

FREE HELP FOR DAIRY PRODUCERS!

Spring workshops help dairy owners/operators trim costs, manage compliance with Central Valley water regulations

Nearly two years after Central Valley water quality officials adopted new regulations for dairies, reports indicate that dairy operators have maintained a very high level of compliance and continue to do a great job keeping up with the reporting deadlines.

However, new and important deadlines are approaching quickly. While the next round of reports aren't due until July 1, in most cases weeks and months of advance planning will be important to correctly complete the requirements. Routine record-keeping and compliance activities are also necessary to make sure that the operator has the information he or she needs when it's time to submit reports.

Many dairy owners and/or operators have engaged outside experts to assist them in developing nutrient management plans, waste management plans and other key items required under the General Order Waste Discharge Requirements for Existing Dairies (WDRs). However, dairy owners and operators remain the ultimate persons responsible for compliance with the law. **Even with outside help, dairy producers need to be sure they are managing the workload to control costs, create efficiencies where possible, and clear the shortest, most direct path to compliance.**

The California Dairy Quality Assurance Program is offering a series of workshops this spring to assist dairy producers in understanding and carrying out these important compliance management responsibilities.

The workshops will feature:

Concise and focused format. These short, two-hour sessions will provide the information you need in clear, no-nonsense presentation, so you can get back to your business. The course will only cover what you "need to know" – how to complete the reports for July 1, 2009.

Useful tools. Attendees will be provided with written summaries and sample forms to help pro-

IMPORTANT
 You must bring your
 CDQAP binder to class!

SPRING 2009 SCHEDULE

Fresno County (2 workshops)

Wednesday, March 25, 10-12 and 1-3 at Riverdale Memorial Hall, 3085 W. Mt. Whitney, Riverdale

Glenn County (2 workshops)

Monday, March 16, 10-12 and 1-3 at Glenn County Farm Bureau Boardroom, 831 Fifth St., Orland

Merced County (1 workshop)

Monday, March 23, 10-12 at Merced County CE Classroom, 2145 W. Wardrobe Ave., Merced (*please park in lot B - the gravel lot to the east of the building*)

San Joaquin County (1 workshop)

Thursday, March 26, 10-12 at Robert J. Cabral Ag Center (aka San Joaquin County CE offices), 2101 E. Earhart Ave., Stockton (*99 to Arch Rd. west, left on B St., then left on E. Earhart*)

Stanislaus County (1 workshop)

Tuesday, April 7 from 10-12 at Stanislaus County Ag Center, 3800 Cornucopia Way, Modesto

Tulare County (3 workshops)

Thursday, March 19, 10-12 and 1-3 and

Thursday, April 9, 10-12 at Tulare County Ag Center, 4437 Laspina St., Tulare

ducers complete as much of the work as possible – to save costs.

Management advice. Ideas for working with your compliance team, whether outside consultants, employees or both, to ensure an efficient, economical compliance game plan.

As always, **the workshops are free** to dairy producers and dairy industry professionals. Reservations are not required and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

**WORKING CLOSELY WITH REGULATORY AGENCIES AND THE DAIRY
INDUSTRY, THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
DEVELOPED THE CURRICULUM FOR THESE WORKSHOPS**

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

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