

Another Conservation Success Story...

Burke County, Georgia

July 2006

Landis Dairy Gets Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan from NRCS

All dairies face the issue of waste management. New regulations in Georgia required many dairies to complete a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP).

Beryl Landis owns and operates a 500-head dairy in Burke County. Landis is very concerned about operating in a manner that protects the environment and meets all regulatory requirements.

A 20-year farmer, he sought the assistance of the Natural Resources Conservation Service for assistance with a nutrient management plan to meet the Georgia regulations.

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service helped Landis develop a conservation plan to help him comply with the regulations and improve the quality of the natural resources in his care.

Conservation practices include:

“I wanted the irrigation to improve our silage production. As a benefit, I use the irrigation system to put out the manure. This means I buy less fertilizer--helping me keep more money!”—Beryl Landis

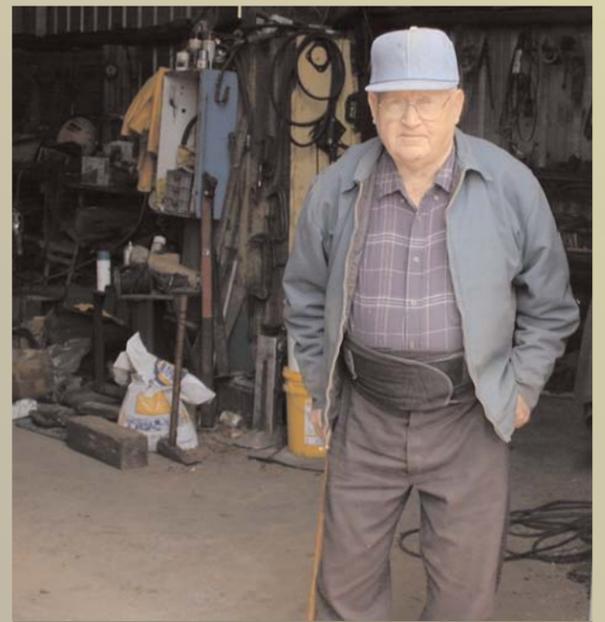
- nutrient management,
- crop rotation,
- conservation tillage, and
- a holding pond for manure.

Liquid waste is pumped onto cropland to grow silage through a center pivot. Scraped manure solids are now applied to fields and pasture with a solids spreader.

Conservation tillage helps to build the soil. With silage crops, there is so much organic matter removed, that whatever is left becomes even more important to the soil.

The two-stage holding pond separates solids from liquids so they can be pumped out, leaving less volume to haul with a wagon. This saves time and money--a win/win situation!

“We want to do a good job here at the dairy!”—Beryl Landis



Beryl Landis poses in one of his farm buildings.



Waste is properly contained in a storage building.

What is a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan?

NRCS defines a CNMP as a conservation plan that is unique to animal feeding operations. It is a grouping of conservation practices and management activities that, when implemented as part of a conservation system, will help to ensure that both production and natural resource protection goals are achieved.

A CNMP incorporates practices to utilize animal manure and organic by-products as a beneficial resource. A CNMP addresses natural resource concerns dealing with soil erosion, manure, and organic by-products and their potential impacts on water quality, which may derive from an Animal Feeding Operation (AFO).

A CNMP is developed to assist an AFO owner/operator in meeting all applicable local, tribal, State, and Federal water quality goals or regulations.

For nutrient impaired stream segments or water bodies, additional management activities or conservation practices may be required to meet local, tribal, State, or Federal water quality goals or regulations. CNMPs must meet NRCS technical standards.

For those elements included by Owner and/or operator in a CNMP for which NRCS currently does not maintain technical standards (i.e., feed management, vector control, air quality, etc.), producers should meet criteria established by Land Grant Universities, industry, or other technically qualified entities.

Within each state, the NRCS State Conservationist has the

authority to approve non-NRCS criteria established for use in the planning and implementation of CNMP elements.

How Do I Get a Plan?

Contact your NRCS office at the local USDA Service Center.



Cattle heading back to the pasture

Central Savannah River RC&D
706-798-7967

 **NRCS** Natural Resources
Conservation Service

706-798-4070

Brier Creek Soil and Water
Conservation District