

Program Year 2021 Agricultural BMP TAC
Animal Waste Subcommittee
4-15-19 Meeting Summary
10:00 am – 1:30 pm
Virginia Department of Forestry, 1st floor Fire Protection Conference Room
900 Natural Resources Drive
Charlottesville

Meeting attendees:

- Amanda Pennington, DCR-Chair
- Josh Walker, Headwaters SWCD
- Megen Dalton, Shenandoah Valley SWCD
- Sam Truban, Lord Fairfax SWCD
- Eric Paulson, VA State Dairyman
- Hobey Bauhan, VA Poultry Federation
- Ben Chester, DCR-non voting member
- Kevin Dunn, Peter Francisco SWCD Director
- Darrell Marshall, VDACS

All members were present, therefore, the subcommittee had quorum for the meeting.

- Recap of PY2020 TAC, review of matrix
- WP-4L Specification
 - Clarification-WP-4, winter feeding facility-can pay on pad, manure storage, and roof over both the pad and the manure storage.
 - Do we as a subcommittee support pack barns for beef? Yes
 - Suggested format for development of the new spec (WP-4L):
 - Revise the WP-4 to be manure storage only, no feeding pad
 - Would include dry stacks and liquid storage
 - WP-4L than would give different options for winter feeding or pack barn for beef
 - Feeding pad covered or uncovered
 - Rotational grazing plan should required
 - True pack barn
 - confinement has to be required
 - In situations where overstocking is an issue, a simple feeding facility or heavy use pad may not solve the problem, confinement may be necessary
- Discussion on sizing for manure storage
 - Currently, the manual language says "...6 months storage", when that really should state "...storage for 6 months of production"
 - No revisions made to the WP-4 specification at this time
 - The sizing is really based on the manure produced in the 6 month period, not the length of time the manure needs to be stored (i.e. winter, wet periods)

- Should be considering freeboard for liquid pits, it is accounted for on the sizing worksheet
 - VA law states that freeboard has to be provided in liquid manure pits
 - Current VACS WP-4 specification does not preclude paying for freeboard
 - Subcommittee will draft language to clarify that freeboard can be paid for, but this is just a clarification and no change is needed to allow for Districts to cost share on freeboard requirements
- Cost share for layer/breeder operations
 - Current manual limits cost share as up to 6 months of storage, suggestion is to allow for 1-yr of storage for these operations
 - Layers/breeder operations clean houses out completely between cycles, which are 11 months.
 - Because of this, they have to have somewhere to put all 11 months worth of manure
 - Layer/breeder operations have a hard time selling their litter due to the high moisture content.
 - Other operation's (i.e broilers) cycles are much shorter, less than 45 days, and operators can crust out/clean out between each flock and have no need to store more than 6 months of manure production at one time
 - How many layer/breeder operations are there in the state?
 - Ballpark number of 100
 - Hobe Bauhan will work to gather information on how many layer/breeder operations are in the state
 - There have been very few sign ups for this type of operation, so it would be good to know how big of a problem this is.
- First TAC meeting for PY2021- July 9, 2019
- Set next subcommittee meeting date
 - Tuesday, May 28, 2019-DOF Charlottesville