of the Croixdale Assisted Living Apts. in Stillwater, MN.

### Did You Know?

Did you know that your mailing address, phone number, email address, fax number, area of speciality, leadership positions and committee participation - can all be updated online? Yes, you have access to the database to make updates for your own personal information 24/7. Log-in online at [naca.com](http://naca.com) and check out the information we currently have for you. If it's not accurate, help us out by updating your information. NACAA want's to be able to send you timely information and updates...but if your email or mailing address isn't correct...we can't keep you informed.

Never logged in before? Simply type in your name and email address and then click on "request password". An automated password will be immediately sent to you, allowing you to log-in and change your password to something you'll remember. Don't worry...if you forget the password, a new one can be sent to you.

On-line, you also have the ability to change whether or not you wish to continue to receive a mailed edition of *The County Agent* or if you prefer to just view a PDF...the most current edition is always available at [naca.com](http://naca.com).

In addition to his many civic accomplishments, Norman also received the Melvin Jensen award from the Lions Club, the Helen Keller Sight Award and the Star Gardener Award from the MN Horticultural Society. On April 26 of 2010, Norman was to receive recognition at the MN State FFA banquet with his name added to their Hall of Fame.

One of Norman's favorite past times was being outdoors gardening. He was a Master Gardener and enjoyed experimenting with various varieties of plants. Norman's leadership skills and willingness to serve his country and community was a testament to his sterling character. He was a dedicated family man who loved his children and grandchildren. He will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Mina Goodwin of Bayport; children, Nanette (Howard) Duncan of Eldridge, IA, Julie (Larry) Hoffman of West Lafayette, IN, David (Carol) Goodwin of Bourbonnais, IL; stepchildren, Jim (Kathy) Johnson of Alpena, MI, Jaelyn (Bruce) Halvorson of Kensington, MN, Patricia (Jim) Keller of Denmark Township, MN, Kay (Dale) Nibbe of Alexandria, MN and Ann Johnson of Lake St. Croix Beach, MN; many grand and great grandchildren; a brother, Nathan Goodwin of Austin, MN and a sister, Ruth Carlson of Celebration, FL; several nieces and nephews.

Norman is preceded in death by his parents, his wife, Marion, a granddaughter, Barbara Bulens and a grandson, Bradley Hoffman, a stepdaughter, Bonnie Isakson and a stepson, Theodore Clifford Johnson.

Funeral services were held for Norman on Saturday, April 10 at 2:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church in Kensington, MN

### Publication Deadlines

#### *The County Agent*

**October, 2010 Issue**  
AM/PIC Recap Edition

Deadline for articles: September 1, 2010  
Mail Date: September 15, 2010

#### **December, 2010 Issue**

Committee Awards/Directory Edition  
Deadline for articles: December 1, 2010  
Mail Date: December 26, 2010

## NACAA Commemorative Knives Available

The NACAA Educational Foundation and the Scholarship Committee have just under 105 limited edition NACAA Case Knives available for purchase.



The knife, a three bladed medium stockman, has a green Jade Bone handle. The three blades, a clip, spey and sheepfoot have the NACAA logo in color etched onto the largest blade. The medium stockman measures 3<sup>5/8</sup> inches closed and weighs 2.5 oz. The knife is in a commemorative tin with the NACAA logo printed on the lid.

These fine knives can be purchased by contacting Scott Hawbaker at the NACAA office and he can send one to you. The price including shipping is \$50 per knife.

The money raised from the selling of these knives will go to the foundation to fund travel scholarships.

These knives will make great Birthday and Holiday presents as well as a good retirement gift for agents. Don't miss this opportunity to own a collectible Case knife. If you have any questions about these knives contact Scott Hawbaker at the NACAA headquarters at (217) 794-3700.

### Order Form

Yes, Please send me \_\_\_\_NACAA Commemorative Knives at \$50/knife  
Please ship to the following address:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Attach \$50 check/knife made payable to:

NACAA  
6584 W. Duroc Road  
Maroa, IL 61756

Please charge to my credit card: Address on Card is same as shipping Credit card address is different -

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of card: Mastercard Visa Discover

Name on card: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Airport Arrivals

Delegates to the 2010 NACAA meeting will be welcomed to our great state at the Tulsa International Airport by some of our very best "Okie" personalities. Oklahoma members will be staffing a reception table to get your Oklahoma experience off on the right foot. The reception table will be located in an easy-to-find location between the two baggage claim areas. Signage throughout the airport and in the baggage claim area will direct you to our location. The reception area will be staffed from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. on Saturday, July 10 - Monday, July 12. We will provide people mover buses that will be parked very near our reception table to take you to your destination in either the Downtown Doubletree or the Holiday Inn Tulsa City Center Hotel, or the Crowne Plaza (newly added 3rd hotel). These same buses will be available for our guests leaving on Friday, July 16. We hope to make your stay in Tulsa as hassle free and enjoyable as possible.

All 3 hotels are also providing shuttle service to and from the airport if you should be arriving at any other time or if you need to leave early. The Downtown Doubletree provides shuttle service every hour on the hour from 5 a.m. - 11 p.m. with prior arrangements. Call them at (918) 587-8000 to make those arrangements or you can simply pick up the phones in the baggage claim area to contact the Downtown Doubletree. The Holiday Inn Tulsa City Center will also provide free shuttle service by calling (918) 585-5898. The Crowne Plaza will provide free shuttle service by calling (918) 582-9000.







# 50 Ways to Treat Your Pesticide

Whether herbicide, fungicide, or insecticide, make sure you know the basics.

*Always read and follow label instructions before buying or using a pesticide.  
Follow all appropriate federal, state, and local regulations.*

Carol Somody, Ph.D., Senior Stewardship Manager,  
Syngenta Crop Protection

Search the web for “pesticide stewardship and drift” and you get 26,000 documents. “Pesticide stewardship and storage” returns 166,000 documents, while “pesticide stewardship and runoff” produces 372,000. A smart pesticide user will go straight to their county agent, the pesticide safety education program coordinator for their state, their land grant university, the EPA website... all excellent starting points that can lead them to general or state-specific pesticide stewardship information on a host of topics from product storage, transport, and disposal to avoiding drift, runoff, and leaching during and after the application.

Although pesticide stewardship is very often impacted by state and local regulations, there are basic principles and practices that must be understood whether you are spraying fungicides on commercial potato fields in Maine, or insecticides on your home-grown vegetables in Califor-

nia. There are also things that should never be done, whether applying herbicides on wheat in Washington or golf courses in Florida. Here are 50 important ways to treat your pesticide, from purchase to disposal.

## DON'T HELP THE PEST

11) Make an unhappy home for pests. Of course, different pests like different conditions, but some practices just ask for trouble, so avoid them. Use field sanitation techniques that reduce pest habitat. Turn under infected/infested plant material that can be a source of new pests, and plant disease- and insect-resistant crop varieties. Mow uncontrolled annual weeds before they go to seed. Uncontrolled perennial weeds pose a greater challenge than annuals and may require spot treatment with herbicides at very specific timings. Seal food containers and entryways into buildings to keep insects out, and avoid over-watering or over-fertilizing crops – many diseases thrive in wet, succulent conditions.

of the pest. Do the past/current weather conditions favor a major infestation, is the crop already close to harvest, can you accept superficial damage or absolutely no damage at all? The answers are critical to deciding whether to treat or not treat; and for highly valued crops, professional pest and weather monitoring may be done in your area to assist you in making the decision.

## MAKE AN INFORMED PURCHASE

4) The purpose of a pesticide is to kill specific pests, so read the label before you even purchase the product. The label is the law, and there is nothing funny about the oft-spoken opinion that “nobody reads the label”. You wouldn’t take a prescription without reading the directions carefully, and it is just as important to read the

2) Know your pest(s) before you treat. Your pesticide won’t work on the wrong pest, costing you money and doing nothing to solve your problem. Also, some insects and diseases cause little damage to certain plants, and some weeds are not competitive.

3) Determine whether the pest(s) is likely to cause you trouble this year. Scout the field or garden to determine the presence and extent

pesticide label thoroughly – you are legally obligated to read everything except the information about crops that you are not planning to treat.

5) The directions for use and the rest of the information are **equally** important. Review the signal word, precautionary statements, personal protective equipment requirements, reentry statements, emergency first aid measures, etc., as many times as necessary to fully understand them and ensure you are willing to follow them.

6) Do not deny it’s a pesticide. “I don’t use pesticides, I use....” Ant or rodent baits? Fertilizers that also control pests? Treated seed? Aerosols that control pests? Flea collars? Natural chemicals like sulfur and copper? If it contains a chemical that controls pests, use all appropriate stewardship practices and don’t be complacent.

7) Look for product formulations, packaging, and application techniques that reduce the chance of spills and mixing errors. Consider purchasing a premix (prepack) if more than one pesticide is needed at the same time.

8) For large acreages, consider bulk packages. These refillable, recyclable containers provide “closed systems” and have eliminated millions of 2 1/2 gallon jugs, saved millions of cubic feet of landfill space, and reduced handler exposure greatly.

## TRANSPORT AND STORE PROPERLY

9) Always transport pesticides in the car trunk or in the back of the truck. Do not transport in the same compartment with passengers, groceries or animal feed. Secure the containers to prevent spills due to sudden starts, turns, and stops.

10) Store your pesticides in a locked and labeled cabinet or area. Read all labels to determine if ventilation and/or temperature controls are needed for your situation.

## FOCUS ON THE APPLICATION

11) Use the required personal protective equipment (PPE) when handling the pesticide. If the label requires a respirator, use only respirators approved by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). Filters, canisters, or cartridges must be replaced according to all manufacturer and pesticide instructions, **and** whenever equipment damage, breathing resistance, odor, taste, or irritation occurs.

12) A little more is **not** better. Increasing the rate beyond the maximum allowed on the label for the specific use has absolutely no advantages. The maximum residue level, or



tolerance, is the legally enforceable maximum concentration of a pesticide residue that is allowed on an agricultural commodity at the point of market. Higher than labeled rates can also promote the development of resistance and will add cost.

13) Determine the equipment calibration schedule based on the types of nozzles and formulations that are used. It is better to calibrate more often than needed, than not enough, because worn nozzles can change the pesticide rate or pattern.

14) Where pest control will not be compromised, replace broadcast applications with in-furrow or directed applications, seed or spot treatments, and barrier or band treatments, to better target pest populations or the zone where pest control is needed.

15) Adopt precision agriculture techniques to better pinpoint pests so that pesticides can be applied exactly where they are needed in commercial fields. Soil testing, crop scouting, and yield monitoring, along with global positioning systems, satellite and aerial imagery, and data analysis, allow variable rate pesticide applications that maximize yield, minimize pesticide costs and prevent unneeded pesticides in the environment.

16) Don't wait until you are desperate to treat. Of course, pest identification and monitoring are critical aids in deciding whether or not to treat, but don't gamble and delay treatment when you know a pesticide will be needed. Pesticide effectiveness often depends on a specific timing and placement relative to the crop and/or pest, and waiting too long can leave you with no effective way to control the pest.

17) Don't prepare more spray solution than is needed, and dispose of any excess by applying it to a registered crop or site, if possible.

18) Don't treat when winds are moderate (greater than 8 mph), or rainfall is imminent. These conditions may decrease performance of the pesticide and/or move it off-target.

19) Protect the crop or other desirable plants. The best pest control means nothing if desirable plants are injured by the pesticide. Observe all timing and placement directions relative to the desirable plants, do not exceed maximum rates, and consider weather and other stresses that may make them more susceptible to injury from the pesticide.

20) Protect our pollinators. Most pesticides are not toxic to bees and, in general, insecticides are more likely to be toxic than fungicides and herbicides. When using a pollinator-toxic pesticide, make sure you know the proximity of commercial hives and native pollinator

habitat, local pollinator visitation habits, and the blooming period of plants in the area, and follow all label directions and precautions.

## STAY ATTENTIVE AFTER THE APPLICATION

21) Watch out for regrowth or reinfestation. Second flushes of weeds may or may not be competitive, and reinfestations of insects or diseases may or may not cause unacceptable plant damage. In any case, know what you can tolerate and continue monitoring or scouting **after** the initial and any subsequent applications.

22) Even if it is too late to prevent yield and quality loss, use rescue treatments where appropriate to prevent weed seed production, harvest problems, and pest contamination of the crop.

## BE DILIGENT ABOUT CLEANUP AND DISPOSAL

23) Evaluate the results of the application. Granule pesticides intended for lawns but landing on driveways, etc. need to be swept up or back onto the lawn. If you are not going to sweep it up, don't apply it, because pesticides move easily off paved surfaces into drains and ditches.

24) Do everything possible to prevent spills, but always keep an absorbent material such as cat litter or sawdust readily available. Clean up both liquid and dry spills immediately. A spill is still a pesticide, and must be disposed of as such if no longer usable.

25) Wash clothing worn during pesticide application before re-use, wash it separately from other laundry, and discard items that have accidentally become heavily contaminated with pesticide.

26) If you no longer plan to use a registered pesticide, offer it to another qualified user. It can also be taken to an acceptable disposal site or appropriate waste collection day if necessary. Make sure you know how to dispose of the particular pesticide, following all federal, state, and local regulations, as well as the product label.

27) Triple- or pressure-rinse "empty" liquid product containers, and completely empty dry product containers, before disposing properly. Recycle if possible. The Ag Container Recycling Council (877-952-2272, [www.acrecycle.org](http://www.acrecycle.org)) safely collects and recycles plastic pesticide containers. For homeowners, your state's household waste agency can provide recycling options or instructions on where to dispose of unwanted pesticides.

28) The best way to dispose of a small quantity of leftover seed that has been treated with a pesticide is to plant it in fallow or other non-cropped areas of the farm. Treated seed may be hazardous to wildlife and must be planted according to the instructions on the seed bag. Whether or not the seed is being planted as potential wildlife habitat, use a normal seeding rate and normal practices for that crop (for example, local planting dates and soil temperatures), and plant treated seed at a depth greater than 1 inch. If the seed is broadcast on the soil surface, incorporate it immediately.

## AVOID DRIFT

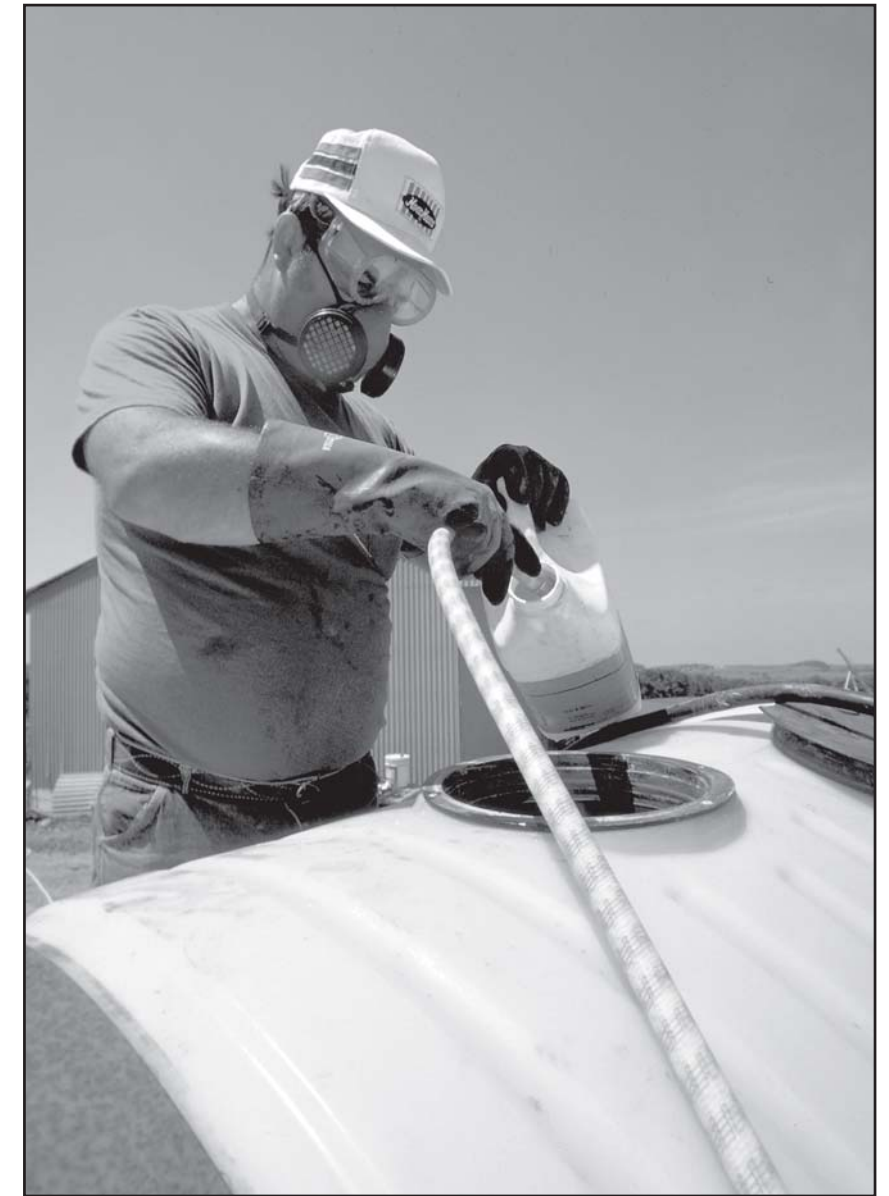
29) Keep spray droplets on target. There is no one technique that can minimize spray drift – you must consider the weather conditions, the application equipment, the sensitive areas downwind of the application, and buffers. Sensitive areas include anything that should not be sprayed with the pesticide in question – even registered crops if they have already received the maximum rate as a planned application.

30) Extra precautions should be taken to minimize drift when sensitive areas are known to be in close proximity. Highly sensitive areas include sites occupied by humans, sensitive crops, wildlife or pollinator habitat, aquatic areas, and organic farms. Special laws apply to endangered species and their habitat.

31) Watch that wind. No environmental condition has a greater impact on drift. Don't spray when winds are variable, gusty, or sustained at greater than 8 mph, **or** when conditions are completely calm, **or** when droplets may enter and move within an inversion (a layer of air moving horizontally).

32) Anything that causes very fine droplets (wrong nozzle, clogged nozzle, high pressure, etc.) will increase the chance for drift. For the same reason, high temperatures and low relative humidity during application will also increase the chance for drift.

33) Drift management at the time of application is the legal responsibility of the applicator, who must combine his knowledge of the site conditions and application variables to minimize drift. Flexibility is a key component in minimizing drift, since there are so many factors that influence drift and can be modified by the applicator, depending on the particular circumstances. For example,



there is more flexibility in the choice of nozzles or acceptable weather conditions if the buffer size is increased or a shield is used on the sprayer.

34) Growers and homeowners can have a significant impact on the applicator's flexibility in minimizing drift, through plant and pesticide choices, and a careful short- and long-term consideration of buffer type, size, and location.

## UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF BUFFERS

35) Buffers, which are natural or man-made physical barriers, can reduce spray drift as well as water runoff and soil erosion, all of which can carry pesticides off-target.

36) Permanent buffers are areas or strips of land maintained in permanent vegetation, designed to intercept spray





droplets, flowing water, and/or eroding soil. Permanent buffers provide the most benefits - reducing off-target pesticide movement while improving water quality, preventing soil erosion, and providing wildlife habitat.

37) A permanent buffer is not required. Instead, a buffer may be flexible - a purposely untreated portion of the crop or landscape large enough to minimize the chance of spray drift, water runoff, and/or soil erosion taking pesticides off-target.

38) For successful drift management, flexible buffers are critical when permanent buffers are not available. The size and location of flexible buffers are determined on an application-by-application basis, and consider all the factors influencing drift. Flexible buffers can minimize drift whether winds are blowing from the expected direction (prevailing winds) or not.

39) Applicators have the responsibility to properly define flexible buffers for drift management. The flexible buffer may be very small when other drift reduction techniques are sufficient.

## PREVENT PEST RESISTANCE

40) Effective pest management depends upon pesticides that perform consistently on the target pests over time. Utilize proven resistance management techniques not only to prevent pest resistance, but also to manage it when it occurs.

41) If you require multiple herbicide, fungicide, or insecticide applications within the same crop, rotate the pesticide to one with a different mode/target site of action

(MOA). Look for the Group Number on the label to indicate the MOA but, if absent, remember that all pesticides have a MOA and that many resources exist to tell you what it is. There are very few pesticides that have multiple MOA, but tank mixtures or premixes that contain multiple MOA can make pesticide rotation unnecessary in a crop.

42) If you suspect a resistant pest, apply tank mixtures or premixes that contain multiple MOA. At least one of the pesticide active ingredients must be effective on the pest.

43) Adhere to label rates for the specific pest, crop, conditions, and location - each registered rate is carefully determined based on field trials. Combine as many resistance management strategies as possible, especially when applying maximum label rates of pesticides, because high rates enhance the selection pressure for resistance. Conversely, do not apply rates lower than those recommended for a particular pest species because this favors survival of the more vigorous individuals in the pest population.

44) Use preventative control where resistance is known to be occurring. Preventative control is the use of a pesticide(s) which prevents the pest from developing, as opposed to curative control which is not used until the pest or evidence of its presence (such as plant symptoms) has been observed.

45) Follow label directions for optimum timing relative to the growth stage of the target pest. Application to pest populations that are beyond the optimum timing (for example, large weeds, late instar insect larvae or disease in the epidemic phase) can speed the development of resistance.

## USE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

46) Evaluate all your pest control options - biological, chemical, cultural, genetic, mechanical, etc. - and combine effective techniques into an integrated pest management (IPM) approach that achieves the desired pest control at a reasonable cost **and** with constant attention to protecting the environment through good stewardship. The IPM plan may target insects, diseases, or weeds but, in

the best case, there will be an IPM plan for all types of pests.

47) Promote biological control by protecting beneficial predators and parasites that help control the pest. Follow all pesticide label precautions and directions to avoid or minimize exposure.

48) Use cultural control practices that help prevent and control pests.

- ◆ Maintain optimum crop growth through proper fertilization, irrigation, etc. - a healthy crop is more competitive with weeds and often less susceptible to disease and insect attack.
- ◆ Scout fields regularly to respond quickly to changes in pest populations and, particularly in the case of insects, to monitor for the presence of natural enemies.
- ◆ Clean cultivation and harvest equipment before moving from field to field.
- ◆ Rotate crops, particularly those with different pest problems, to prevent the buildup of certain pests.
- ◆ Use sanitation techniques that reduce pests, their habitat, and their alternate hosts - before, during, and after the growing season.

49) Take advantage of the crop's own genetic abilities. Plant pest-resistant crop varieties, where available, or pesticide-resistant crop varieties where use of the pesticide has significant advantages for the crop.

50) Consider mechanical control (cultivation) to assist with weed control (where erosion and limited soil moisture are not concerns).

## FIRST AND FOREMOST, BE A GOOD STEWARD

Many factors affect the impact of pesticides on man and the environment. Although the government, industry, and extension provide regulations, labels, and educational outreach to promote judicious use and good stewardship, success is ultimately contingent on the personal knowledge and diligence of everyone who handles a pesticide.



There are excellent resources available through your Extension Service and the Pesticide Safety Education Program in your state.

In addition, a new web-based resource will become available nationally in summer of 2010 to assist you with general pesticide stewardship. The Center for Integrated Pest Management's (CIPM) Pesticide Environmental Stewardship website (PES) will cover a wide variety of pesticide stewardship topics for **everyone** who applies, sells, stores, or disposes of pesticides, provides advice or training concerning pesticide use, or regulates, stewards, or has questions about pesticides. Future additions to PES will include educational modules to test your knowledge and self-assessment tools to evaluate your personal stewardship efforts.

Don't leave stewardship to your neighbors. Your actions do make a difference, and you can (and should) model the way for others, including your children as they reach adulthood and begin handling pesticides. Sooner or later, many of us will choose to use pesticides. Please use them wisely.

*No product endorsement is given nor implied in this article by the NACAA Board of Directors.*

## Last Chance to Order SARE's Exploring Sustainable Agriculture!

Summer farm tours and workshops are fast approaching! Starting June 1, SARE's *Exploring Sustainability in Agriculture* will go out of print. Stock up now on this popular sustainable agriculture primer before it's no longer available.

Originally published in 2003, *Exploring Sustainability in Agriculture* illustrates sustainable agriculture by providing snapshots of producers who use profitable, ecologically sound practices on their farms and ranches. Download a review copy at [www.sare.org/publications/explore/explore.pdf](http://www.sare.org/publications/explore/explore.pdf).

*Exploring* is now available in bulk quantities at no cost for educational purposes, but only 2,500 copies remain. Place orders in quantities of 100 or more via email to [Sean McGovern](mailto:Sean.McGovern@sare.org). Please provide the number requested, with street address and telephone number for shipping. SARE program brochures and publication order forms are also available - just ask!

Check out SARE's [WebStore](http://www.sare.org/webstore) for a wide range of other free educational materials, including *What is Sustainable Agriculture?* which replaces which replaces *Exploring* in the SARE library.

## SARE State Coordinators

### Want to know who your SARE State Coordinator is and what they do?

The basis for state coordinators originated in the 1990 Farm Bill, when legislators mandated that each state and U.S. territory develop a training program in sustainable agriculture concepts and systems for field employees, such as the Extension Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service and other ag professionals. The legislation also required states to make information from SARE and other sources available to farmers and the public.

State coordinator responsibilities include professional development; promotion, networking and coordination, especially of SARE-related activities; and communication and evaluation. Activities generally include the following:

The resources below were developed by the SARE Outreach to help agricultural educators work with farmers and ranchers to develop successful sustainable farming systems. See also the full list of SAN publications or the list of publications by topic.

#### Building a Sustainable Business: A Guide to Developing a Business Plan for Farms and Rural Businesses

#### Land and Power: Sustainable Agriculture and African Americans

#### Local Harvest: A Multifarm CSA Handbook

#### Meeting the Diverse Needs of Limited-Resource Producers: An Educator's Guide

#### The New American Farmer: Profiles of Agricultural Innovation, 2nd Edition

#### Put Your Ideas to the Test: How to Conduct Research on Your Farm or Ranch

#### What is Sustainable Agriculture?

<http://www.sare.org/coreinfo/education.htm>

- ◆ Coordinating annual sustainable agriculture training and educational program opportunities for all new appropriate field office personnel
- ◆ Coordinating updated sustainable agriculture training and education opportunities for current staff
- ◆ Promoting the availability of SARE funding opportunities, program activities and opportunities
- ◆ Raising awareness of SARE Outreach educational materials and services, as well as those of ATTRA - the National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service and the Alternative Farming Systems Information Center (AFSIC).
- ◆ Seeking input from NRCS and FSA personnel about sustainable agriculture training needs and shared educational program opportunities.
- ◆ Submitting timely reports of state sustainable agriculture programs, impacts, and activities to the required regional PDP SARE program contact
- ◆ Participating in regional PDP activities

## Listing of State Coordinators Northeast

### Connecticut

Joe Bonelli  
Tolland County Extension Center  
24 Hyde Road  
Vernon, CT 06066-4599  
Phone: 860-875-3331  
Fax: 860-875-0220  
Email: [joseph.bonelli@uconn.edu](mailto:joseph.bonelli@uconn.edu)

### Delaware

John Clendaniel  
Cooperative Extension  
Delaware State University  
Washington Center, Room 115A  
1200 N. DuPont Highway  
Dover, DE 19901  
Phone: 302-857-6425  
Fax: 302-857-6430  
Email: [jclendaniel@desu.edu](mailto:jclendaniel@desu.edu)

Susan White-Hansen  
Research & Education Center  
University of Delaware  
16483 County Seat Hwy  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
Phone: 302-856-2585 ext. 516  
Fax: 302-856-1845  
Email: [sewhite@udel.edu](mailto:sewhite@udel.edu)

### District of Columbia

James Allen  
Agricultural Experiment Station  
University of the  
District of Columbia  
Bldg. 52, Room 416D  
4200 Connecticut Ave.  
NW?Washington, D.C. 20008  
Phone: 202-274-7140  
Fax: 202-274-7119  
Email: [jallen@udc.edu](mailto:jallen@udc.edu)

### Maine

Ellen Mallory  
Cooperative Extension  
University of Maine  
495 College Ave.  
Orono, ME 04473  
Phone: 207-581-2942  
Fax: 207-581-1301  
Email: [ellen.mallory@maine.edu](mailto:ellen.mallory@maine.edu)

### Maryland

Laura Hunsberger  
University of Maryland, College Park  
Worcester County Extension Office  
P.O. Box 219  
Snow Hill, MD 21863  
Phone: 410-632-1972  
Fax: 410-632-3023  
Email: [lhuns@umd.edu](mailto:lhuns@umd.edu)

Berran Rogers  
University of Maryland,  
Eastern Shore  
Maryland Cooperative Extension  
Room 2141,  
Richard A. Henson Center  
Princess Anne, MD 21853  
Phone: 410-651-6693  
Fax: 410-651-6207  
Email: [blroger@umes.edu](mailto:blroger@umes.edu)

### Massachusetts

Sonia Schloemann  
Department of Plant, Soil &  
Insect Sciences  
West Experiment Station  
University of Massachusetts  
Amherst, MA 01003-0910  
Phone: 413-545-4347  
Fax: 413-577-3820  
Email: [sgs@umext.umass.edu](mailto:sgs@umext.umass.edu)

### New Hampshire

Seth Wilner  
University of New Hampshire  
Cooperative Extension  
24 Main St  
Newport, NH 03773  
Phone: 603-863-9200x105  
Fax: 603-863-4730  
Email: [seth.wilner@unh.edu](mailto:seth.wilner@unh.edu)

### New Jersey

Jack Rabin  
Rutgers Cooperative Extension/  
NJAES  
327 Martin Hall - Cook College  
Admin Bldg  
Cook Campus, 88 Lipman Drive  
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8525  
Phone: 732-932-5000 x610  
Fax: 732-932-6633  
Email: [rabin@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:rabin@aesop.rutgers.edu)

### New York

Anusuya Rangarajan?  
Cornell University  
121 Plant Science Bldg  
Ithaca, NY 14850  
Phone: 607-255-1780  
Fax: 607-255-0599  
Email: [ar47@cornell.edu](mailto:ar47@cornell.edu)

### Pennsylvania

William Curran  
Dept. of Crop and Soil Sciences  
The Pennsylvania State University  
116 ASI Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
Phone: 814-863-1014  
Fax: 814-863-7043  
Email: [wcurran@psu.edu](mailto:wcurran@psu.edu)

### Rhode Island

Kristen Castrataro?  
University of Rhode Island  
127 Greenhouses  
Kingston, RI 02881  
Phone: 401-874-2967  
Fax: 401-874-2259  
Email: [kcas@mail.uri.edu](mailto:kcas@mail.uri.edu)

### Vermont

Debra Heleba  
University of Vermont Extension  
103 Hills Building  
Burlington, VT 05405  
Phone: 802-656-4046  
Email: [debra.heleba@uvm.edu](mailto:debra.heleba@uvm.edu)

### West Virginia

Barbara Liedl  
Associate Research Professor  
West Virginia State University  
Gus R. Douglass Institute  
Agricultural and Environmental  
Research Station  
129 Hamblin Hall  
Institute, WV 25112-1000  
Phone 304-766-5767  
FAX: 304-766-5774  
Email: [liedlbe@wvstateu.edu](mailto:liedlbe@wvstateu.edu)

### Tom McConnell

Extension Farm Management  
Specialist  
West Virginia University  
2098 Ag Sciences Building  
P.O. Box 6108, Evansdale Campus  
Morgantown, WV 26506-6108  
Phone: 304-293-6131, ext. 4237  
Fax: 304-293-6954  
Email: [trmcconnell@wvu.edu](mailto:trmcconnell@wvu.edu)

### State Program Staff Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island

Michael Keilty  
Maple Spring Farm  
107 Kenyon Road  
Morris, CT 06763  
Phone: 860-567-8324  
Fax: 860-567-2702  
Email: [michael.keilty@uconn.edu](mailto:michael.keilty@uconn.edu)

### Delaware and Maryland Eastern Shore

Jason Challandes  
Delaware State University  
Dover, DE  
302/388-2241  
Email: [jchallandes@desu.edu](mailto:jchallandes@desu.edu)



**Maine**  
Tom Molloy  
University of Maine  
Department of Plant, Soil and  
Environmental Sciences  
205 Clapp Greenhouses  
Orono, ME 04469  
Phone: 207-581-2926  
Fax: 207-581-2999  
Email:  
thomas.molloy@umit.maine.edu

**New Hampshire**  
Bill Lord  
University of New Hampshire  
Cooperative Extension  
38 Academic Way  
Durham, NH 03824  
Phone: 603-527-5475  
Email: wlord@ceunh.unh.edu

**New York**  
Violet Stone  
Cornell University  
135C Plant Science Building  
Ithaca, NY 14853  
Phone: 607-255-9227  
Fax: 607-255-0599  
Email: vws7@cornell.edu

**Pennsylvania**  
Charlie White  
501 ASI Building  
Penn State University  
University Park, PA 16802  
814-863-9922  
Fax: 814-863-7043  
Email: cmw29@psu.edu

**West Virginia and  
Maryland College Park**  
Adam C. Hayes  
Agriculture and Natural Resources  
2100 Agricultural Sciences Building  
PO Box 6108  
Morgantown, WV 26506-6108  
Phone: 304-685-9523  
Fax: 304-293-6954  
Email: adam.hayes@mail.wvu.edu

## Listing of State Coordinators North Central

**Illinois**  
Deborah Cavanaugh-Grant  
University of Illinois Extension  
P.O. Box 410  
Greenview, IL 62642-0410  
Phone: (217) 968-5512  
Email: cvnghgrn@uiuc.edu

**Indiana**  
Roy Ballard  
Extension Educator Agriculture and  
Natural Resources  
Purdue Cooperative Extension  
Service  
Hancock County Office  
802 North Apple Street  
Greenfield, IN 46140  
Phone: 317-462-1113  
Fax: 317-462-2424 fax  
Email: rballard@purdue.edu

**Iowa**  
Jerry DeWitt  
Director, Leopold Center for Sus-  
tainable Agriculture  
Professor of Entomology, Iowa State  
University  
209 Curtiss  
Ames, IA 50011-1050  
Phone: 515.294.7836  
Fax: 515.294.9696  
<http://www.leopold.iastate.edu/>  
Email: jdewitt@iastate.edu

Andrew Larson  
Small Farm Sustainability  
Iowa State University Extension  
2303 Agronomy Hall  
Ames, IA 50011  
Phone: 515.294.5875  
Email: allarso1@iastate.edu

**Kansas**  
Kerri Ebert  
Coordinator, Kansas AgrAbility  
Project  
Seaton 153  
Manhattan, KS 66506  
Phone: 785-532-2976  
Email: kebert@ksu.edu

**Michigan**  
Dale Mutch  
MSU Extension Specialist and  
KBS Land and Water Program  
Acting Coordinator  
Michigan State University/W. K.  
Kellogg Biological Station  
3700 E. Gull Lake Drive  
Hickory Corners, MI 49060-9516  
Phone: 269-671-2412, ext. 224  
Email: mutch@msu.edu  
[www.misare.msu.edu](http://www.misare.msu.edu)

Associate: Dean Baas  
Email: baasdean@msu.edu

**Minnesota**  
Beth Nelson  
University of Minnesota  
MN Institute of Sustainable Agricul-  
ture (MISA)  
411 Borlaug Hall  
1991 Buford Circle  
Saint Paul, MN 55108

Phone: 612.625.8217  
Fax: 612.625.1268  
Email: Schre002@umn.edu

**Missouri**  
Debi Kelly  
Missouri Alternatives Center, Project  
Manager  
University of Missouri  
234 Ag Engineering Building  
Columbia, MO 65211  
Phone: 573.882.1905  
toll free: 800.433.3704 (MO only)  
Email: kellyd@missouri.edu

K. B. Paul  
Lincoln University  
PO Box 29  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0029  
Phone: 573.681.5584  
Fax: 573.681.5546  
Email: paulK@lincolnu.edu

**Nebraska**  
Gary Lesoing  
Nemaha County Extension Office  
1824 North Street, Suite 102  
Auburn, Nebraska 68305-2395  
Phone: 402.274.4755  
Email: glesoing2@unl.edu

**North Dakota**  
Frank J. Kutka  
North Dakota State University  
1133 State Ave  
Dickinson ND 58601  
Phone: 701.483.2063  
Email: fkutka@ndsuxext.nodak.edu

**Ohio**  
Mike Hogan  
Ohio State University Extension  
32 W. Main Street  
Carrollton, OH 44615-1336  
Phone: 330.627.4310  
Fax: 330.627.0098  
Email: Hogan.1@osu.edu

Alan Sundermeier  
Ohio State University Extension –  
Wood County  
639 Dunbridge Road, Suite 1  
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402  
Phone: 419.354.9050  
Fax: 419.352.7413  
Email: sundermeier.5@osu.edu

**South Dakota**  
Gary Lemme  
South Dakota State University  
Plant Science Dept., SAG 220  
Brookings, SD 57007-0191  
Phone: 605.688.4597 or 605.688.4148  
Email: gary.lemme@sdstate.edu

**Wisconsin**  
Diane Mayerfeld  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Ctr for Integrated Ag Systems  
1535 Observatory Dr.  
Madison, WI 53706  
Phone: 608.262.8188  
Fax: 608.265.3020  
Email: dbmayerfeld@wisc.edu

## Listing of State Coordinators Southern

**Alabama**  
Ayanava Majumdar, ("Dr. A")  
Auburn University  
Extension Entomologist,  
Peanuts & Vegetables  
Alabama Cooperative Extension System,  
Gulf Coast Research and  
Extension Center  
8300 State Highway 104  
Fairhope, AL 36532  
Cell phone: 251-331-8416  
Fax: 251-990-8912  
AZM0024@auburn.edu

Cathy Sabota  
Alabama A&M University  
P.O. Box 69  
Normal, AL 35762  
Phone: 256-372-4257  
FAX: 256-372-5840  
catherine.sabota@aamu.edu

Barrett Temple Vaughan  
Department of Ag Engineering  
200-E Thomas M. Campbell Hall  
Tuskegee, Alabama 36088  
Ph: (334) 727-8527  
Fax: (334) 727-8493  
btvaughan@tuskegee.edu

**Arkansas**  
Elena Garcia  
University of Arkansas CES  
316 Plant Sciences  
Fayetteville, AR 72701  
Ph: (479)575-2790  
Fax: (479)575-8619  
megarcia@uark.edu

Leslie J. Glover  
University of Arkansas / Pine Bluff  
Mail Slot 4906  
1200 N. University Drive  
Pine Bluff, AR 71601  
Phone: 870-575-8828  
Cell: 870-592-5643  
Fax: (870)575-4687  
gloverl@uapb.edu

**Florida**  
Marilyn (Mickie) Swisher  
Dept. of Family, Youth &  
Cummunity Science  
University of Florida  
PO Box 110310  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0310  
Phone: 352-273-3538  
FAX: 352-392-8196  
mesw@ufl.edu

Cassel Gardner  
Florida A&M University  
202-J Perry-Paige Building South  
Tallahassee, FL 32307  
Phone: 850-599-3546  
FAX: 850-561-2151  
cassel.gardner@famuc.edu

Program Assistant  
Sean Marsh  
University of Florida  
3031 Mc Carty Hall D  
PO Box 110310  
Gainesville, FL 32611-0310  
Phone: 352.273.3508  
Fax: 352.392.8196  
sean117@ufl.edu

**Georgia**  
Julia Gaskin  
Biological and Ag Engineering  
619 Driftmier Eng.Center  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602  
Phone: 706-542-1401  
FAX: 706-542-1886  
jgaskin@engr.uga.edu

Mark Latimore  
Fort Valley State University  
CEP, Box 4061  
FedEx: 1005 State Univ. Dr.  
Fort Valley, GA 31030  
Phone: 478-825-6327  
FAX: 478-825-6299  
latimorm@fvsu.edu

Program Assistant  
Joy Schomberg  
619 Driftmier Eng.Center  
University of Georgia  
Athens, GA 30602  
Phone: 706.542.8084  
Fax: (706) 542-1886  
Email: joys@engr.uga.edu

**Kentucky**  
A. Lee Meyer  
Extension Professor  
Dept. of Ag. Econ.,  
Univ. of Ky.  
416 Charles E. Barnhart Bldg.  
Lexington, KY 40546-0276  
Ph: 859.257.7272 x228  
fax: 859.323.1913  
Email: lee.meyer@uky.edu

Marion Simon  
Kentucky State University  
Cooperative Extension  
400 East Main Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601  
Phone: 502-597-6437  
FAX: 502-597-5933  
marion.simon@kysu.edu

Program Assistant  
Sara Williamson  
407 Barnhart Bldg.  
Dept. of Ag. Econ.  
Univ. of Ky Lexington, KY  
40546-0276  
Ph: 859.257.7272 x 223  
Fax: 859.323.1913  
swill6@uky.edu

**Louisiana**  
Carl E. Motsenbocker  
Horticulture  
Louisiana State University  
AgCenter  
137 J.C. Miller Hall  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
Ph: 225-578-1036  
Fax: 225-578-1068  
cmotsenbocker@agcenter.lsu.edu  
  
[www.lasare.agcenter.lsu.edu](http://www.lasare.agcenter.lsu.edu)

Owusu Bandele  
Dept. Ag/Plant/Soil Science  
Southern University  
PO Box 11170  
Baton Rouge, LA 70813  
Phone: 225-771-2262 x206  
Cell: 225- 284-0063  
FAX: 225-771-4464  
owusu\_bandele@suagcenter.com

obandele@cox.net

Program Assistant  
Natalie Levy  
LSU Ag Center  
137 Julian Miller Hall  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
Phone: (225) 578-1037  
Fax: (225)578-1068

**Mississippi**  
Mark Crenshaw  
Mississippi State University  
Box 9815  
MS State, MS 39762  
Ph: (662) 325-3516  
Fax: (662) 325-8873  
markc@ext.msstate.edu

Franklin Chukwuma  
Alcorn State University  
Cooperative Extension Program  
1000 ASU Drive #479  
Alcorn State, MS 39096  
Ph: 601-877-2312

Phone: 405-744-3669  
Fax: 405-744-5269  
janelle.malone@okstate.edu

<http://dasnr8.dasnr.okstate.edu:8080/oksusag>

### Puerto Rico

Luis R. Mejia-Maymi  
University of Puerto Rico  
Extension Services  
P.O. Box 9031  
University of Puerto Rico  
Mayaguez, PR 00681  
Phone: 787-833-2665  
FAX: 787-834-4590  
lmejia@uprm.edu

Program Assistant  
Jessyka Rosado-Agnostini  
Jardin Botanico Sue 1204  
San Juan, PR 00926-1120

### South Carolina

Geoff Zehnder  
1116 Southern Acres  
Clemson University  
Clemson, SC 29634  
Phone: 864-656-6644  
FAX: 864-656-6863  
zehnder@clemson.edu

[www.clemson.edu/scsare/](http://www.clemson.edu/scsare/)

Edoe Agbodjan  
SCSU Extension  
300 College St, NE  
P.O. Box 7336  
Orangeburg, SC 29117  
Phone: 803-707-2112  
FAX: 803-897-1099  
eagbodjan@scsu.edu

[www.clemson.edu/scsare/](http://www.clemson.edu/scsare/)

Program Assistant  
Amy Nichols  
B29 Long Hall  
Clemson University  
Clemson, SC 29634  
Phone: 864.656.5057  
Fax: 864-656-6863  
amyn@clemson.edu

[www.clemson.edu/scsare/](http://www.clemson.edu/scsare/)

### Tennessee

Clark Garland  
Agricultural Extension Service  
University of Tennessee  
314 Morgan Hall  
Knoxville, TN 37996  
Phone: 865-974-7273  
FAX: 865-974-9492  
cgarland@utk.edu

Roy Bullock  
Small Farm and IPM  
Tennessee State University  
3500 John A. Merritt Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37209-1561  
Phone: 615-963-5449  
FAX: 615-963-5833  
fbullock@tnstate.edu

Program Assistant  
Tina M. Johnson  
Extension Assistant  
University of Tennessee  
Extension Agriculture Economics  
2621 Morgan Circle  
227-A Morgan Hall  
Knoxville, TN 37996-4518  
Phone: 865.974.7271  
Fax: 865.974.0440  
tjohnson@utk.edu

<http://tnsare.ag.utk.edu>

### Texas

Diane E. Boellstorff,  
Assistant Professor and  
Extension Specialist - Water Resources  
Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
Texas A&M University  
2474 TAMUS,  
Dept. of Soil & Crop Sciences  
370 Olsen Blvd.,  
354 Heep Center College Station,  
TX 77843-2474 (979) 458-3562  
Fax (979) 845-0604  
dboellstorff@tamu.edu

Nelson T. Daniels  
AgNR Cooperative Extension Program  
Prairie View A&M University  
Mail Stop 2001  
P O Box 519  
Prairie View, Texas 77446  
Phone: 936.261.5112  
Fax: 936.261.5141  
ndaniels@ag.tamu.edu

Program Assistant  
John Smith  
Texas A&M University  
2474 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77843-2474  
Phone: 9979) 845-2761  
Fax: 9979) 845-0456  
jwsmith@ag.tamu.edu

### Virginia

Brian Calhoun  
Virginia Tech  
115 Hutchinson Hall  
Blacksburg, VA 24061  
Ph: (540)231-1247  
Fax: (540)231-0762  
dcalhoun@vt.edu

Andy Hankins  
Alternative Agriculture  
Virginia State University  
Box 9081  
Petersburg, VA 23806  
Phone: 804-524-5962  
FAX: 804-524-5714  
FEDEX: 9200 Mirror Lake Lane  
Providence Forge, VA 23140  
ahankins@vsu.edu

Program Assistant  
Vacant

### Virgin Islands

Carlos Robles  
University of the Virgin Islands  
#2 John Brewers Bay  
St. Thomas, VI 00802-9990  
Ph: 340-693-1083  
Fax: 340-693-1085  
crobles@uvi.edu

## Listing of State Coordinators Western

### Oregon

Nick Andrews  
Oregon PDP State Co-Coordinator

Oregon State Extension  
North Willamette Extension Center  
15210 NE Miley Road  
Aurora, Oregon 97002-9543  
503.678.1264 x149

### Nevada

John Burton  
Nevada PDP Program Coordinator

University of Nevada Extension  
Extension Dean and Directors Office  
MS 404  
Reno, Nevada 89557-0106  
775.784.7070

### Montana

Montana PDP Program Coordinator

Montana State University  
235 Linfield Hall  
PO Box 172820  
Bozeman, Montana 59717-2820

### California

Morgan Doran  
California PDP Program Coordinator

UC Cooperative Extension  
Solano County  
501 Texas Street, First Floor  
Fairfield, California 94533-4498  
707.784.1326

### Arizona

Rick Gibson  
Arizona PDP Program Coordinator

University of Arizona Extension  
820 E. Cottonwood Lane, Bldg C  
Casa Grande, Arizona 85222  
520.836.5221 x227

### Alaska

Alaska PDP Program Coordinator

Western SARE PDP Program  
University of Alaska Coop Extension  
PO Box 75-8144  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-8155  
907.474.2423

### Colorado

Colorado PDP Program Coordinator

Colorado State University  
113A Shepardson Building  
Campus Delivery 1101  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80523-1101  
970.491.2074

### Washington

Washington PDP State Coordinator

WSU Cooperative Extension  
Center for Sustaining Ag and NR  
Ephrata, Washington 98823  
509.754.2011 x413

### Hawaii

Ted Radovich  
Hawaii PDP Program Coordinator

University of Hawaii  
Dept. Tropical Plant and Soil Sciences  
3190 Maile Way (St. John Room 209C)  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822  
808.956.6906

### Wyoming

Wyoming PDP State Coordinator

University of Wyoming  
Renewable Resources Department  
Laramie, Wyoming 82071-3354  
307.766.2337

### Oregon

Brian Tuck  
Oregon PDP State Coordinator

OSU Extension Service  
400 E. Scenic Drive  
The Dalles, Oregon 97058  
541.296.5494

### New Mexico

New Mexico PDP State Coordinator

New Mexico State University  
Extension Plant Sciences Dept.  
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88003  
505.646.4398

### Idaho

Idaho PDP Program Coordinator

University of Idaho  
Latah County Extension  
PO Box 8068  
Moscow, Idaho 83843  
208.883.2267

# CHECK OUT OUR

# WEB SITE

# <http://nacaa.com>

## The County Agent

The County Agent is a publication  
of the National Association of  
County Agricultural Agents  
President: Phil Pratt

Editor: Scott Hawbaker -  
Greendell Publishing  
6584 W. Duroc Road, Maroa, IL 61756  
(217) 794-3700 • Fax (217) 794-5901  
e-mail: [nacaemail@aol.com](mailto:nacaemail@aol.com)  
<http://www.nacaa.com>

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### POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:

The County Agent - National Association of County Agricultural Agents

Editor: Scott Hawbaker  
6584 W. Duroc Rd., Maroa, IL 61756

#### NACAA President

Phil Pratt  
4116 E. 15<sup>th</sup> St  
Tulsa, OK 74112  
Ph: 918.746.3708  
Fax: 918.746.3704  
[prratt@tulsacounty.org](mailto:prratt@tulsacounty.org)

#### NACAA President Elect

Stan Moore  
P.O. Box 427  
Bellaire, MI 49615  
Ph: 231.533.8818  
Fax: 231.533.8392  
[moorest@msu.edu](mailto:moorest@msu.edu)

#### NACAA Vice President

Paul Wigley  
PO Box 309  
Morgan, GA 39866  
Ph: 229.849.2685  
Fax: 229.849.2026  
[pwigley@uga.edu](mailto:pwigley@uga.edu)

#### NACAA Secretary

Henry D. Dorough  
132 N. Court Street  
Talladega, AL 35160  
Ph: 256.362.6187  
Fax: 256.362.4506  
[dorouhd@aces.edu](mailto:dorouhd@aces.edu)

#### NACAA Treasurer

Parman Green  
111 N. Mason  
Carrollton, MO 64633  
Ph: 660.542.1792  
Fax: 660.542.2490  
[greenp@missouri.edu](mailto:greenp@missouri.edu)



POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO:  
*The County Agent* - NACAA, 6584 W. Duroc Road,  
Maroa, IL 61756 - Attn: Scott Hawbaker

[www.nacaa.com](http://www.nacaa.com)

## ANNUAL MEETING AND PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT CONFERENCE DATES

*2010*

Tulsa, Oklahoma.....July 11-15

*2012*

Charleston, South Carolina.....July 15-19

*2011*

Overland Park, Kansas..... August 7-11

*2013*

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.....Sept. 15-20

