Across the Central Valley, dairy farmers continue to do a great job staying on top of the new water quality regulation adopted for dairies in May 2007. State water officials report that most producers are keeping up with deadlines for turning in annual reports and meeting other important requirements.

Producers should remember that the regulations are being phased in by stages and there are still several important steps left. This fall, the California Dairy Quality Assurance Program will offer more free educational workshops for dairy producers so you can stay “on track” during the next stages.

The workshops will focus on:
- Which reports are due this December and how to get them completed, including your:
  - Field risk assessment
  - Infrastructure checklist
- Importance of good sampling procedures
- How leaching impacts your nutrient management plan options
- What to do now to make sure your next annual report goes smoothly

Dairy producers are relying more on professional experts to assist them with meeting the requirements – from nutrient management planning, sampling and analysis, dairy infrastructure improvements and regulatory reporting. However, it’s important to remember that the dairy owner and operator remains ultimately responsible for compliance with the regulations. Even if you plan on relying on one or more experts to help, the workshops will give you a good overview of the requirements your dairy faces in the next few months. You, the dairy producer, know your operation better than anyone else and need to take an active role in management decisions regarding your facility’s Nutrient Management Plan.

**FREE HELP FOR DAIRY PRODUCERS!**

**Fall workshops aim to keep you ‘on track’ with Central Valley dairy water rules**

**FALL 2008 SCHEDULE**

**Stanislaus County** (3 workshops)
Tuesday, October 21, 9-12 and 1-4 and Tuesday, November 18, 9-12 -Stanislaus Co. Ag Center, 3800 Cornucopia Way, ABC Room

**Tulare County** (3 workshops)
Wednesday, October 15, 9-12 and 1-4 and Wednesday, November 19, 9-12 -Tulare Co. Cooperative Extension Office, 4437 S. Laspina St., Tulare

**Madera County** (1 workshop)
Tuesday, October 14, 1-4 -Holiday Inn Express, 309 Prosperity Blvd., Chowchilla

**Sacramento County** (2 workshops)
Thursday, October 16, 9-12 and 1-4 -Sacramento Co. Farm Bureau Office, 8970 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove

**Kings County** (2 workshops)
Wednesday, October 22, 9-12 and 1-4 -St. John Hall, 8301 Avenue 8-1/2, Hanford

**Fresno County** (2 workshops)
Thursday, October 23, 9-12 and 1-4 -Riverdale Memorial Hall, 3085 W. Mount Whitney, Riverdale

**Glenn County** (2 workshops)
Monday, October 27, 9-12 and 1-4 - Glenn Co. Farm Bureau Office, 831 Fifth St., Orland

**San Joaquin County** (1 workshop)
Wednesday, October 29, 9-12 -County Cooperative Extension Office, 2101 E. Earhart Ave., Stockton (99 to Arch Rd. west, left on B St., then left on E. Earhart, plenty of parking available!)

**Merced County** (2 workshops)
Tuesday, November 4, 1-4 and Thursday, November 20, 9-12 -Merced Co. Cooperative Extension Office, 2145 W. Wardrobe Ave., Merced (please park in lot B - the gravel lot to the east of the building)

**Kern County** (1 workshop)
Wednesday, November 5, 9-12 - Kern Co. Cooperative Extension Office, 1031 S. Mount Vernon Ave., Bakersfield

**IMPORTANT**

You must bring your CDQAP binder to class!
The California Dairy Quality Assurance Program (CDQAP) is a partnership of government, educators and the dairy industry, working together toward a single, shared goal: helping California dairy producers understand and comply with federal, state and local laws and regulations. CDQAP partners include:

- California Environmental Protection Agency - California Department of Food and Agriculture
- The California Resources Agency - University of California/UC Cooperative Extension
- State Water Resources Control Board - California Department of Fish and Game
- U.S. Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service - U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- California Manufacturing Milk Advisory Board - California Farm Bureau Federation
- California Dairy Campaign - Western United Dairymen - Milk Producers Council - Sustainable Conservation

October 2008