

CDQAP Quality Assurance Update
March, 2018 Newsletter

CDQAP Environmental
Classes Scheduled
for June....

Environmental Stewardship
Short Course:

Thursday, June 21st

Class 1: 9am – noon

Class 2: 1pm – 4pm

Air Quality Class:

Wednesday, June 20th

1pm - 3 pm

** All classes will be held at the
Fresno County Farm Bureau Office,
1274 West Hedges Ave, Fresno.

Time for Fly Control?

3 key questions to consider:

1. **Do I have a fly problem?** More than 5-10 stable flies biting legs/belly of confined cows or 20 horn flies biting the backs of pasture cows; or problems controlling pinkeye or mastitis in heifers.
2. **Do I have fly habitats?** Moist, decaying organic material particularly around waterers, silage, hutches and feed alleys.
3. **Have I started my routine fly control?** Premise sprays, feed-through controls, parasitic wasps, back rubbers, weekly fly counts and scouting for habitat.

A complete review of the most effective methods of reducing flies can be found at CDQAP's webpage: [Dairy Fly Control and Your Bottom Line](#)

Spring Forward into Winter Crop Sampling: Avoid Violations

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It's a little darker first thing in the morning as we and the cows adjust to day light saving time. Delayed winter rains have been welcome to water the winter crop in fields throughout California. Rain, daylight and warmer temperatures will result in a quick sprint to the finish line for winter crop harvest.



Now, before harvest, is the best time to take a quick refresher in sampling needs for your Waste Discharge Requirements (Central Valley Region) or your nutrient management plan (other parts of California). Having proper samples and data collected will provide the best information for your Annual Report and minimize the potential of receiving a follow-up letter for forgotten samples or incomplete analyses.

Take plant samples for every field at harvest. For dairies in the Central Valley the appropriate information and samples need to be collected for every field where manure was applied. At harvest, record the total weight (tons) of harvested material removed from each land application area. Obtain a representative sample of material from each field. Submit the samples representing individual fields and request laboratory analyses for total nitrogen, total phosphorus, total potassium (expressed on a dry weight basis), fixed solids (ash), and percent moisture. If during the growing season you applied extra nitrogen to the field (in excess of 1.4 times the nitrogen expected to be removed by the harvested portion of the crop), then a mid-season plant tissue test is also needed indicating the need for extra nitrogen.

After harvest is a perfect time to take soil samples. Check your Sampling and Analysis Plan and perhaps your last 4 Annual Reports to determine which samples need taken. Likely, 20% of fields are up for sampling this year. Mark your calendar now for spring or fall soil sampling to be sure these sampling needs don't slip through the cracks.

If you're hauling solid manure offsite, be sure to have the manifests completed. This includes a moisture analysis and total tons hauled. Remember, for all solid manure applied to land, track how much, when, and where it went. Keep the same information for liquid manure and be sure to sample liquid manure quarterly when it is applied to land.

Make time to talk with your nutrient consultant to identify your best plan moving forward to ensure all your needed samples are collected.