NorthAmerican **Professional Manure Management**

Prairie du Sac 2012 Wisconsin

AUGUST 22, 2012

PROFESSIONAL PPLICATION: Δ VATION & CHNOLOGY USDA Dairy Forage Research Center, Prairie du Sac, Wisconsin

PRESENTED BY

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Professional Nutrient Applicators Association of Wisconsin

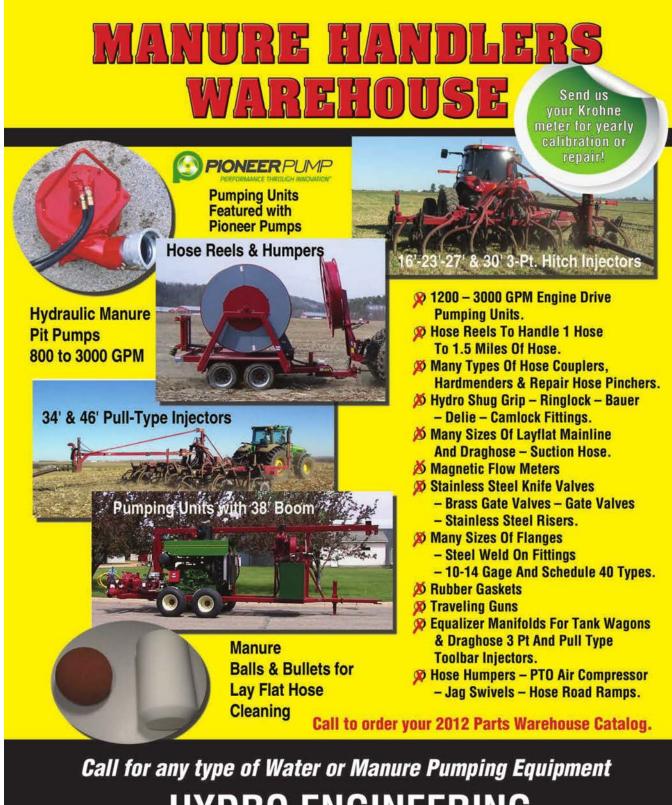
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PROFESSIONAL MANURE MANAGEMENT

he theme for this year's North American Manure Expo – **"Professional Manure Management"** aptly fits the 2012 event. From high-end computer/GIS technology that immediately alerts the applicator that a problem is developing to applicator-developed unique mechanical innovations to remove sand from manure storage and move manure over busy highways, **Professional Manure Management** means getting the job done the right way, every time.

The livestock industry in Wisconsin produces the equivalent of 13 billion gallons of manure annually. That's enough manure to cover a professional football field (including the endzones) to a depth of 5¼ miles. Wisconsin applicators began taking a more proactive role in their industry over 10 years ago, forming a professional association (the Professional Nutrient Applicators Association of Wisconsin, or PNAAW) to help members stay abreast of and provide input on regulations and to improve professionalism in the industry. A decade later, PNAAW is nationally recognized as a leader in reducing manure's environmental impact while helping livestock farmers meet the ever-changing regulations that impact manure application.

The North American Manure Expo's humble origin began when PNAAW members asked UW-Extension to bring a few equipment companies together and demonstrate different spreaders "head to head". The first show, held at this same farm in 2001, drew 435 manure applicators from 5 states. The Expo has grown since, rotating to 6 other states (IA, NE, MI, MN, OH, PA) and drawing an average of 1,000 people from North America, Europe and Australia. Key to the Expo's success in each state is the active involvement of commercial manure applicators in every aspect of the event.

The Expo demonstration and education program shows the advancement by both industry manufacturers and applicators. Many of the application companies have developed specialized equipment to help them deliver the best value to their clients. Our demonstration program will include equipment that can improve manure agitation to deliver a more uniform product to the field or aid application over longer distances while reducing potential residential conflicts. Application of technology has been rapidly applied to monitoring and control of equipment, GPS guided application, and in advancing the basic manure spreader to a machine that can deliver prescribed application rates. The importance of research in advancing BMP's for manure application is evident in the seminar topics such as nitrification inhibitors for manure, timing and application methods, reducing impact on roads, and improving nutrient utilization.

While the industry strives to make improvements, accidents and manure spills can still happen. Knowing how to handle a spill can minimize or avoid environmental impact. A live-action manure spill response session will demonstrate practices that help avoid environmental impact during manure application and procedures to follow in event a manure spill does occur. The spill response demo will show us components and implementation of a spill response plan.

The North American Manure Expo is North America's largest manure education and demonstration event. Applicators and farmers from across the country will see innovations that will help them meet tomorrow's environmental challenges. But just as importantly, you will see and learn how to improve implementation of nutrient management plans. From innovations in agitation that will ensure a more consistent nutrient and solids content, to pumps that automatically shut down when a leak occurs, to variable rate spreaders, you will see how to apply manure safely and more accurately.

The Expo is a collaboration between the Professional Nutrient Applicators Association of Wisconsin and UW-Extension with the essential support of many partners in the manufacturing industry, University of Wisconsin, and agriculture agencies. The 2012 Expo has a great site and partner in the USDA Dairy Forage Research Center farm. The farms' manure storage facility can accommodate lagoon agitation demonstrations with field accommodation of solid and liquid manure applications. The UW-Extension Nutrient Management Team has provided professional support of the many components of Expo, including the education program, web site, and bringing in the financial support of our manufacturing participants. Members of the Professional Nutrient Applicators Association have brought their expertise and innovations to the Expo highlighting business development in their industry. Advancement in manure management in Wisconsin has always been seen as a partnering opportunity with neighboring states. This is evident in the travel of the Expo and in the contribution from neighboring State Universities and professional applicators.

We look forward to this opportunity to support farmers and applicators in Wisconsin through a program that addresses public concerns in Wisconsin while supporting the economically important agricultural industry of the U.S.

Ted Bay

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