

Welcome

Partnerships for Livestock
Environmental Management Systems:
National Stakeholders Roundtable

May 30-31, 2001

DoubleTree Hotel Crystal City

Arlington, VA

Partnerships for **Livestock**



Environmental Management Systems

Funded by USDA IFAFS Program, October 2000

Co-leaders

Gary Jackson

Director, National
Farm*A*Syst Program

Professor, Soil Science,
University of Wisconsin-
Madison

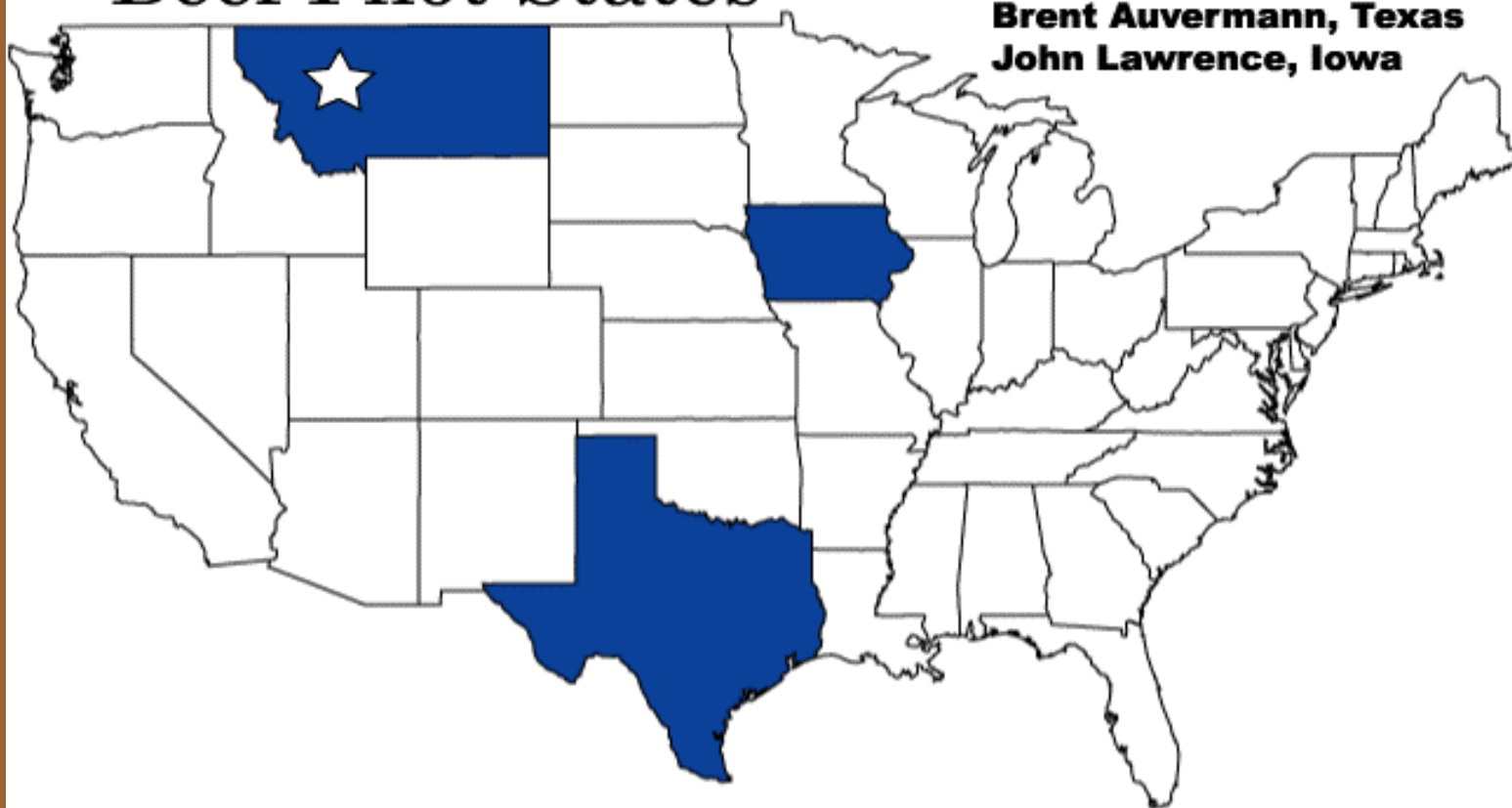
Rick Koelsch

Co-Leader, Livestock and
Poultry Environmental
Stewardship National
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Associate Professor, Bio-
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Animal Science,
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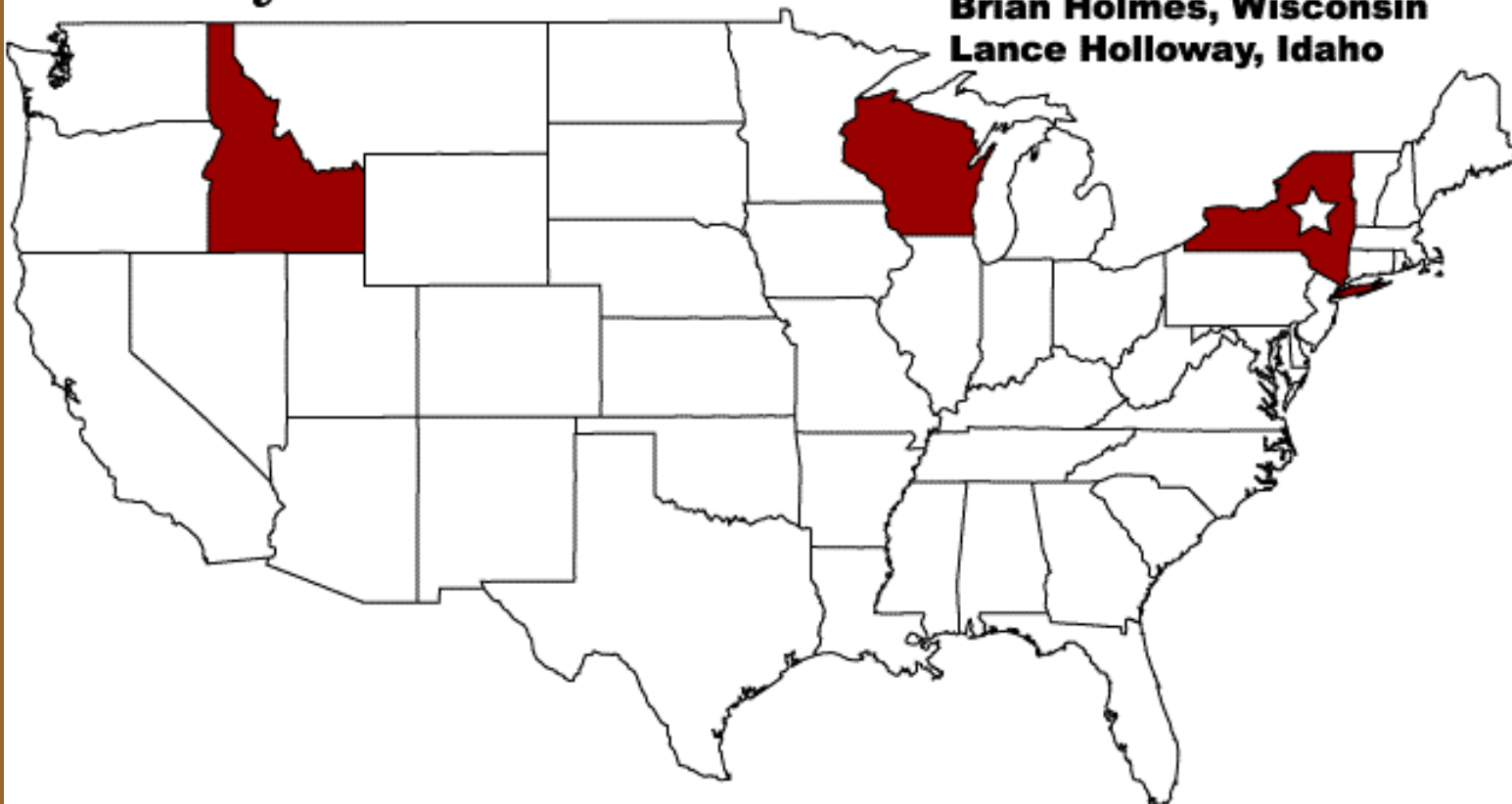
Beef Pilot States

Gene Surber, Montana
Brent Auvermann, Texas
John Lawrence, Iowa



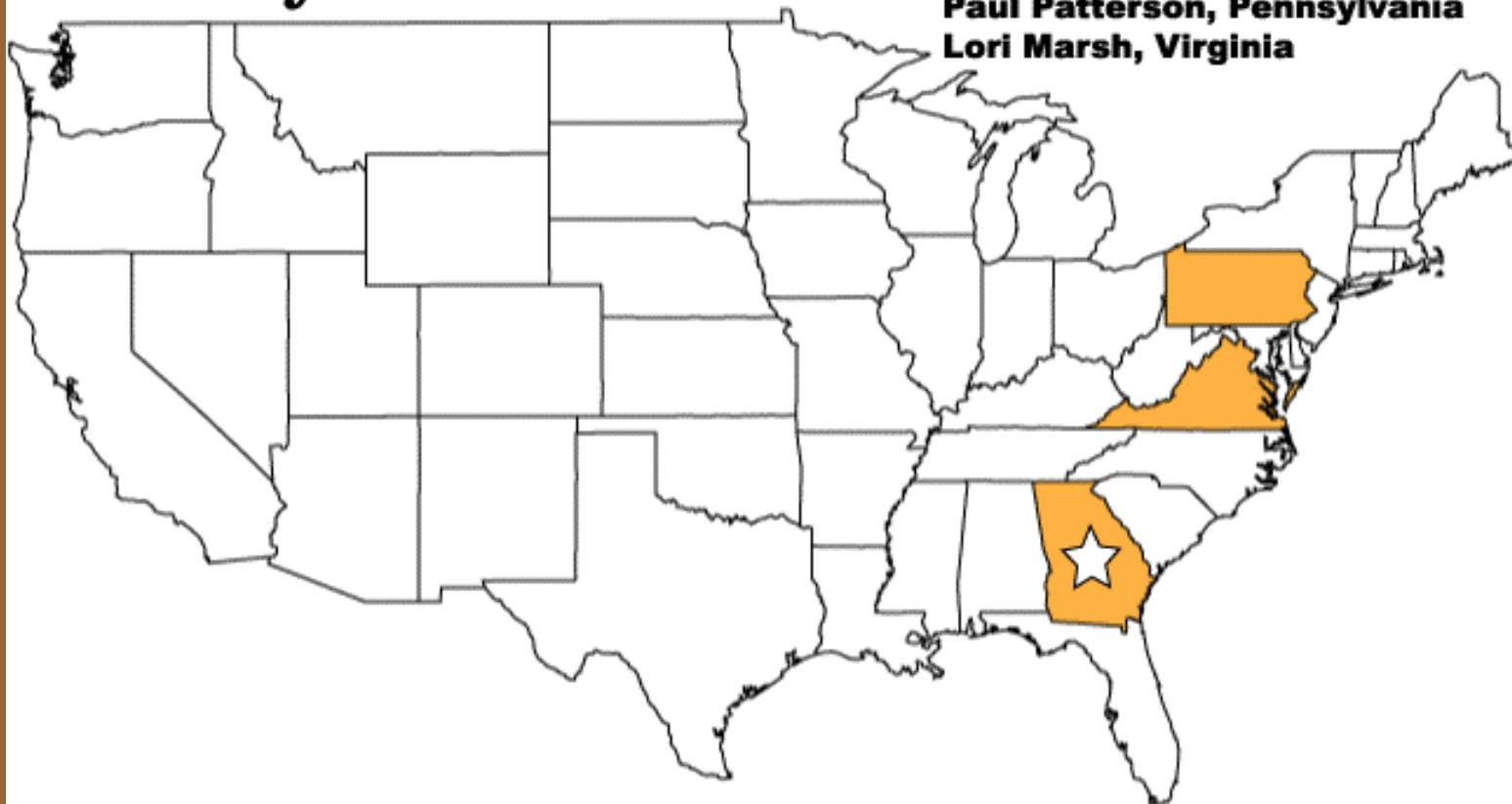
Dairy Pilot States

Peter Wright, New York
Brian Holmes, Wisconsin
Lance Holloway, Idaho



Poultry Pilot States

Mark Risse, Georgia
Amy Van Blarcom, Pennsylvania
Paul Patterson, Pennsylvania
Lori Marsh, Virginia



Background

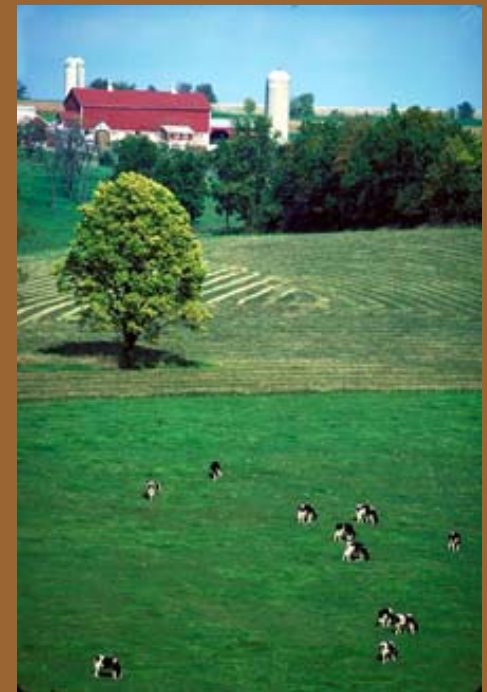
- National Farm* A* Syst Project
- ISO 14000 developed
- National Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship National Curriculum Project (LPES)
- EPA Environmental Management Systems Draft Strategy
- Private sector partnerships

Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (IFAFS) Project

- Science based research and education foundation for livestock EMS
- Partnerships that support private sector leadership
- Adapted to state and local needs
- Interactive program available online

Partnerships for Livestock EMS Project Goal:

Evaluate livestock
environmental management
assessment systems as tools to
address local priority
environmental issues



Partnerships for Livestock EMS Project Objectives:

- Coordinate the development, pilot testing and evaluation of livestock environmental management systems for dairy, poultry and beef producers
- Develop and evaluate implementation strategies in nine states (three for each commodity area)
- Develop and evaluate an online interactive agricultural environmental management assessment system

Our premise:

For Livestock Environmental Management systems to be effective, they must be:

- Practical and acceptable to farmers.
- Credible and address environmental requirements.

Your participation is critical to these measures of success!

Stakeholder Participation & Roundtable Manager

Elizabeth Ann R. Bird, Ph.D.
National Farm*A*Syst Office
Communications Coordinator

Working Group Facilitators:

- Mark Risse (Poultry Pilot Projects Coordinator, GA)
- Gene Surber (Beef Pilot Projects Coordinator, MT)
- Peter Wright (Dairy Pilot Projects Coordinator, NY)

- Brent Auvermann (TX Pilot Project Coordinator)
- Lance Holloway (ID Pilot Project Coordinator)
- John Lawrence (IA Pilot Project Coordinator)
- Amy Van Blarcom (PA Pilot Project Coordinator)

- (VA and WI State Pilot Coordinators unable to be here, but VA project represented by Frances Zaun, and WI project represented by Gary & Elizabeth)

Meeting Purpose

Gather input on the design and implementation of Environmental Management Systems (EMS's) to credibly address agricultural environmental issues.

Objectives

- Identify appropriate and valuable roles for livestock EMSs
- Identify EMS design factors that influence credibility and usability
- Provide recommendations on requirements for successful implementation of livestock EMSs
- Develop support program for state stakeholder meetings

Meeting Kick-off

- Respond to the following question. Your response will be collected.

What is your most pressing concern or question about the use of Environmental Management Systems to address issues related to livestock agriculture?

- Share your answer and meet your neighbor.

Agenda:

Presentations to build a common understanding of environmental management systems

- Introduction to Environmental Management Systems
- Review of ISO 14000 EMS criteria
- Review US EPA and land grant universities' interests in Ag EMSs
- Review examples of existing programs
- Provide a state environmental agency perspective

Agenda:

Participatory process to obtain stakeholder recommendations

- Whole group nominal process
- Breakout group discussions
- Work group discussions
- Feedback
- Evaluation
- Proceedings
- State stakeholder meetings

Introduction to Environmental Management Systems

Establishing a credible foundation for
agricultural environmental
management systems

What is ISO?

- The International Organization for Standardization is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies.
- Develops and publishes International Standards to facilitate international exchange of goods.
- The U. S. is represented by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

What is an Environmental Management System (EMS)?

- An EMS is a systematic approach to dealing with the environmental aspects of an organization.
- A tool that enables an organization of any size or type to control the impact of its activities, products or services on the environment.

What is ISO 14000?

A series of international, voluntary, environmental management standards.

ISO 14001 EMS Definition

The organizational structure, responsibilities, practices, procedures, processes and resources for implementing environmental management.

Elements of an EMS

- Environmental Policy
- Assessment
- Planning
- Implementation and Operation
- Checking and Corrective Action
- Management Review

Environmental Policy

- An organization's (farm's) stated commitment to environmental management
- The framework for setting objectives and targets
- Commitment to continual improvement in order to prevent pollution and comply with regulations

Planning

- Identify environmental considerations of all activities
- Identify regulatory requirements
- Develop voluntary action plan that supports continuous improvements to prevent pollution and comply with regulations

Implementation and Operation

- Define and communicate responsibilities
- Identify training needs and supply appropriate training
- Set out procedures for internal and external communication
- Provide for documentation of actions

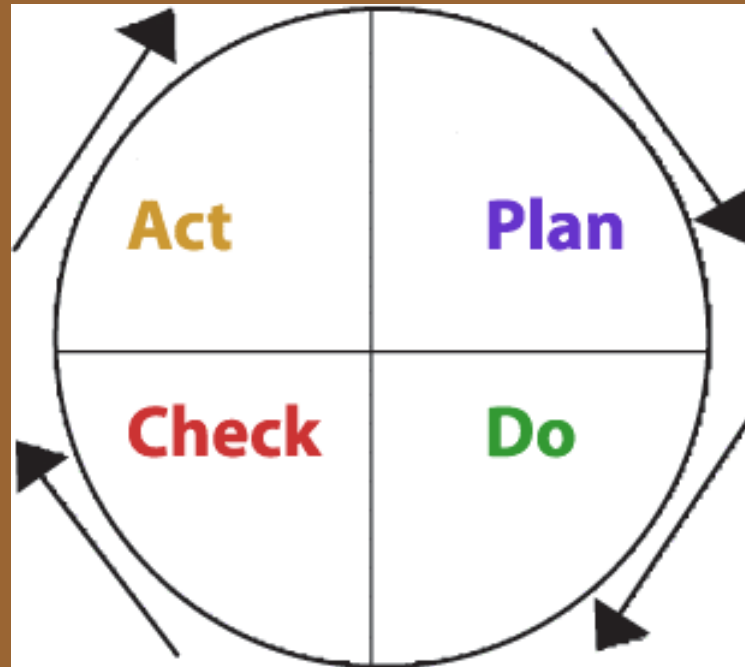
Checking and Corrective Action

- Monitor key activities that have significant environmental impact
- Document positive actions and results
- Identify areas where additional actions are needed

Management Review

- Ensure that EMS continues to be relevant and effective
- Identify possible changes in policy, objectives or other elements of the farm EMS

EMS: A systems approach to continuous improvement



Livestock EMS Partnership Goals:

1. Provide farm management system evaluation tools that support economic and environmental improvements.



Goals (cont.)

2. Build producer, industry and agency partnerships that address common needs related to agricultural impacts on the environment.



Summary



Project will:

- Develop core assessment tools
- Explore role of partnerships in implementation
- Encourage local ownership & delivery

Private/Public Partnerships



- Improve use of best available practices
- Identify and support priority research needs
- Maintain and improve public confidence
- Reinforce common message

An Ag EMS Provides:



- Framework for partnerships that support economic and environmental improvements
- Documentation of improvements
- Foundation for certification

Producer Goals



- Increase market access and profitability
- Prevent pollution
- Protect family and livestock health
- Reduce liability and regulatory exposure

Benefits for Producers

- Improves management
- Reduces liability and regulatory risks
- Protects family health
- Maintains credit and insurance
- Maintains and improves public confidence



Benefits for Regulators

- Improves compliance
- Documents accountability
- Reduces need for more regulations
- Provides education support
- Improves understanding of agriculture

Benefits for Processors and Marketers



- Maintain and improve product image
- Increase public confidence
- Support environmental stewardship
- Certify environmental management

EMS and Agriculture



- Provides proof of environmentally-responsible production
- Supports self-policing and regulatory flexibility
- Increases competitive advantage and new market opportunities
- Qualifies for discounts on farm insurance and loans

EMS meets implementation challenges



- Offers a reliable, non-regulatory approach
- Supplements under-funded scheme for local implementation
- Creates opportunities for market-based solutions

Use of Data

- ✓ Producers Take actions
- ✓ Agencies Identify research, education and policy needs
- ✓ Industry Identify support needs
- ✓ Government Develop support programs; document impacts

Agricultural Environmental Management Systems

- Remove barriers to cooperation
- Increase awareness of environmental risks
- Reduce liability risks
- Provide for regulatory flexibility
- Build partnerships for pollution solutions

Partnerships





Environmental Management Assessment Tools



Local Ownership & Delivery



Partnerships for Livestock Environmental Management Systems

Web site:

<http://www.uwex.edu/AgEMS/livestock>