

Field Day For Ventilation Management And Air Quality For Livestock Systems

URBANA, ILL.

University of Illinois Extension and the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering (ABE) will host a "Ventilation and Air Quality for Livestock Systems Field Day" on Wednesday, November 7, 2012. The field day runs from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. and will take place at the Agricultural Engineering Farm, located south of the U of I campus at 3606 S. Race Street, near the intersection of Race Street and Curtis Road, Urbana, IL.

"Livestock producers from Illinois and surrounding states will have the opportunity to learn more about advances in modern ventilation systems and air mitigation strategies as they relate to their operations," said Laura Peple, livestock Extension specialist in ABE.

The field day is planned with time built in for hands-on learning about ventilation system controls, energy efficiency, and biofilters. Producers will have the opportunity to visit with engineers, agency representatives, and ventilation system manufacturers.

Matt Robert, agricultural engineer from the state office of National Resources Conservation Service will be the luncheon keynote speaker, discussing energy and air quality initiatives in NRCS programs.

Seminar topics include:

- Biofilters: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly
- Balancing Ammonia Reduction and Nitrous Oxide Production
- Moisture Control: The Key to Biofilter Success

• Reducing Energy Cost in ventilated livestock buildings: An example from Broiler Housing

The Mobile Environment and Energy Laboratory, a specially built enclosed trailer for simulating ventilated livestock housing, will be on site for the day. Dr. Jeremiah Davis and Dr. Jody Purswell, faculty from the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering at Mississippi State University, will give demonstrations on lighting and heat lamp efficiency, fan

performance, ventilation system controls management and energy usage in livestock housing.

Livestock ventilation equipment manufacturers will have displays at the field day, with company representatives on hand to visit with producers about fan, heater, and cooling system controls.

NOTE: Participants will not be in proximity to livestock at the field day. No routine biosecurity down times should be necessary for producers who attend.

Other demonstrations include "Do-it-yourself construction options for biofilters" and an optional tour of the U of I Solar Decathlon home, with a discussion on green energy.

The Illinois Pork Producers Association has graciously provided funding support for this event. A grant from USDA-National Institute for Food and Agriculture is also acknowledged.

Registration is free, and lunch will be provided. However, space at this field day facility is limited. Participants are highly encouraged to preregister by Friday, November 2. To register, or if you have questions about the field day or directions to the farm, please email Laura Peple at lpepple2@illinois.edu or call her at 217-244-0083. Δ



Matt Robert places poultry flooring in biofilter



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