

# PAPA Sponsors Nutrient Management Seminar, Others Scheduled

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Lancaster Farming Staff

**LANCASTER** (Lancaster Co.) — The ball is rolling with nutrient management in Pennsylvania and the first indepth educational event to deal specifically with the subject, as it applies within the state, has been announced.

According to a news release made late last week, an ambitious, three-hour seminar on the state's official nutrient management program has been scheduled to be held 1:30 p.m. — 4:30 p.m., July 11, at the Sheraton Inn Harrisburg-East.

The event is being sponsored by the Pennsylvania Agronomic Products Association (PAPA).

This seminar is being planned for those who want to find out how to become certified, the responsibilities of a nutrient management specialist, the requirements of the nutrient management plan, and the total body of regulations.

Unlike other seminars on nutrient management which have dealt with general manure management concepts, or circumstances not necessarily relevant to Pennsylvania, this educational program is set

to offer first-hand insight into the actual state program.

This is so for several reasons:  
• On April 19, the Nutrient Management Advisory Board recommended a set of regulations to the Conservation Commission.

• PAPA President William Brubaker is an appointed and active member of the 15-member Nutrient Management Advisory Board. (PAPA and Brubaker are registered with the state for lobbying activities.)

• The state Conservation Commission is expected, in either June or July, to propose a set of regulations to carry out the state's Nutrient Management Act. Those regulations are expected to be based on the recommendations of the advisory board, as well as commission staff.

• The main speakers of the PAPA-sponsored seminar are to be the staff members of the Conservation Commission.

Specifically scheduled to talk are Michael Krempasky, executive secretary for the State Conservation Commission; Lynn Langer, chief of the DER Nutrient Management Section; Doug Goodlan-

der, conservation program specialist; Melanie Sayers, nutrient management coordinator for the state Department of Agriculture; and a to-be-announced representative of the Penn State Department of Agronomy.

By the time of the seminar, the state Conservation Commission is expected to have published its proposed regulations. That means that a 60-day public comment period will have started.

According to the news release, in addition to gaining information for personal use, those who attend this seminar should be better able to make intelligent and informed comments on the issue.

Those wishing to attend the PAPA Nutrient Management Seminar should apply for a reservation as soon as possible, since the meeting capacity is limited to 225 people. The actual deadline on making a reservation is June 30.

The cost of the seminar is \$7 per PAPA member; \$9 per non-member. To register, complete a card that requests the names of those attending, affiliation to PAPA, the amount enclosed, and a check for that amount made pay-

able to "PAPA."

The card and check should be mailed to: PAPA, 1408 Mission Rd., Lancaster, PA, 17601.

### Other Opportunities

While this seminar may be the best first opportunity to discuss and learn about the program, it will not be the only seminar offered.

In coming months and years, nutrient management education can be expected to be incorporated into many seminars offered (directly or indirectly) through the land grant universities, and state agencies, such as the state Department of Agriculture and the state Department of Environmental Resources, or its heir agency.

This should be especially so as the official certification program portion takes final form and educational updates become mandatory.

And while a public education effort is being made through the state government and land-grant universities, certain sectors within agribusiness, such as PAPA, also can be expected to offer educational seminars.

Of this latter group of seminars,

some may or may not have value to those needing to know more about Pennsylvania's official program.

Out of the meetings that pertain specifically to Pennsylvania's Nutrient Management Act, a division can be made between those designed to be technical and others less technical.


While some extension agents around the state have offered nutrient management-based seminars directed at expanding general knowledge of manure, its components, plant uptakes, application rates, storage, handling, etc., there are some fairly specific seminars scheduled for the near future.

### Computer Demonstration

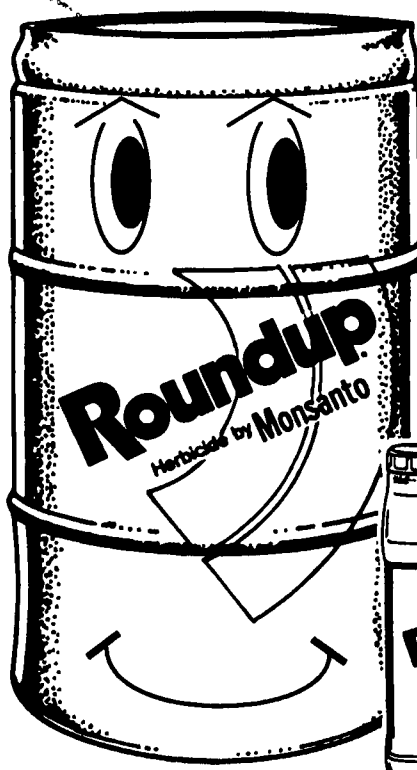
For those interested in learning about a nutrient management computer program that has been developed through Penn State Extension in conjunction with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (formerly Soil Conservation Service), three introductory demonstrations have been scheduled at by Penn State Extension.

All three are to be held from 1

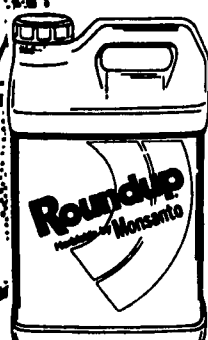
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