

Update on EPA Greenhouse Gas Reporting Rule

As many of you remember, last January the Environmental Protection Agency required that livestock facilities had to report Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) with certain confines. After discussion and clarification by the EPA, the final rule was put into effect on December 29, 2009. This final rule is in place to monitor the amount of carbon dioxide and methane that facilities produce annually. Facilities that annually emit 25,000 metric tons or more of GHG emission are required to submit a report to the EPA. GHG emissions include Carbon Dioxide, Methane, and Ni-

trous Oxide. According to the EPA, the number of head is used as a guideline. Please use this table to determine if your facility needs to submit a report.

Animal Species	Threshold # of animals
Beef Cattle	29,300
Dairy Cows	3,200
Swine	34,100

(This table provided by University of Nebraska)

The rule states that monitoring will begin on January 1, 2010 and the first reports (2010 emissions) will be due to the EPA on March 31, 2011. Along with reporting

emissions based on number of head, the EPA has included a Manure Management section that requires the reporting of any system of manure containment onsite, i.e. ponds, anaerobic lagoons, storage pits, digesters, solid manure storage, dry lots, etc. However, with budget restrictions and cutbacks, this part of the rule is not required in 2010 reporting to the EPA. SASE will keep you informed of these requirements. If you have any questions or concerns about this matter you can contact our office.



Cost Share Considerations

NRCS's EQIP program has provided many producers excellent opportunities for receiving cost share for the construction of additional holding ponds, basins, lagoons and pumping/piping systems. If your operation could benefit from additional holding pond or lagoon capacity, or if you have a need to re-model basins, lift stations and piping systems, the EQIP program can provide from 50% to 85% cost share, and in many cases pay for 100% of synthetic liners. **Facilities that are concerned about long term ground water monitoring problems may be able to take advantage of this program to renovate their holding ponds and lagoons at a minimal cost.** EQIP funds can pay for engineering services, earthwork, piping, liner installation and similar items. Please call our office to discuss potential re-modeling ideas or simply adding additional pond or lagoon capacity.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ◆ Update from EPA on GHG Reporting Rule
- ◆ NRCS Cost Share Considerations
- ◆ Land Application Training Dates
- ◆ Estimated Snowfall for SCS Customers

Land Application Training Dates Coming Up!

As part of your permit holder responsibilities, someone from your facility is required to be certified in Land Application Training. Re-certification is also required every five years. This initial training or re-certification can be done at an extension office, from your home/office computer with high-speed internet, or attending one of the courses offered by UNL. The University of Nebraska is conducting such training and are being offered on two different days, January 26th and February 24th at different local county extension offices. Initial training will be all day. For those who need to be re-certified, you can attend just the afternoon session to complete your requirements. There is a registration fee of \$50 per farm plus \$10 per additional participant for lunch. Recertification is \$10. Pre-registration is necessary, 5 business days in advance, and can be completed by returning an entry form that can be found at <http://water.unl.edu/lat>. A link to this information and entry form is also available on our website at www.settje.com. If you have any questions please contact Blair at our office.

Soil Sampling Spring 2010

With the recent blast of arctic temperatures and record snowfall amounts across much of Eastern Nebraska, soil sampling has become increasingly difficult. We have continued to sample in Central and Western parts of the state where possible. We will be resuming soil sampling activities this spring when the ground is ready and the weather permits. If you are not already scheduled with us and are interested in having any soil sampling done, please call us today to ensure that your fields are sampled this spring to meet your CNMP requirements.

SCS Clients: Estimating Snowfall

Settje Compliance Service customers that have a Davis Weather Station need to be sure to estimate snowfall amounts. As you may have noticed, the weather station will not automatically fill in snowfall amounts on your Weather Data page. We recommend that for your record keeping purposes you use the conversion of approximately 10 inches of snow = 1 inch of rain. If you have questions on this, please contact Blair at our office.

Perfectly Simple Prime Rib by Dean Settje

1. Select your favorite rib roast, trim as desired.
2. In a bowl, combine dry ingredients:
 1. 1 part coarse salt
 2. 1 part coarse ground black pepper
 3. 1 part granulated garlic powder
3. Lightly mist prime with water, then add seasoning and aggressively rub on prime rib until completely covered. The longer you rub, the better the result.
4. Wrap meat in plastic and refrigerate overnight.
5. The next day, start your grill, smoker or oven to 300 degrees. I prefer using a smoker or soaked smoking chips in a grill for added flavor.
6. Put prime rib on grill, fat side down.
7. Place meat thermometer directly into center of the prime rib.
8. Approximately every 1/2 hours, lightly mist prime rib with apple juice.
9. **Cook until thermometer reads 125 degrees F.**
10. **Remove from grill**, allow rib to 'sit' for 15 minutes as thermometer will increase to 133 to 135 degrees.

*135 degrees will provide a perfect 'medium-rare' product.



SETTJE AGRI-SERVICES & ENGINEERING, INC.

For the past twelve years, Settje Agri-Services and Engineering, Inc. (SASE) has been the leader in the Midwest for livestock facility engineering, design, permitting, and construction management.

Our team consists of 14 full-time employees, consisting of professional engineers, project managers, agronomists, nutrient management planners, groundwater monitoring specialists and compliance specialists.

Our company has production agriculture roots with more than 140 years of combined engineering, agronomy, and regulatory compliance experience.

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